

JUL 23 1965

July 13, 1965

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CNP

Dear Mr President Johnson:

Southern California is being smothered with people and buildings, and people need a place to get out to "country" on week-ends.

This is worthy of consideration. This western area should be investigated and purchased if possible just as this man suggests.

Progress can "choke" the city man in Los Angeles and Southern Calif. Sincerely,

Mrs Edward McCoy,
1060 E. Magnolia
Burbank, Calif.

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MOUNTAIN RANCH

Continued from Third Page
ground up in here, and we used to race our horses here. Pretty soon, I expect, there'll be houses and fences all up through here."

He put the final hitch on his cinch, flopped the stirrup leather back down into place and brushed his hand along his horse's neck.

"Only one thing can save this little chunk of the Old West," he said. "That would be if the state would buy it—right now before prices go too high—and turn it into a public park. It's a natural park. There are some roads in here already, and there's water.

Wells Going Dry

"A lot of this land is owned by oil companies and their roads are closed to the public, but the wells are going dry. They've been going for many years.

"The point is, if enough of this was made into public land, it would open up riding trails from the Valley all the way to Newhall and beyond and west into Ventura County. All through some of the most beautiful country in Southern California."

Moore, who owns the El Dorado Stables at the west

end of Mayerling St. in Granada Hills, said he does not know exactly how much mountain acreage would be involved in a state park.

The area he was concerned with lies in the Santa Susana Mountains north of Granada Hills and about two miles west of Balboa Blvd.

Trails Being Pinched

Some of the trails that lead from El Dorado Stables into the Aliso Canyon area are open to the public now, he said, but they all come to dead ends.

"And they are gradually being pinched out by housing developments," he added.

Moore is concerned that thousands of Valley men, women and children will

never get to enjoy the untamed beauty and peace in the Santa Susana Mountains, with their small hidden lakes, spectacular waterfalls and gurgling creeks.

"I know," he said. "Progress can't and shouldn't be stopped, but progress in the form of increased population also needs increased recreation areas.

"There's not much chance of it ever happening, because as far as I know right now there is nothing being done about it, but it would be a wonderful thing for a lot of people if this could all be opened up as public land."

He swung up into his saddle and led the way down through blooming yucca, under mammoth oak trees, past dark pines, beside spring-fed creeks, back down to progress.

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Regional Director, Western w/... rs. McCoy with a reply on the area in question.

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JUL 27 1965

L58-CNP

Mrs. Edward McCoy
1060 East Magnolia
Burbank, California

Dear Mrs. McCoy:

Your letter of July 13 to the President concerning the Santa Susana Mountains of California has been referred to this office for reply.

Since we are not familiar with the land involved in your suggestion, we are sending a copy of your letter to our Regional Office in San Francisco, which is responsible for conducting studies of new proposals in California and some of the other western states. They will write you further on this subject.

We appreciate your interest in such matters.

Sincerely yours,

(SGD) JACKSON E. PRICE

Acting Director

cc:

Regional Director, Western w/c inc. NOTE: Please provide Mrs. McCoy with a reply on the area in question.

CNP w/c inc.

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