U.S.F.S./U.S.B.L.M. CALIFORNIA LAND INTERCHANGE

In January, Forest Service Chief Max Peterson and Bureau of Land Management Director Robert Burford announced a proposed interchange of 18.5 million acres of BLM land to the National Forest System and 15.7 million acres of NFS land to BLM. The acreage to be exchanged in California is shown in the following table:

| BLM Lands That Will Be Transferred to NFS | 1,796,055 |
| NFS Lands Not Subject to Interchange | 18,726,285 |
| TOTAL NFS ACRES AFTER INTERCHANGE | 20,522,341 |

| NFS Lands That Will Be Transferred to BLM | 983,262 |
| BLM Lands Not Subject to Interchange | 15,359,048 |
| TOTAL BLM ACRES AFTER INTERCHANGE | 16,342,310 |

The proposal applies only to the "lower 48" states (Alaska is not affected by the proposal) where each agency administers about half of the total 345 million acres of federal land. All BLM land in Nebraska, Washington, and states east of the Mississippi River would go to NFS, and all NFS land in Nebraska would go to BLM. Intermingled lands in other states would be placed in one or the other agency to create clearly defined boundaries. Management of subsurface mineral rights within National Forest System, now a BLM responsibility, would be transferred to the Forest Service.

The main objectives of the interchange are to consolidate management of intermingled lands, save tax dollars by reducing the number of field offices in those areas, and provide "one stop" access for the public who use and visit both NFS and BLM lands.

Background of the Proposal

The inefficiencies associated with the overlapping and intermingled jurisdiction of the two agencies have been recognized for decades and proposals to change have taken many forms. Several times, most recently during the Nixon and Carter Administrations, massive agency mergers were proposed but not adopted. The consensus appears to favor maintaining the two agencies as separate organizations. The interchange proposal will maintain the two agencies while allowing them to realign boundaries to improve public service and reduce costs.

Agency Authority and Organization

Both agencies have experience in managing all natural resources, and their organization and resource management direction are similar. BLM has 12 State offices, 53 district offices and 155 resource area offices located mostly in the Western States. The Forest Service has 9 regional offices, 122 Forest Supervisor offices (managing 155 national forests), and 651 Ranger District offices.

Certain inefficiencies and costs associated with managing intermingled lands (the result of historic land patterns) and maintain-
ing offices of two agencies in the same communities would be eliminated by the proposal (FS and BLM field offices are co-located in 71 communities in the West). The agencies estimate annual savings of $25 to 35 million once the interchange is completed.

Congress has directed both the FS and BLM to manage most of the land under their jurisdiction on the basis of multiple use and sustained yield. There are certain lands such as Oregon and California Grant lands, Wilderness, and Wild and Scenic Rivers that have additional specific legislatively mandated management direction. Management is guided by land management plans, developed by each agency to provide coordinated management of all resource values.

While resource management responsibilities of both agencies are essentially the same, subsurface mineral management responsibilities for National Forest System lands now lie primarily with BLM. BLM issues all mineral patents under the mining laws and all mineral leases under the mineral leasing laws. The proposal would transfer all mineral authority for the National Forest System to the Forest Service.

Guidelines for Interchange

Both the Chief and Director Burford emphasized that the interchange would be carried out with minimum impact on communities, the public, and agency offices. Offices would remain in the communities in which either FS or BLM are now located. However, offices in the same location would be consolidated. Changes in Resource Area or Ranger District boundaries would be kept to a minimum. Existing land use plans and planning would continue and be updated under procedures of the receiving agency. The intensity of resource management is determined by the character of the land and resources, which is similar for similar lands administrated by both BLM and FS, and would not change following interchange.

Personnel would transfer to the agency that acquires jurisdiction over the lands their field units now manage. This will insure continuity in management and cause minimum disruption for employees. Each agency would make every effort to insure that personnel displaced by consolidation of offices have an opportunity to be re-assigned, and that transferred personnel have an opportunity to relocate to their original agency at some future time.

Implementation

From February through June, field units will prepare specific implementation guides for the interchange of lands, personnel, and resource management in their areas. Draft legislation for transmittal to Congress to complete actual transfer of land and authorities will be developed.

From June to October, BLM and FS will start managing their newly acquired lands and assist each other in making the interim transfer of personnel and resource management responsibilities. Until formal legislative transfer by Congress, the lands will continue to be subject to the laws and regulations now in place.

Background on Public Lands

With the exception of Texas, Hawaii and the original 13 colonies, most of the land in the United States was once owned by the Federal Government. The United States acquired these lands as public domain through purchase, treaties, and war. In turn, the Federal Government disposed of public domain lands to encourage settlement of the West.

Between 1812 and 1925, the United States disposed of more than one billion acres of land to private individuals and organizations through land sales, homesteading, and land grants to railroad companies. Railroad land grants were typically specific alternate sections of land on each side of the right-of-way, resulting in checkerboard patterns. When states were created they received blocks of public domain lands as grants to support public elementary education and land-grant colleges and universities. In the West, these grants usually consisted of sections of land interspersed throughout the public domain lands.

While disposing of public domain lands, the Congress also set aside and the President was given authority to withdraw certain lands for specific uses. Beginning in the late 1890's, several Presidents withdrew lands for Forest reserves. In 1905, responsibility for
these reserves (now designated National Forests) was established in the Department of Agriculture.

Mineral patents, homesteading, and other disposals of public lands resulted in widely fragmented land patterns and the intermingling of National Forest System lands and the remaining public domain lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management.

In many areas, lands administered by both agencies share the same users, land management problems, and resource values. It's not unusual for the two agencies to work with the same people on similar issues concerning the use of Federal lands. This can cause undue complication for the public and unnecessary administrative costs, and led to the proposal to interchange management of land and underlying minerals between the two agencies.

by Chris Bowen, Office of Information, Region 5 Forest Service

BUMPERSTICKER:

"PARK RANGERS ARE P.R."

EDITOR's MESSAGE:

I'm beginning to wonder if everyone has a broken arm out there!

So far, I haven't received word from anyone wishing to receive special notice of position vacancies, that due to time constraints, can't be advertised in the Signpost.

If you want to see items of particular interest to you (ie Forest Service land exchange) and not what your friendly editor cooks up, you'd better sit down and write me a letter folks!

I'm introducing a new contest. The Most Unusual Event of the Summer Contest. For example, the visitors that plugged their color T.V. by extension cord, into the park's restroom electrical outlet. Now, I know you will all be having better experiences than this this summer. So share them with your friends. We'll see who is having the most fun this summer by Labor Day.

You'll find something special in this issue. The Signpost will, occasionally, carry missing children bulletins when they involve parks, as a means of support in this growing problem. I hope you'll take a moment to copy the bulletin and distribute it to your field rangers if you haven't already received it.

It's never to soon to start talking about the next conference scheduled for Concord. Please fill out the questionnaire at the bottom of the page and mail it to me (Jeff Ohlfs, 13923 Malcolm Avenue, Saratoga, CA 95070) with your comments. Finally, an item everyone needs to support is the conference raffle. We hope you'll start thinking about a raffle prize to donate. My donation is ready and waiting for some lucky winner in Concord!

A. CONCORD CONFERENCE:
Timing: ___________ Weekend: _________ Week Day: _________
Forum Topics:
_________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________

B. PRAC SPONSORED TRAINING:
Topics:
_________________________________________________________

How Far Are You Willing To Travel: __________________________

C. 1987 CONFERENCE LOCATION:
_________________________________________________________

D. WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE FROM THE ASSOCIATION:
In Orange County, the operative word is diversity. Diversity in geography from the twin peaks of Saddleback Mountain to some of the world's finest beaches. Diversity in population from native Juaneño Indians to recently arrived Southeast Asian refugees, and diversity in recreation from the Rams and Angels to Disneyland and Knott's Berry Farm.

Like the County we serve, Orange County Parks and Recreation is just as diverse and growing just as fast. Our system currently includes 14 regional parks, three harbors for commercial and pleasure craft, miles of golden beaches and nearly 70 community parks of various size. An ambitious acquisition program by the Board of Supervisors means that several more facilities are scheduled for development in the coming years.

As an outgrowth of the old Harbors, Beaches and Parks District, our department only recently evolved into Parks and Recreation, a reflection of the growing need for an acknowledged programming function to complement an extensive array of facilities. Following a philosophy of providing for "passive recreation," Orange County for years concentrated on developing its parks and beaches while leaving recreational programming to the local cities. In recent years, however, we have recognized the void left beyond the reach of the cities and have actively developed recreational, interpretive and historic programming.

That new philosophy is well summarized in our mission statement:

"To acquire, develop, operate and manage the County open space, parks, harbors, beaches and historic sites in a manner that provides relief to the urban environment, satisfies the recreation enjoyment needs of all people, preserves the integrity of the facilities and is consistent with County policy."

This shift in emphasis from merely maintaining facilities to maintaining and programming their use has further diversified the role of the park ranger in Orange County. Most of our rangers are true generalists. Duties typically range between park administration, maintenance supervision, interpretation and enforcement - all in one day. However, more of our staff is now being developed or recruited for specialized skills.

Orange County now staffs three major recreation centers with a fourth on the way. Facilities vary from swimming pools and gymnasiums to tennis courts and soccer fields. In these parks, the staffs are actively involved in conducting and scheduling contract classes of all description.

Historic facilities are represented by Heritage Hill Park, a settlement of four buildings spanning the rancho and citrus eras of Orange County. Other sites include a Victorian grove house with farm implements and surrounding orange grove; a restored adobe and a pioneer family cemetery. In the coming years we will be adding a variety of other sites, such as the original Orange County Court House. Rangers in these facilities, many recruited for their critical skills, must be experts at artifact
restoration, early California history and historic interpretation.

While interpretation has long been an important duty for many of our rangers, growing recognition of its value has been reflected in the increasing numbers of nature centers in both urban and wilderness parks. Nearly every park office complex contains some exhibit space, but four of our regional parks have significant nature centers where visitor programs are regularly conducted. Within a year, two more major facilities will be added to existing parks. The center now under construction at Los Coyotes Regional Park will present paleontological artifacts recovered from on-site, a location deemed second in significance in Southern California only to the La Brea Tar Pits.

Our coastal facilities include marinas at historic Dana Point Harbor and at Newport Harbor, acclaimed as one of the finest small boat harbors in the world. Our Mediterranean climate results in beach visitors throughout the year, keeping both park rangers and contracted lifeguards hopping. Add harbor maintenance, beach clean-up and the inspection of commercial concessionaires, and the complexity of managing our miles of coastline becomes more apparent.

In both responsibility and facilities, Orange County park rangers cover an ever growing variety of experience. Whether supervising a beach with millions of visitors annually, managing a wilderness unit of 7,600 acres or excavating fossils deposited 11,000 years ago, our ranger staff continues to serve the more than two million people of this diverse, urban region. Generalists ready to move from the mountains to the sea as assignments change, yet specialists geared toward managing the unique features each facility has to offer.

Submitted by Pete Jenny, Senior Park Ranger
Santiago Oaks Regional Park
Orange County Parks and Recreation

IN THE NEWS:

United Nations: The 1984 International Park Valor Awards were presented to: 1) Mount Cook National Park Alpine Rescue Team, New Zealand. "The Alpine Rescue Team of Mount Cook National Park is recognised for an outstanding act of bravery and skill. During 1983 two members of this crack team of highly trained professional climbers became trapped at 12,000 feet at the top of Mount Cook. While the nation was gripped by the drama, they survived for two weeks in a snow cave. Their colleagues attempted several unsuccessful rescue attempts, one ending in a rescue helicopter crash on the mountain. Finally, fellow members of the Alpine Rescue Team succeeded when one rescuer was lowered in gale-force winds and winched the trapped climbers to safety. Both rescuers had to have both feet amputated as a result of frostbite. The skill and daring of both the rescued climbers and their rescuers are in the highest tradition of park professionals who often work at considerable personal risk and sacrifice to ensure the safety of visitors to the world's national parks."

2) Faaye Mann, Senegal. "Mr. Mann, a Senegalese National Park guard, is recognized for his valiant act in pursuit of ivory poachers in Niokolo Koba National Park. On 12 April 1984 a group of armed men were identified in the park where over the past decade poaching has brought the elephant population from 300 to 87. Mr. Mann, joined a group patrolling the area, spotted several poachers and gave chase. Despite being aware of the danger, Mr. Mann, courageously pursued the men, and as a result was shot and killed. Mr. Mann gave his life in demonstrating his commitment to protect wildlife and parks against great odds."

(San Jose News, Jan-Feb-Mar 85)

Madrid, Spain: The first of hundreds of squirrels were transplanted from neighboring forests into city parks to liven them up. (San Jose News, April 1985)

American Park Rangers Association: APRA lost a judgement in civil court which lead to the association's dissolution on April 5, 1985, four years after incorporation.

Yosemite National Park: An 11,760 foot peak in Yosemite officially became Mount Ansel Adams (San Francisco Chronicle, 4-23-85)

San Francisco, CA: City officials and community leaders have developed a wine proof park. The Father Alfred Boedeker park has brick paths, sandy play areas and old-time streetlights.

(continued)
However, the park is "surrounded by a six-foot fence, portions of which will be tipped by spikes, and will be locked up at night with the lights left on. The built-in sprinkler system will go off at irregular intervals - making it risky for long-term snoozing by the sleeping bag set. The wrought-iron Victorian park benches will have metal dividers to prevent anyone from sleeping lengthwise on them. The pathway is flat to allow a police car to cruise through. A full-time supervisor will be on duty at all times. And don't forget the screaming children." (San Francisco Chronicle 4-23-85)

San Francisco, CA: US Forest Service investigators found no evidence to support reports that forest rangers falsified records they reforested 17,000 acres of public land in Calif. National Forests to the tune of $15 million. (S.F. Chronicle 5-3-85)

Henry W. Coe State Park: A Soviet satellite picked up the distress signal which saved two Cupertino men whose plan made an emergency landing in a remote area of the park. The signal was relayed to Scott Air Force Base. A helicopter found the crash site about two hours after the crash. The satellite is one of three, two Soviet & one American, that is equipped to handle aircraft emergency signals anywhere in the world as part of an international agreement. (San Jose News, 5-14-85)

Petrified Forest National Park: The world's oldest dinosaur bones have been unearthed (225 million years old). The dinosaur was the size of a small ostrich but is the ancestor of the massive brontosaurus-like dinosaurs. (San Jose News 5-16-85)

Marin County, CA: "Packs of wild pigs are invading the forests, of Marin Municipal Water District lands, threatening to destroy the environment that residents fought for decades to save. Rangers say them in their backyards. Rangers are trapping them and hunting them with dogs since July 1982, killing 44 animals since then." (S.F. Chronicle, May 21, 1985)

Yosemite National Park: The first strike in Yosemite's history had 109 concession employees walk off their jobs during the Memorial Day weekend (toted 11 days). (S.F. Chronicle 5-29-85)

Central City, Colorado: "An Ohio teenager trying to scare a camping companion by pretending to be a bear was fatally shot in the head yesterday." (S.F. Chronicle, 5-30-85)

Grand Canyon National Park: "Rangers will use a sting of privately owned llamas to tote supplies along canyon trails on a trial basis this summer. Llamas are compatible with people, horses and mules. At least nine national parks now allow llama pack trains." (San Jose News, 5-31-85)

Tualatin Hills Park and Recreation District, OR: "Police have no idea who left three jungle-style body traps along foot trails in separate areas of Fir Grove Park. One of the traps was an 8-foot long pointed crosspiece lashed to it with electrical wire and rigged with a trip wire to swath across the trail at about waist height." (San Jose News, 6-4-85)

Washington, DC: Secretary of the Interior Don Hodel announced May 1, the appointment of William Penn Mott, Jr as Director of the National Park Service. Mott, Director of the California State Park System from 1967 to 1975, is an honorary member of our sister association CSFRA. Mott will be leaving his position as President of the California State Park Foundation. (NPS Courier, May 1985)

ON THIS DATE IN HISTORY:

Gila Wilderness was established on June 2, 1924
Last Great Auk was clubbed to death on June 4, 1844
Yosemite became a State Park on June 29, 1864
The former Platt National Park was established on July 1, 1892
Devil's Postpile National Monument was established July 5,1911
Bureau of Land Management was created July 16, 1946
The RussianDrivers the fatal May 12, 1945 balloon bombing by Japan in Bly, Oregon, where US Forest Ranger F.H. "Spike" Armstrong was one of the first to reach the seven fatal victims. The only Americans to die from hostile enemy action on the US mainland during the war.
Budget puts squeeze on parks agency morale

McClatchy News Service

SACRAMENTO — Groups of employees in the state Parks and Recreation Department are in early open revolt against the Deukmejian administration.

They say their morale has been virtually destroyed, they can't handle their workload and the park system that 85 million visitors use each year is jeopardized.

The complaints come at a time when Parks and Recreation Director William Briner is wrestling with layoffs and the park system that so severe he warned his superiors some parks might close.

A combination of the cutbacks and reorganization proposals, coupled with responses of Briner and his top staff, sent worried and frightened state employees anonymously to Gov. George Deukmejian with many of their concerns in January.

A spokesman for the governor said Briner had “responded to our satisfaction” to the complaints, adding that the governor was not generally impressed with anonymous letters.

When nothing seemed to change, the employees offered their concerns to the Sacramento Bee, provided their names not be revealed because they feared retaliation. Several of the groups and individuals made themselves known under the same condition of anonymity.

Some strongly backed the current department leadership and changes that have been made. They say Deukmejian and Briner vigorously defended the department's emphasis on law enforcement and peace officer training for rangers. And one viewer said the administration was conducting a long overdue housecleaning in the department headquarters.

However, the overwhelming majority raised serious concerns about the park system and its administration.

Among their allegations:

- Personal cuts and pressures at the headquarters level already have stifled the most powerful employee group in the department against development of the parks, the Resource Protection Division. The division, the spokesmen say, has been under pressure from state and federal agencies to cut back its environmental studies which are essential to expanding existing parks and developing new ones.

- A ‘double’ of employees’ share of the $270 million state park bond issue approved by the voters last year may be lost to inflation because of delays due to staff shortages and reorganizations. Only $30 million is scheduled for spending in next fiscal year.

- Competent professional employees are quitting, taking early retirements or transfers. Others, particularly in the department's headquarters division, are cutbacks of staff and the firing of some are filing worker-compensation and disability claims that reduce their pay above their benefits.

- The department’s affirmative-action program is floundering, despite Deukmejian's promise to the state Legislature to make his personnel goals and weans a top priority.

And Briner said he will keep a strong voice in the department for conservation. “I plan to have that voice come in every day,” he said. “I've been doing the right thing. Let's keep at it,” he said.

Although Briner didn't say so, his recent serious staff problems appear to stem from a budget battle he lost with Deukmejian’s Finance Department last fall.

At first, Briner tried to convince the governor’s staff he needed 262 more full-time workers to run the parks in the 1985-86 fiscal year.

Resources Secretary Gordon Van Vleck reportedly agreed to go along with a request for 200 new positions, but that was pared down by the Finance Department. The administration wanted fewer employees, not more.

In a blunt memo sent last October to Van Vleck, Briner agreed he would run the park system with his existing staff but pleaded for funds to conduct work with other agencies or private enterprises.

Briner warned Van Vleck in writing that some parks might have to be closed on a seasonal or permanent basis.

Now, Briner looks back on the October exchange with Van Vleck as a strategic move, “part of the planning process” in budget preparation. “I have no plans to close parks at this time,” he said.

Tanner emphatically denied making threats to his staff or anyone who might have helped write the letters to the governor. While the department does conduct internal investigations, Tanner said they are to check out complaints against state park peace officers.

The investigations usually are handled at the field or regional level and are turned over to the attorney general or other agencies, said.

An internal memorandum sent to Briner, the investigators to “internal affairs investigations of alleged employee misconduct” and the need for “widespread coordination, tracking and monitoring of regional internal affairs investigations.”

Briner said he has decided to keep police officer training courses for park rangers under the department's control, although they may be relocated from Auburn. That's a victory for the California State Park Rangers Association which voices traditional Park Ranger's most concerns, and others who called for a separate law enforcement unit.

Peace officer training now takes 11 weeks, most of which is devoted to learning police techniques.

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March 25, 1985

To Whom It May Concern:

The Laura Bradbury Organization is a group of family and friends desperately searching for 3 year old Laura Bradbury, who was abducted from Joshua Tree National Monument on October 18, 1984.

We feel it vital to inform the public of the information compiled in this investigation.

Enclosed, please find flyers with the most current information and pictures of Laura.

It is imperative that Laura's case be publicized, so we are asking your help in posting these flyers in public view. Please stress to your employees the importance of familiarizing themselves with this information, and ask them to be alert for anyone matching Laura's description.

Thank you for your cooperation and compassion in this request.

Yours very truly,

Laura Bradbury Organization

P.S. It is suspected that the abductor is an itinerant camper who is moving from campsite to campsite. Please post flyers on all park and campground bulletin boards, and in all restrooms.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:

Park Ranger
Salary: $1119-1499/month  DEADLINE: July 3.
Apply to: Jim Thorpe Memorial Office Building, Office of Personnel, 3101 North Lincoln Blvd., State Capitol Complex, Oklahoma City, OK 73105, 1-800-522-8122.
Location: Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department, Cherokee Recreation Area and Fort Cobb State Park.
Qualifications: Two years of experience in law enforcement, public relations or environmental science; or an equivalent combination of education and experience.
Duties: Patrols all areas of a state park, carrying a firearm, to ensure the safety and welfare of all visitors and park property; enforces all state laws and agency regulations within a state park; assists and provides visitors with information; advises visitors of rules and regulations on camping and recreational activities; informs visitors about the ecological and cultural heritage of the area; gives first aid to injured patrons; investigates and writes reports on all traffic accidents; injuries, criminal incidents and other disorders occurring on park premises; issues citations and warrants when required; makes arrests or assists in arrests of violators; maintains a collection area (lost and found) for equipment and other articles lost by visitors to the park; collects camping and user fees; prepares and maintains fee record reports; serves in a community resource capacity giving oral presentations about safety, career opportunities and state recreational facilities to schools, community organizations and industry.
PLEASE POST IN A PUBLIC PLACE

KIDNAPPED
INFORMATION WANTED

VICTIM:
LAURA ANN BRADBURY
White Female - 3 Years
3 Feet / 25-30 Pounds
Sandy Blonde Hair
Dark Brown Eyes
Last seen wearing a kelly green hooded sweatshirt/white, pink & purple knit short sleeve blouse with horizontal stripes/lavender long pants and rainbow striped flip-flop sandals.

BIRTHDATE: 5-29-81
ABDUCTION DATE: 10-18-84

REWARD $25,000
For Info. Leading To Laura's Safe Return — NO STRINGS ATTACHED!
Anonymous Info. Line (714) 960-3017

SUMMARY:
At approximately 4 p.m. Thursday, 10/18/84 LAURA BRADBURY was camping with her family in Joshua Tree National Monument, Calif. She followed her brother to the toilet approximately 50 yards away. Five minutes later he came out and Laura could not be found. An extensive 3½ day search of the area produced no trace of her and it was then determined she was abducted.

Anyone Having Information Concerning the Laura Bradbury Investigation Contact:
THE SAN BERNARDINO SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT
619-366-3781

To donate to the Laura Bradbury Fund, help distribute flyers, or assist in other efforts Call, (714) 960-8553. or write to "Friends To Find Laura" P.O. Box 2712 Huntington Beach, CA