

# NORTH CASCADES CONSERVATION COUNCIL

Volume II

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Number 9

"To secure the support of the people and the government in the protection and preservation of scenic, scientific, wildlife, wilderness, and outdoor recreational resource values in the North Cascades....."

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STEHEKIN, WASHINGTON, EASTERN GATEWAY TO THE MAGNIFICENT  
NORTHERN CASCADES WAS THE SCENE OF THE 13th ANNUAL MEETING  
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE WILDERNESS SOCIETY

Saturday evening, August 23rd, 12 of the 15 members of the Council of the Wilderness Society met at Golden West Lodge in Stehekin for a 4-day conference to be followed by a pack trip into the mountains nearby. Invited guests swelled the number who attended to 40 or so people and all were active participants in the 3 days allotted to open sessions. It was a very lively, inspiring meeting and your editor felt humbled among the assemblage of wilderness conservationists who were present. Following are some of the topics discussed, not necessarily listed in order.

The Wilderness Council was responsible for the meeting, however, representatives from the National Park Service, Forest Service, Wildlife Federation, National Parks Association, Student Conservation Program, Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs, Trustees for Conservation, North Cascades Consersevation Council, Washington State Sportsman's Council, Olympic Park Associates, Recreation Unlimited, Sierra Club, Seattle Mountaineers, Wenatchee Alpine Roamers, Yakima Cascadians, and representatives of other groups interest in wilderness preservation attended.

"continued"

On Saturday evening, President Harvey Broome presided over the roll call of Council members who responded by talking briefly on a subject of interest to them. We heard about many complex problems concerned with the preserving of wildorness as well as being introduced to the fine people who are working so hard on these problems.

Those responding to the roll call were: Stewart Brandborg of Silver Spring, Maryland, Harvey Broome of Knoxville, Tennessee, Robert Cooney of Helena, Montana, Mrs. Lois Crisler, Lake George, Colorado, Bernard Frank, Chevy Chase, Maryland, Robert Griggs, Carnogie, Pennsylvania, Richard Leonard, San Francisco, George Marshall of New York City, Olaus Murie of Moose, Wyoming, Sigurd Olson, Ely, Minnesota, Howard Zahniser, Hyattsville, Maryland, and William Zimmerman of Arlington, Virginia. Unable to attend were: James Marshall, Ernest Oberholtzor, and John Spencer.

Sunday sessions were devoted to discussing the revised form of the Wildorness Bill and the problems involved in getting it into law. Howard Zahniser, William Zimmerman, Jr., and Sigurd Olson led the discussion with interesting comments coming from the group at large. Sunday evening gave the residents of the Stehekin community a chance to revisit by proxy their magnificent back country. Dave Brower's movie, "Wilderness Alps of the Stehekin" was shown which was followed by an impressive program of slides by Paul Bergman, Stehekin resident, which richly accented the evening's program. Ninety two people filled the lobby of the Golden West Lodge to see the program.

On Monday we heard about wilderness preservation problems in the National Park System, wilderness preservation in the national forests-- with special reference to reclassification of primitive and limited areas. Also, wilderness preservation in state parks and preserves, with special reference to current problems in the Porcupine Mountains State Park in Michigan and the Adirondacks in New York.

Grant McConnell, college political science professor of Chicago, Illinois and Stehekin, gave a comprehensive and compact outline of the physical characteristics of the northern Cascades region and the problems that have arisen concerning the preservation of the beauty of this area.

Kenneth Blair, Supervisor of Wenatchee National Forest, had some enlightning things to say about the Forest Service's "proposed Glacier Peak Wilderness Area". He said that Regional Forester Herbert Stone, had made the final recommendations on the proposal and that it was now on Chief Forester McArdle's desk awaiting the next step which will be public hearings sometime this fall or winter.

We were very interested to hear what Conrad Wirth had to say about wilderness preservation in National Parks and also his feelings on the northern Cascades region.

Lois Crisler provided a very entertaining movie that evening, "Captive Wolves in Colorado" and along with her explanations and comments on what she and her husband observed about the animals; it was extremely interesting to see. She then showed slides taken during the time she and Chris were in the Brooks Range of Alaska filming caribou and "adopting" the family of wolf pups they eventually brought back to Colorado.

The end of the evening and the open meetings was given over to a panel discussion led by Stewart Brandborg and was titled: Our Ultimate Challenge: Reaching People and Enlisting Supporters and Cooperators. Panel members were: John Osseward, Frank Bunker, Polly Dyer, Grant Conway, and the editor. (John Osseward will have more to say on this elsewhere in the Newsletter.)

All through the conference, your editor noticed a pleasing informality about the proceedings. Some of the discussions were heard inside the hospitable Golden West Lodge and as many were heard outside where the speakers could expound in their element. Not only were the scheduled talks interesting but the ideas were further discussed during breaks, mealtimes and whenever several persons congregated outside the regular sessions. Everyone had a chance to participate and it was a most rewarding meeting. (More will be heard about the conference in future Newsletters.)

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RILEY, AGAIN

The President of the National Forest Multiple Use Association, Riley Johnson of Chelan is still trying to brainwash the public that the Wilderness Bill is only for the back packers, again—as evidenced by a recent column appearing in the Yakima Morning Herald.

To the Editor—"There has been a considerable pressure brought on U.S. congressmen to support "wilderness" legislation. A number of bills similar to Senate Bills 1176 and 4028 have been introduced to the Senate and House. These bills generally propose to establish on the public lands of the United States a "National Wilderness Preservation System." It is proposed that huge areas of our National Forests be taken out of the jurisdiction and management of the U.S. Forest Service and set aside for the enjoyment of a few wilderness advocates who could afford financially to use them. Most of us would be prevented the use of these areas for recreation because these bills would prohibit all roads or provision for passage of motorized transportation. If enacted, these bills would have a devastating effect on the mass recreational facilities and economy of this state. The basic principle of multiple use of our public forest as advocated by the United States Forest Service would be utterly ignored.

"Recently, the National Recreation Resources Review Commission has been formed to study the outdoor recreation resources of the public lands of the United States. It is the opinion of many National Forest users that no Congressional action be taken on present wilderness legislation until this newly formed Review Commission's findings are made public. Western regional public hearings should also be held.

" Many recreationists and National Forest users are concerned that these wilderness and primitive areas needed for mass recreation use will be reserved before the Review Commission has an opportunity to make its recommendations. These areas are managed for the benefit of the greatest number of people possible, and not for a select few wilderness advocates."

We do agree with Riley on one point, public hearings should be held on the Wilderness Bill—and they soon will be as discussed in the next topic.

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WASHINGTONS THIRD NATIONAL PARK?

Fifteen states have one national park, five have two and California has four. Do the following resolutions point the way to the establishment of a third national park in the state of Washington? (continued)

In May of this year the NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION recommended that the National Park Service and the Forest Service enter discussions aimed at protecting the Northern Cascades region of Washington state as a national park.

On the 4th of July the SIERRA CLUB board of directors unanimously voted that the club:

- a) Commend the Forest Service for the protection it has afforded the Northern Cascades of Washington in the face of shortage of funds and in view of the requirement of law that primary attention be given to timber production.
- b) Consider the general area of the Lake Chelan--Glacier Peak region of the Northern Cascades, between Stevens Pass and Foggy Pass, to be outstanding in national-park caliber, fully warranting protection under the basic policy of the 1916 Act establishing the National Park Service.
- c) Urge the Congress to direct the National Park Service to undertake the customary survey of this region.

It was also unanimously voted that the Sierra Club urge careful consideration by the National Park Service of national-park status for the general area, including tentative boundaries outlined in the map published in the June 1957 Sierra Club Bulletin and in The Living Wilderness.

On July 26th the NORTH CASCADES CONSERVATION COUNCIL board of directors voted 12 to 2 that the council:

1) Memorialize the Congress to:

a) Direct the Secretary of the Interior to:

- 1) Conduct, through the National Park Service, in consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture and the Forest Service, a study of the Northern Cascades of Washington between Stevens Pass and the North Cascades Primitive Area and to recommend which parts of the region should be protected under the basic policy set forth in the National Park Act of 1916.
- 2) Temporarily segregate and withdraw from entry for the study period such lands as necessary to protect the integrity of the study.
- 3) Recommend a plan for compensating state and local governments for tax losses that would result from change in status of lands.
- 4) Accept gifts of land in the area, or gifts of funds for acquisition of private holdings in the area, contingent upon its protection under the 1916 Act, such gifts to be deductible for income-tax purposes.

- b) Authorize and make adequate appropriations for an expanded, co-operative program of restocking, or otherwise bringing into full sustained-yield production, those other lands in the State of Washington and the nation as a whole which are best suited to production of timber and wood products and on which watershed protection is not critical and scenic, recreational, wilderness, and scientific values are low.
- c) Declare it to be the policy of the Congress that the rights to the raw materials in the Northern Cascades area in question are considered as ceded to future generations, and the right to determine their highest and best use is for later generations to ascertain;

(continued)

further, that federal subsidies to production of raw materials will not apply to this region, nor to designated primitive, wilderness, and wild areas, nor to units of the National Park System.

II. Direct the Executive Committee, in cooperation with other agencies and organizations, to arrange for an economic survey of the present and potential park and recreation values of the region, assuming a development plan that would fully preserve the wilderness core of the area and the uniqueness of the gateways, together with an inventory of valid existing rights within the area and an appraisal of the cost of their acquisition in the national interest, with equity and minimum hardship to the present holders of those rights.

III. Reaffirm the decision of the Council of May 26, 1957, regardless of which agency eventually has jurisdiction over the area, that preservation as wilderness be assured for the region then recommended by the Council for inclusion in the proposed Glacier Peak Wilderness, together with the remaining wilderness in the encompassing region between the North Cascade Primitive Area and Stevens Pass, essentially as outlined by R.A. Silcox and Robert Marshall in 1938.

On Memorial Day the FEDERATION OF WESTERN OUTDOOR CLUBS resolved that: the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture be directed to make a joint study of the Northern Cascades.

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Western Hearings on Wilderness Bill Next

"A series of four Western hearings on the proposal to establish a national wilderness preservation policy and program was announced recently by Sen. James E. Murray, chairman of the Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee. The hearings will be as follows:

- Bend, Oregon November 7, Senator Richard Neuberger presiding
- San Francisco, California, November 10, Sen. Neuberger presiding
- Salt Lake City, Utah, November 12, Senator Murray presiding
- Albuquerque, New Mexico, November 14, Sen. Clinton P. Anderson presiding

"The four Western hearings, in the Northwest, Coastal, Southwest, and Central Rocky Mountain areas are intended to hear witnesses both from the states in which they are held, and from neighboring states.

"Persons desiring to testify either for or against the proposal are requested to notify Sen. Murray as early as possible at the Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, Room 224, Senate Office Building, Washington 25, D.C., indicating the city in which they desire to appear."

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HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- (1) Read the enclosed Congressional Record reprint.
- (2) Refer to N3C NEWS. 5/58
- (3) Attend one of the hearings and present an oral and written testimony or submit written testimony only.
- (4) Write a letter to Mr. Murray stating your views on wilderness and request that it be included in the record of the hearings of the Interior and Insular Affairs Committee.

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This bill will succeed if each of the large number of grass roots conservationists writes or appears in person. IF YOU BELIEVE IN WILDERNESS LET THE CONGRESSMEN KNOW IT SO THEY CAN HELP YOU SAVE IT.

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THIS IS URGENT ---NUMBERS OF LETTERS COUNT

John Osseward-Seattle- Describes Organizing "Grass Roots" Support

The privilege to attend the annual meeting of the Wilderness Society Council at Stehekin on Lake Chelan was a rewarding experience. The discussions of the problems and opportunities of wilderness preservation with eminent men in many fields was inspiring. I wished that more of us could have been there. I am sure that all of us on leaving, brought back the feeling, that what we can do in the next six months toward marshalling support for the National Wilderness Preservation System, should receive top priority. Much hard work and many long hours have been spent on the Wilderness Bill by devoted people in Washington. A small group attending the meeting felt that some of the load could be lifted by the use of state and regional organizations which could assume some of the responsibility of mustering "grass roots" support. It was felt that conservationists are pretty well acquainted with "situations" and that it was now time to develop techniques to cope with "situations".

Out of all this grew a plan, which was well accepted, whereby action committees composed of delegates from existing state or regional conservation groups would become the instruments to funnel information and plans of action, received from Washington D.C. to local organizations. These temporary committees would be responsible for coordinating the all out support needed at the forthcoming congressional hearings scheduled at Bend, Oregon early in November. The reintroduction of the Wilderness Bill to the next Congress in January will require the help and responsibility of every one interested in the realization of this great opportunity to save some of the existing natural scenes.

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"WHAT OTHER EDITORS SAY"

The above caption and following article was sent in by N3C friend Barbara Sturgis of Moses Lake and it is from the Moses Lake "Columbia Basin Herald" Newspaper whose editor quoted the "Skagit Valley Herald" printed in Mt. Vernon, Washington.

(continued)

"While U.S. Supreme Court Justice Douglas and his group of 70 hikers focus attention on the desirability of preserving a 22-mile strip of Washington sea coast as wilderness area, other voices struggle to be heard in support of building a roadway along this Coast from Lake Ozette to LaPush.

"In a sense this conflict over the building of a roadway is just one more battle in a national campaign between the extreme views of the wilderness supporters on the one hand and the people having economic interest or who wish to enjoy nature by being able to drive to it, on the other.

"A somewhat similar conflict exists in the Cascades where the extremest wilderness supporters would prefer to see a vast new wilderness area created that would block the North Cross State Highway and close the door to any mining, timber harvesting or any other economic development of the area. Each case must be decided, upon the facts peculiar to it. Certainly, in the case of the wilderness sea coast there is a side other than that supported by Justice Douglas.

"Some arguments of the proponents of the highway were presented recently in a letter to the editor of the Port Angeles Evening News written by L.V.Venable.

"Mr.Venable points out that strongest opposition to the road comes not from local residents but from pressure groups such as the Sierra Club, the National Parks Associates and the Wilderness Society made up of members, the majority of whom reside entirely out of the area.

"He further points out that the federal government now controls over a third of the land area of the State of Washington and that much of this is held in primitive or wilderness state.

"The writer notes that there are other primitive beach areas along the Washington coast which would serve the same purpose as wilderness areas, and which are not sought for building a road through and making accessible to tourists.

"Concluding his letter, Mr.Venable offers this argument: "we like parks, we like primitive areas, but we want development within them for the benefit of the tourists, the economy of the state and the vast majority of our citizens who wish to use automobiles....to enjoy the heritage in which they are equal owners."

"The fact rankles so often that support for the creation of new primitive areas comes from people who reside far from the scene while local residents seeking to build the economy of their area find themselves blocked or hampered through the efforts of people who would lock up great areas for the enjoyment of a hardy minority whose preferred recreation is long hikes in remote areas."

Yes, Larry Venable points out a lot of things. He's the prominent citizen of the Olympic Peninsula who revealed a rather shallow way of thinking, to my mind, when he met the Olympic Beach hikers with the following slogans boldly painted on placards:

"We Own This Park"

"Superhighways for 47 States But Primitive Areas For Us."

"50 Million U.S.Auto Owners and Their Families Like Scenery, Too"  
and the famous "Bird Watchers Go Home"

If I may carry the last slogan a little bit further--most of the hikers were already "home." The old cliches of "Manhattan pressure groups" and "the Sahara Club", as a well-meaning innocent once put it, have had their day. The North Cascades Conservation Council is adding new local members constantly and we are now a substantial voice and a growing influence in speaking out for preservation of scenic areas.

It is time the record was set straight. When an area of special beauty significance is set aside for the benefit of all men, and for their future generations, then it is not in the hands of any local community to have the complete say--so as to what may or may not be done in an area. Federal land --whether it be National Park or National Forest does not belong to "just us", but it belongs to

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people in the north, south, east, west, and central. If anything, we should be thankful for the help that others are able to give us in wisely setting aside our areas while we still have the choice to make.

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<p>SPECIAL MOVIE SHOWING</p> <p>"WILDERNESS ALPS OF STEHEKIN"</p> <p>Friday, October 24, 8:00 PM</p> <p>West Queen Anne Field House 1st Ave. West and West Howe, Seattle</p> <p>Sponsored by</p> <p>SIERRA CLUB and NORTH CASCADES CONSERVATION COUNCIL</p> <p>Free; open to the public; bring your friends</p>
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"Mount Rainier Boost Studied"

(AP News dispatch that recently appeared in local papers:) "Directors of the Grand Teton Lodge and Transportation Co. will meet here Friday through Sunday to consider a preliminary report on a study of potential accommodations at Mt. Rainier National Park in Washington State." (The "here" meant Moran, Wyo.)

"The Rockefeller-financed organization is making a study on the feasibility of different types of accommodations and financing that might be utilized in the park.

"Robert Hoke, public relations director for the company, said a final decision is not likely to be made this weekend. He said the preliminary report, prepared by Harris, Kerr and Forester, New York hotel accounting firm, would be received.

"Hoke said the directors probably will study the report until later in the fall before making any recommendations. He said the Grand Teton Lodge and Transportation Co. is making the survey because of its past experience in operating facilities in national parks.

"Grand Teton Lodge and Transportation Co. has no definite plans to build a tourist accommodation at Mt. Rainier, Hoke said. The company operates resorts at Jackson Lake Lodge here and at San Juan, Virgin Islands."

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The National Parks Idea Spreads

(To the editor of the Yakima Herald from C.M. Goethe, Sacramento.)

"A report from Athens says that famed Mount Olympus and Mount Parnassus, both soon may become national parks. Above are objectives of the Greek Society for the Protection of Nature.

"Thus further expands overseas U.S.A.'s national parks concept. The idea originated in 1832. Arkansas' Hot Springs then nationally was set aside. Real national park status, however, did not come till Yellowstone was created in 1872. The National Park idea then took form. Yosemite and Sequoia (both 1890) accelerated the growth.

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"It wasn't until Woodrow Wilson's presidency, however, that creating a national parks chain really commenced. The first director, the late Stephen Mather, poured his borax millions into "pump-priming". He had to educate Congress. Ere long he was to have the opposition of a Manhattan group that hoped to profit by leasing Yosemite for a super-casino. It was a desperate struggle.

"U.S.A.'s national park concept has spread to even Ceylon, Belgian Congo, Mozambique, Bahamas proposes Skindiver National Park plan for overseas camera enthusiasts.

"The danger to U.S.A.'s national parks from profit-hungry, ruthless, exploiters, nevertheless, probably always will exist.

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Promises Evidently Mean Nothing

"Power Company to Answer Complaints on River Flow". The fore-going headline preceded the following shocking revelations.

(Washington AP) The Idaho Power Co. will answer here Thursday to complaints over its handling of fish in the Snake River.

"The Federal Power Commission called the hearing after reports that the Oxbow Dam, now under construction, was a barrier to migrating fish this season and that biologists had other complaints against the company.

Safeguard Required

"The power company's license to build and operate three dams on the Snake requires the company to safeguard fish life.

"Gov. Robert Holmes of Oregon accused the company of shutting off the flow of the Snake one day recently, causing the death of thousands of fish below Oxbow. The company denied it.

Payment Held Up

"The Oregon Fish Commission said the company had shut off research payments on the ground that it has paid in the prescribed limit of \$250,000. The commission said the company, however, had charged some items improperly to research.

"L. Edward Perry, director of the Middle Snake program for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Albert Day, Oregon Fish Commission director, said the company had not employed a competent biologist, or cooperated in other matters.

Repairs Made

"Thomas Roach, Idaho Power president, said the firm was trying its best to take care of fish runs. He said repairs were being made as fast as possible to current-caused damage at Oxbow, and that \$7,000 was being made available immediately for more research.

"The research is to try to determine how fingerlings fare on passage downstream at Brownlee Dam now that a generator has been installed there."

It remains to be seen whether the Federal Power Commission will rap the hands of the Idaho Power Commission hard enough or whether this monstrous slaughter will be allowed to happen again. As was pointed out at the Wilderness Council meeting, many of these "safety" measure plans are on the sketch boards of the "exploiters" whose operations could permanently alter the surrounding wildlife or flora, yet in practice the measures fall far short in their accomplishments.

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WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Mr. & Mrs. John Bechtol, Bellingham, Wn.; Joseph White, Seattle, Wn.; F. Warren Matschek, San Francisco, Calif.; Miss Carol Turner, Berkeley, Calif.; Jim Norwood, Boulder Creek, Calif.

"continued"

Congratulations if you've renewed your membership and please send it in to John Anderson, Membership Chairman, if you haven't. Please send him "change of address" notification if you are moving, also.

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A Letter To The Editor

"Thank you very much for sending us the news bulletin containing the salute to SUNSET.

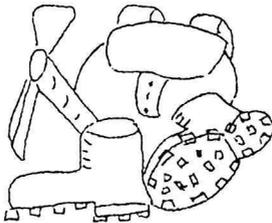
"It is especially encouraging to see this kind of response from the State of Washington, where people who really care about their inspirational heritage are having such an uphill battle against the forces of greedy exploitation."

Sincerely,  
Martin Litton, Travel Ed.  
SUNSET Magazine

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TRAIL TRIPS FOR THE FALL

Suiattle River Basin Trips: Drive 78 miles from Seattle to Darrington via Everett, Marysville and Arlington. Drive approximately 25 miles further to Buck Creek campground which is the nicest roadside camp in the area. Additional campgrounds further up are at Downey Creek and Sulfur Creek.

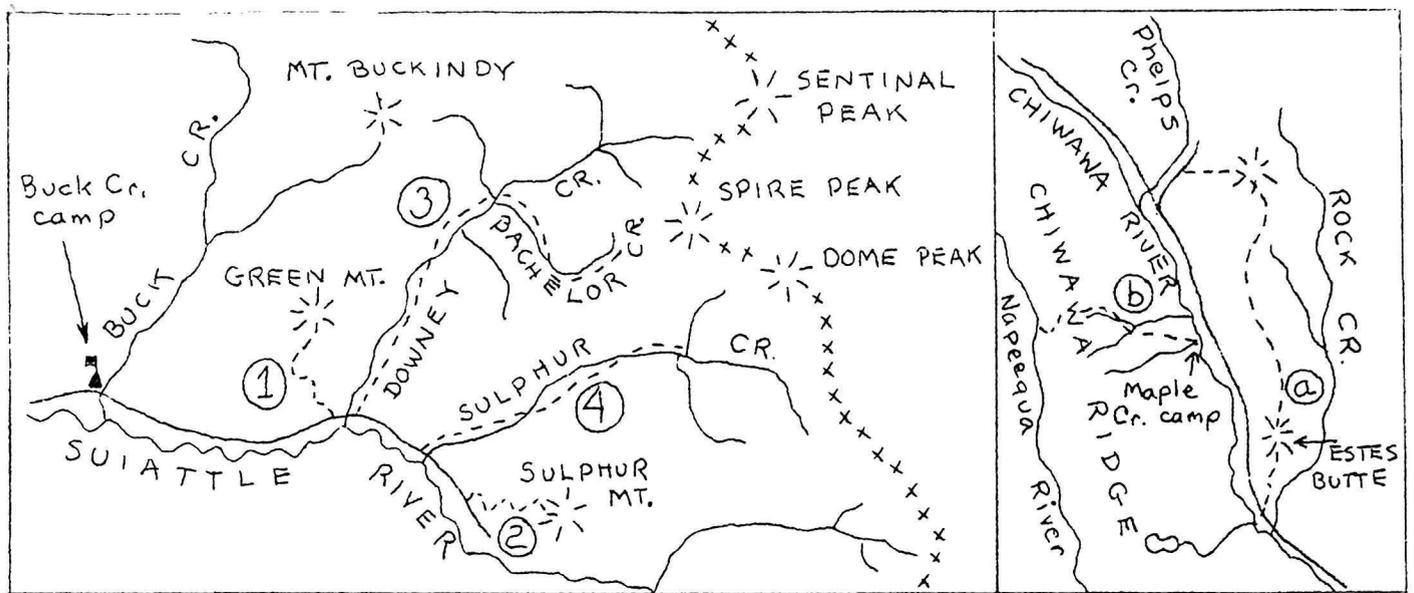


1) Green Mountain Trail (two day round trip from Seattle; maximum elevation climb 4500 ft.) 5 miles east of Buck Creek camp, on the left side of the road the trail starts and continues to the top of the mountain (elevation 5975 ft.) You will travel through woods and across high mountain meadows with excellent views of Glacier Peak about 12 miles away.

2) Sulphur Mountain Trail (two day round trip from Seattle; maximum elevation climb 5000 ft.) Approximately 10 miles east of Buck Creek camp the trail starts on the left and ends at the summit (6735 ft.). This route also traverses beautiful meadows and views Glacier Peak only five miles away to the south and the rugged Dome Peak area to the north.

3) Downey Creek Trail (two to five day round trip from Seattle) This route starts about 5 miles east of Buck Creek camp and leads you right into the heart of the Cascade giants such as Dome Peak, Spire Peak, Sentinel Peak, and LeConte Mountain along the crest of the range. The headwaters of this creek offer opportunities for weeks of exploration including cross country routes across the crest to the Agnes Creek drainage. The trail starts in a quiet rain forest and ends in grassy meadows beneath massive glacier clad peaks. This is a must!

"continued"



## WEST SIDE TRIPS

## EAST SIDE TRIPS

4) Sulphur Creek Trail (Two to five-day round trip from Seattle)  
 This trail starts about two miles east of the Downey Creek Trail and has many of the same features as the latter. The headwaters are not as extensive but nevertheless worth the 8 or 9 mile hike in.

CHIWAWA RIVER BASIN TRIPS: Drive about 140 miles from Seattle via Stevens Pass, Lake Wenatchee Highway 15C and Chiwawa River road to Maple Creek campground (July 1958 NEWS)

a) Estes Butte Trail (two or three-day round trip from Seattle, elevation climb 3000 ft.). Trail leaves the east side of the road about 2 miles above Rock Creek campground. The top is reached in 2 to 3 miles but one may continue for another 8 miles along the ridge to Trinity and make a car shuttle back to the starting point. A panoramic view of the entire Chiwawa valley may be had from Estes Butte.

b) Napeequa Valley Trail (two or three-day round trip from Seattle; elevation climb 3800 feet). Leave the road at Maple Creek campground and hike to the top of Chiwawa Ridge where the beautiful fall colors of the alpine larch needles may be seen.

