

NORTH CASCADES CONSERVATION COUNCIL

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Editor

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1st Vice-President

"To secure the protection and preservation of scenic, scientific, recreational, educational, wildlife and wilderness values of the North Cascades"

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STATEMENT BY THE NORTH CASCADES CONSERVATION COUNCIL ON THE U.S. FOREST SERVICE
GLACIER PEAK WILDERNESS PROPOSAL

by Philip H. Zalesky, Vice- President

The North Cascades Conservation Council, a Northwest wilderness conservation group, has had the opportunity to study the most recent U.S. Forest Service Glacier Peak Wilderness' Area proposal and finds this proposal disappointing and unacceptable. The Council considers the Forest Service boundaries futile, for they with their drastic exclusion of forested valleys have left little that will need protective statu

Conservationists have urged that this scenic area be set aside as a dedicated area since as early as 1906. Since the late 1930's we have expected the Forest Service to create its finest Wilderness Area here. In 1939 the Forest Service gave

consideration to an area of over 600,000 acres which was reduced by approximately fifty per cent the following year. In 1957 we observed how the Forest Service attempted to eliminate numerous important valleys in its preliminary report. The proposal which the U. S. F. S. released on February 16, 1959, shows that the Service has given no consideration to the biotic balance of the area. Almost all of the important valley entries into the area have been eliminated. These indentations give the map of the wilderness area a star-fish appearance.

Our organization had great hopes that these forested corridors would be considered a part of the wilderness area. The commodity oriented Forest Service obviously felt otherwise. In the past 100 years we have seen the virgin unlogged forests retreat before the saw from the shores of Puget Sound to the very heart of the Cascades. Taking these last miles is one more example of a well established pattern. The virgin forest is of primary importance to a wilderness area because of its recreational, scientific, aesthetic, and spiritual values. These forest fringed primitive areas are all that remain to provide a wilderness forest experience in the future.

By its very nature, a wilderness area presupposes remoteness. We cannot agree with the Forest Service concept that these areas must be made more accessible by roads. This destroys the purpose of a wilderness. Besides, we have seen thousands of miles of Forest Service roads in Washington and we are far from intrigued with the established pattern of logging for "roadside recreation."

We are not so poor in timber and pulp that we need log such places, nor so rich in natural beauty that we can afford to. This seems obvious when a leading executive of a lumber association announces that "Oregon and Washington's forest industry can provide another 50,000 jobs and push its annual payroll up to one billion dollars." (Everett Daily Herald, February 4, 1959)

One indication of this increase is shown by the recent timber inventory released on the Suislaw National Forest of Oregon where the number of board feet jumped 100 per cent over inventories made twenty-five years ago. That this is possible within the Mt. Baker National Forest was shown when the Forest Service released figures in 1957 on the proposed Glacier Peak Wilderness showing an increase of 300 per cent of timber volume over inventories taken a quarter of a century ago. Add to this the more intensive integrated forestry that has to come and one can postulate that there is room for both sustained yield logging and wilderness areas in Washington.

It is impossible for wilderness conservationists to give serious consideration to this Glacier Peak proposal. Obviously, the Forest Service has little inclination for properly managing wilderness areas. What the Forest Service has failed to recognize is the unique area at hand. The Department of Interior concluded after having explored the national park potentialities of the Cascades in 1937 that "this area affords an opportunity for a superb national park which will outrank in its scenic, recreational, and wildlife qualities any existing park." If the Forest Service cannot recognize this same potentiality, they should permit a change in status of the area so as to allow the Department of Interior, which does care, to manage it.

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WENATCHEE ALPINE ROAMER REACTION TO USFS
GLACIER PEAK WILDERNESS PROPOSAL

"While reading a new book not long ago we were impressed by some facts which we would like to call to the attention of foresters and the forest industries of Washington State. The book was "Timber Resources for America's Future" Forest Resource Report No. 14, U.S.D.A. published January, 1958.

Washington State has 23.9 million acres of forest land, of which 19.5 million acres are classed as commercial forest area. This commercial forest area has a standing timber volume of 510 billion board feet (315 MMb.f. of sawtimber and 65 MM cu. ft. of growing stock). The commercial forests have an annual mortality of 3.1 billion board feet due to fire, insects and disease. There are growth losses due to this mortality of 1.5 billion board feet. Considerable additional volume loss can be attributed to the 2.94 million acres of non-productive and poorly stocked commercial forest land.

To compare with the above figures are the values for wilderness recreation areas of the State. There are nine Forest Service areas which have been reserved for wilderness recreation use. These areas have a total acreage of 1.72 million acres and a timber volume of 9.23 billion board feet. The Glacier Peak Limited Area, included in the above figures, has an area of 347,525 acres, and a timber volume of 3.67 billion board feet.

The new Forest Service proposal for a Glacier Peak Wilderness Area calls for an acreage increase to 422,925 acres, however, the forested valley corridors have been deleted from the proposal thus reducing the timber volume by over half. The wisdom and logic of this gross reduction in the new Wilderness Area is certainly questionable when the following facts are considered:

- 1) The forest industries have available for use 98.6 per cent of the State's standing timber volume.
- 2) The forest industries have available for use 99.1 per cent of the State's commercial forest land.
- 3) The forest industries have available for use nonproductive and poorly stocked areas which are 1.7 times larger than the total wilderness recreation areas of the State.
- 4) The forest industries allow an actual growth impact loss in each three year period of a timber volume equal to that on all nine wilderness recreation areas of the State. This is an annual loss which is 1.8 times greater than the total commercial timber volume now standing in the proposed Glacier Peak Wilderness Area.

The above facts raise many questions: If the forest industries cannot operate successfully with the resources now available, would sacrificing the little remaining high quality wilderness be of any permanent value? Would not the 2.94 million acres of commercial forest land which is now non-stocked or poorly stocked be more productive for forestry than the 1.72 million acres of wilderness area? Is the Forest Service decision to log the forested valley corridors of greatest benefit to present and future generations of Americans or is it a benefit to the forest industries?"

Dr. Don Fager, M.D.
President
Wenatchee Alpine Roamers

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WILDERNESS BILL HEARING TO BE HELD IN SEATTLE THIS MONTH

We conservationists will have a chance to present our views on the Wilderness Bill on March 30 in the United States Courthouse, Seattle, at 9:30 A.M. We all realize that this is no time for sitting back and letting the other fellow do it. As many as possible should make an effort to attend this important hearing. Wilderness preservation is foremost in the minds of the Northwest populace now that the Forest Service has released its plans for the proposed Glacier Peak Wilderness Area. We saw what happened recently to the Three Sisters Wilderness Area in Oregon when 53,000 acres were deleted, and we have had quite a big disappointment handed to us in Washington's North Cascades in the FS proposal where timbered corridor approaches were totally ignored. Our efforts need not be hampered now by feeling that those

agencies entrusted with handling the wilderness heritage belonging to future generations is adequate because we have more than sufficient evidence that it isn't.

In reading the two fine press releases prepared by members of the North Cascades Conservation Council and many other outstanding articles supporting wilderness preservation that have appeared in our bulletin, we know that we have friends. We also know that we have strong evidence supporting our views and therefore we can shed the shackles of timidity and lead the way in standing up for the preservation of wilderness.

Mrs. Pauline Dyer and Mr. John Osseward are spearheading a group known as the Wilderness Bill Coordinating Committee and for those residing in Washington State, it would be a good idea to contact either of these two persons in order to receive information that will be helpful in testifying for the Wilderness Bill. The address to remember is: Wilderness Bill Coordinating Committee, 12730 9th Avenue, N.W., Seattle 77, Washington. Both above-mentioned people are N3C members besides holding key posts in other conservation groups.

For those in the Southwest another hearing on the Wilderness Bill, S. 1123 will be held in Phoenix, Arizona on April 2, 1959.

In order to testify at the Seattle or Phoenix hearing write before March 25 to:
Senator James E. Murraray, Chairman
Interior and Insular Affairs Committee
Room 3108, Senate Office Building
Washington 25, D.C.

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NORTH CASCADES CONSERVATION COUNCIL BOARD MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

At the March 14 Annual Board Meeting held on the University of Washington campus the following officers were elected for 1959-1960:

- PRESIDENT - Patrick D. Goldsworthy
- FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT - Philip H. Zalesky
- SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT - Miss Una Davies
- CORRESPONDING SECRETARY - Mrs. Pauline Dyer
- RECORDING SECRETARY - Mrs. Edith English
- TREASURER - Charles D. Hessey Jr.

Board members whose terms expire in March 1960:

- David R. Brower - 40 Stevenson Ave., Berkeley 8, California
- Mrs. Pauline Dyer - 116 J St. N.E., Auburn, Washington
- Mrs. Emily Haig - 2216 Federal Ave., Seattle 2, Washington
- Mrs. Rick Mack - 826 Crescent Ave., Sunnyside, Washington
- Mrs. Yvonne Prater - Route 1, Ellensburg, Washington
- David Simons - 749 West M. St., Springfield, Oregon
- Jack Stevens - 1130 N. 78th, Seattle, Washington
- Jack Wilson - 208 Paton, Cashmere, Washington
- Arthur Winder - 11512 1st N.W., Seattle 77, Washington

Board members whose terms expire in March 1961:

- Miss Una Davies - 13641 S.W. Fielding Rd., Oswego, Oregon
- Mrs. Edith English - 8546 30th Ave. N.W., Seattle 7, Washington
- Miss Ruth Lampert - West 417 Euclid Ave., Spokane 17, Washington
- Grant McConnell - 6052 Kimbark, Chicago 37, Illinois
- Rod O'Connor - 2500 Dean, Bellingham, Washington
- Jess Peck - Manson, Washington
- Chester Powell - 7626 South 114th, Seattle 88, Washington
- Burr Singleton - Manson, Washington
- Philip H. Zalesky - 2402 1/2 Virginia, Everett, Washington

"continued"

Board members whose terms expire in March 1962:

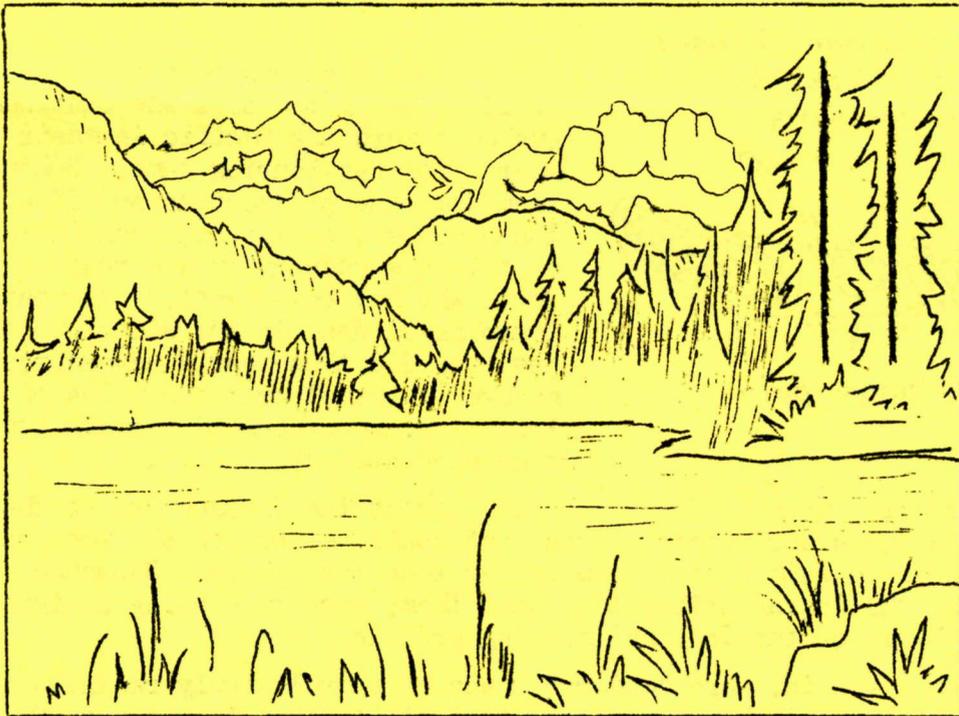
- John W. Anderson - 3530 W. Laurelhurst Drive, Seattle 5, Washington
- Irving Clark Jr. - 113 Madrona Place North, Seattle 2, Washington
- Joseph Collins - S.2207 Sunrise Road, Spokane 64, Washington
- Ray Courtney - Stehekin, Washington
- Byron Fish - 801 SW 168th Street, Seattle 66, Washington
- Patrick D. Goldsworthy - 3215 E. 103rd, Seattle 55, Washington
- Charles D. Hessey Jr. - Star Route, Naches, Washington
- John Osseward - 12730 9th Avenue N.W., Seattle 77, Washington
- John Warth - 3806 Burke, Seattle 3, Washington

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Part I--TIME IS RUNNING OUT IN THE SALMON LA SAC COUNTRY

by John Warth--Seattle, Wn.

While conservationists are currently engaged in a struggle to save the Glacier Peak-Chelan area, time is running out in the finest alpine lake country in Washington--the Salmon La Sac country. So far most of the destruction of scenic values has been from logging private land--on the Icicle and Cle Elum Rivers--with some damage from mining activities.



Now the Forest service is moving in with plans for a logging road that would drive a deep wedge into the heart of the wilderness of lakes along the rugged Cascade Crest. This road up the Cooper River would not only reach Cooper Lake, a lovely wilderness lake, but would penetrate the solitudes of the upper Cooper Valley. It would extend to Delate Creek, less than two miles from Pete Lake. A timber sale is already planned for fiscal year 1960 into the Tired Creek-Cooper Pass and Delate Creek area. A spur road into Cooper Pass would eventually go south and connect

with an existing road on Kachess Lake. This would provide a loop trip for those "out for a whirl," and woody Cooper Lake would become just another place to launch a motor boat. Pete Lake, now a pleasant half-day, ten-mile hike, would be an easy hour's walk from the road.

There is no question but that logging would drastically alter the character of the valley, as it has recently done the similarly situated Little Wenatchee Valley. Forest Service lands would probably be logged first in the less visible areas of old-growth timber. Eventually the big trees would all be gone, except for camp grounds, and roadside and lakeside timber strips. But from sad experience we know that such unprotected remnants of the virgin forest are only too vulnerable to the first big wind that comes along.

Last November 5 a cyclonic storm on the Coast knocked down in one hour some half billion board feet of timber, a volume equal to half of the timber contained in the Alpine Lakes Limited Area of 256,000 acres. The interesting fact is that this storm struck principally at the skirts of exposed areas beside roads, streams or clear-outs. The timber strips along the Stephen Memorial Highway leading into Rainier Park were seriously damaged, eleven summer homes being struck by uprooted trees near The Dalles. From this and other similar experiences it is safe to predict that ultimately every big tree in the Cooper Valley would be gone. And of course the railroad lands around and below Cooper Lake would soon be clear-cut in mile-square blocks to conform with the checkerboarded land ownership pattern.

Once the narrow canyon above Salmon La Sac is breached, there will be no further physical obstacle all the way up to the cliffs below the glaciers along the Crest. The place to draw the line would seem to be at the campgrounds at Salmon La Sac, present jumping off point into the wilderness. Right now there is a nice balance in the Salmon La Sac country between developments on the east and wilderness on the west. Attempts to arrive at a compromise in the Cooper Valley could be disastrous. It could well mean turning the forest over to the loggers and leaving recreationists with the alpine regions.

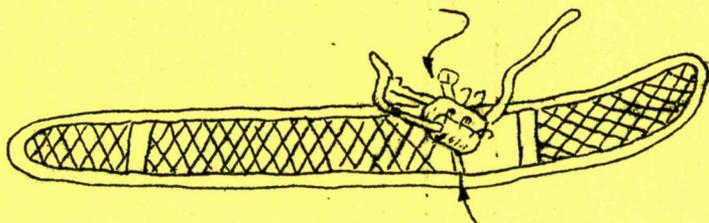
(TO BE CONCLUDED)

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REDISCOVERING THE WEBS

by Everett Lasher - Seattle

Binding of heavy leather hinges
on rod to allow the heel to
rise as in normal walking



Rod at hinge point

The west was opened to the old world by hardy trappers who continually pushed toward the Pacific in their search for fur-bearing game. Behind them came the prospectors and finally the homesteaders who had been "sold" on this new country by the reports of those who had been "West." As most trapping is done in the winter months, just how did these early adventurers manage to travel over the miles of trackless, snow-covered terrain that they encountered?

The answer was simple, when in Indian country, do as the Indians do, so they used "snowshoes." These shoes were contraptions that could be worn on the moccasins and would allow the wearer to walk on the snow rather than through it. Snowshoe forms were almost as varied as the Indian tribes that used them; each type being designed to meet the terrain problems of the Indians' hunting grounds.

Once civilization moved in, more "modern" means of travel slowly replaced the snowshoes. Those that still used them were those that still liked to get away from it all. Then, with the introduction of skis from the Scandinavian countries, their use almost died out, being replaced by "yo-yo" hills, where everything was designed for those who like to go downhill only.

During World War II, Uncle Sam taught many of his troops the art of maneuvering over the snow on these wooden rackets with their rawhide lacings. The appearance of these "webs" on the surplus market seemed to awaken a long slumbering urge in people to get out in the winter and see the mountains covered in their white winter mantle. These people aren't the thrill seekers who crowd the "yo-yo" slopes of ski hills; they are, in general, the office and plant workers and housewives who want the exhilaration of pitting their own bodies against nature's most wonderful scenery without the ponderous assistance of the devices of modern civilization.

Just what is it that makes winter mountaineering so appealing? The lack of mosquitoes? The ability to walk over brush that in the summer you'd have to crawl through? The power of feeling that you don't need a trail because you make your own? The beauty of the snow crusted trees that guard the summit ridge? As many as sixty people recently climbed Mt. Margaret near Lake Kachess on a single day! (All but 3 or 4 on snowshoes) You can ask them -- or better yet -- try it yourself!

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SENATOR NEUBERGER'S 'UNFINISHED BUSINESS'

(Sent in by Faye Ogilvie of Seattle)

(Quoted from The New Republic--an article entitled, "Unfinished Business Outdoors" by Sen. Neuberger)

"If I were a politician who aspired to lead the U.S. during the next eight years....these are a few of the issues in the realm of conservation which I would be thinking about very intently:"

- 1) Entrance free to National Forests through private lands.
- 2) Use of pesticides harmful to birds and game animals.
- 3) Budget for Forest recreation.
- 4) Wilderness Preservation Bill.
- 5) Banning billboards along interstate highway system.
- 6) Renewal of legislation on Tennessee Valley Authority.
- 7) Similar program for the Columbia River System.
- 8) CCC Bill sponsored by Senator Humphrey.

"Even a bus driver in Brooklyn, who may never see the Yosemite or Mount Hood, does not want such places defiled or exploited. He feels better about his country when he knows that these places exist and are protected."

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SPOKANE MOUNTAINEERS SUPPORT PARK

Resolution Recognizing National Park Potential of the North Cascades of Washington State

The Board of Trustees of the Spokane Mountaineers, Inc. considers the North Central Cascades to have highest potential as a new national park.

From our own observations we highly recommend inclusion of the following specific area:

- 1. Glacier Peak and the upper Suiattle drainage
- 2. The upper Entiat, Chiwawa and White Rivers
- 3. The upper drainage of Thunder Creek
- 4. Cascade Pass
- 5. The entire drainage of the Stehekin River
- 6. Railroad Creek and the northwest shoreline of Lake Chelan

We urge the National Park Service, with cooperation of the U.S. Forest Service, to study and recommend limits of this unique area to be protected under the basic policy of the 1916 Act.

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"PLAN FOR 'MAKE-IT-YOURSELF' WILDERNESS" (Year 2000)

Richard Bayne of Seattle has written out a plan for us should we be unsuccessful in the momentous job of saving wilderness. In taking a squint into the future, we find that man has found that he cannot live happily without wilderness, and so:

- 1) Take at least 100,000 acres of desecrated land.
- 2) Dredge silted valleys with Allis-Chalmers Atomic-Powered Valley Dredger.
- 3) Mix silt, crushed rock, and organic fertilizer in equal quantities. Sift mixture over eroded hillsides.
- 4) Plant with "Variety" Wild Seeds. Be sure to use the right packet for your zone.
- 5) Leave the acreage alone approximately 1,000 years.

(Important! Do not neglect this last step!)

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WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Bert M. Tolbert, Boulder, Colorado; Patricia Blair, Portland, Oregon; Harold Kluth, Everett, Wash.; Elmer Olson, Kingsford, Michigan; Rev. Joseph Fulton, San Francisco, Calif.; Wendal A. Morgan, Spokane, Wash.; Ed Richardson, Jackson, Calif. Mr. and Mrs. Paul R. Lund, Edmonds, Wash.; Helen M. Waterman, Seattle, Wash.; Dorothy R. Birgbauer, Los Angeles, Calif.; Mr. and Mrs. John Bartleson, Spokane, Wash.; John Lyford, Edmonds, Wash.; Russell L. Jolley, Houston, Texas; Mr. and Mrs. Aubrey Wendling, San Diego, Calif.; Mrs. Ray Courtney, Stehekin, Wash.; Miss Gale Kral, Everett, Wash.; Mrs. Esther M. Grey, Clancy, Montana; Mr. and Mrs. Joseph W. Miller, Bellevue, Wash.; Mr. and Mrs. Hal H. Will, Seattle, Wash.; William A. Rivord, Sedro Woolley, Wash.; Mr. and Mrs. George O. Gellert, Seattle, Wash.; Mark Stamey, Olympia, Wash.; Mrs. R.B. Young, Seattle, Wash.; Herb Kariel, Portland, Oregon; and Mrs. Mark Chamberlin, Gresham, Oregon. Congratulations to John Anderson, our membership chairman for doing so well on collecting renewals and compiling the list of new members as they come in. We hope you new members will enjoy reading our bulletin and working with the volunteers for the preservation of the scenery in the North Cascades.

OFFICIAL ADDRESSES

PRESIDENT - 3215 E. 103rd St., Seattle 55, Wash.
N3C News Editor - Yvonne Prater - Route 1, Ellensburg, Wn.
Membership Committee Chairman - John W. Anderson (NEW ADDRESS AFTER
3530 W. Laurelhurst Drive, Seattle 5, Wash. APRIL 5th)

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Just a reminder, if your name sticker on this newsletter is marked with a "D" this indicates that your membership, according to our records, expires March 1, 1959. Why not renew immediately by using the form below for this purpose? Washington's Threatened Superlative Scenery Needs Your Continued Support!

To: Membership Chairman, John Anderson, 8206 30th Ave. N.E., Seattle 15, Wash.
Please renew my membership in the North Cascades Conservation Council for the fiscal year ending March 1, 1960. Enclosed find dues for Associate (\$1.00) _____,
Regular (\$2.00) _____, Contributing (\$5.00 or more) _____, Spouse (\$.50) _____,
Life (\$25.00) _____ membership.

Member's Name _____ Signature _____

Address _____ Date _____

In addition, I suggest membership forms and literature be sent to the following individual(s) who I believe would be interested in supporting our organization.

North Cascades Conservation Council
3215 E. 103rd St.
Seattle 55, Washington

BULK RATE

FORM 3547 REQUESTED