

THE WILD CASCADES



October-November 1969

mei

FARTHEST EAST: CHOPAKA MOUNTAIN

Field Notes of an N3C Reconnaissance
May 1969

State of Washington, school lands managed by
the Department of Natural Resources.

The absolute easternmost peak of the North Cascades is Chopaka Mountain, 7882 feet. An abrupt and impressive 6700-foot scarp drops from the flowery summit to blue waters of Palmer Lake and meanders of the Similkameen River, surrounded by green pastures and orchards. Beyond, across this wide trough of a Pleistocene glacier, roll brown hills of the Okanogan Highlands. Northward are distant, snowy beginnings of Canadian ranges. Far south, Tiffany Mountain stands above forested branches of Toats Coulee Creek. Close to the west is the Pasayten Wilderness Area, dominated here by Windy Peak, Horseshoe Mountain, Arnold Peak -- the Horseshoe Basin country. Farther west, hazy-dreamy on the horizon, rise summits of the Chelan Crest and Washington Pass.

To get there, drive the Okanogan Valley to Tonasket and turn west to Loomis in the Sinlahekin Valley. Sinlahekin Creek flows north through this glacier channel to Palmer Lake, whose outlet enters the Similkameen River, which emerges into the channel from a canyon east and heads north into Canada. (The geomorphology is fascinating.)

Drive 3 miles north from Loomis, turn left and cross the valley bottom, and climb steeply on the Toats Coulee road. Shortly before North Fork Campground, turn right on the Ninemile Creek road and follow "Chopaka Mountain" signs 7-8 miles to the road-end at viewpoint 1/4 mile beyond and 200 feet above 6000-foot Cold Spring Camp. Maps covering the area are the USGS Loomis and Horseshoe Basin Quadrangles.

Aside from splendid views and the unique distinction of "farthest east," the special attraction of Chopaka Mountain is the opportunity to roam meadows in May, when westward ranges are so deep in snow the coming of flowers seems an impossible dream.

One further fact of geographic interest: the entirety of Chopaka Mountain is owned by the

This probably is the most spectacular chunk of alpine terrain owned by the state. Certainly its fame will soon spread far beyond the Okanogan. Certainly the state should take a new, close look at Chopaka and develop a revised management plan that takes into account the scenic and recreational resources.

* * * * *

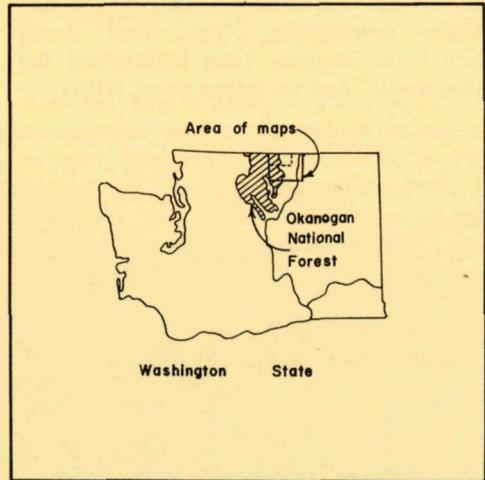
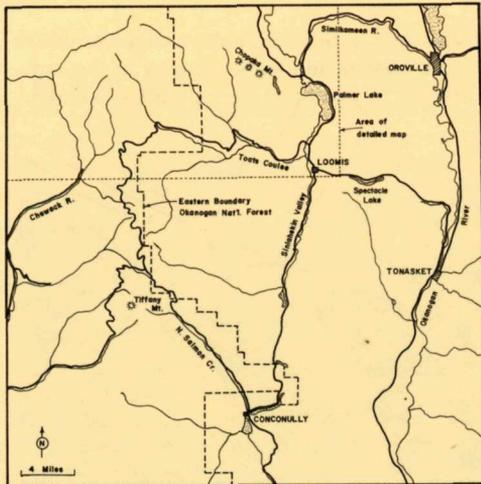
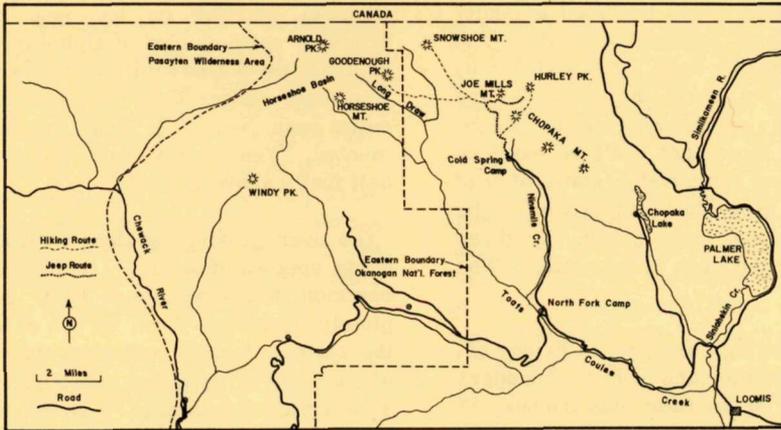
Our gang became aware of Chopaka on the Fourth of July weekend of 1968 while exploring Horseshoe Basin -- now protected (except from Emmet Smith's cattle) within the Pasayten Wilderness Area. We looked east to the wide-open ridges of Chopaka Mountain and were intrigued.

On our way to Horseshoe Basin we met Willis Erwin, one of the Okanoganites chiefly responsible for seeing to it that Horseshoe Basin was not, as originally planned, omitted from the Pasayten Wilderness Area. Willis told us that Chopaka was the next objective -- that things were happening there that shouldn't -- that we must campaign for a Chopaka Wilderness Area, a new notion for state lands.

By correspondence in fall and winter, we and Willis planned a "Great Chopaka Camp-In" to publicize and dramatize the area and the issue. But then, to our sorrow, the illness that had been dogging Willis closed in. Our last letter to him was answered by his friend Jerry Vandiver, Secretary of Oroville Sportsmen Association and the co-leader with Willis on the Horseshoe Basin and Chopaka projects.

So we canceled plans for the "Great Camp-In". But when Willis died, we determined to hold our own sort of memorial for him by visiting Chopaka on Memorial Day weekend. Jerry scouted the road beforehand and informed us the way was free of snow. (Robert S. Snoich, Conconully District Ranger of the U. S. Forest Service, also was kind enough to check the road for us in advance.)

COVER: Drawing by Mary Jackson from photo by John Warth of Glacier Peak.



Thursday evening, May 29, we drove from Puget Sound to the Okanogan Valley, sleeping overnight in Okanogan City Park. Friday morning we drove to the high country and Cold Spring Campground, a pleasant spot in an open grove of pine trees. Willis and Jerry, while summer employees of the state, were responsible for the planning and construction of the camp. (They also initiated other campgrounds and picnic sites on state land in the area, including the one at Chopaka Lake now re-named the Chopaka Lake-Willis Erwin Camp and Picnic Area. To quote Commissioner of Public Lands Bert L. Cole, "Back in the days before this Department budgeted any monies for recreation sites, Willis Erwin salvaged and begged for donations and materials, and used his own funds to develop campgrounds for public enjoyment. Although he

was seasonally employed, Erwin has worked 12 months a year for such developments, working ceaselessly to educate the public to care for their lands." Other campgrounds for which Willis worked during his 15 years with the Department include Ninemile Campground, Palmer Lake, and Spectacle Lake.)

Lovely as is Cold Spring Campground, we must report a serious flaw. The camp area is fenced to exclude cows. However, the cattlemen who hold the grazing permit use the campground as a holding pen! We noticed the cow pies, and the sign warning that the Cold Spring is not safe to drink, and wondered. A passing hiker told us how arrogantly the cattlemen abuse the camp; to get stock around the cattle-bar at the camp entrance, they actually remove a portion of the fence!

In the valley of one of two delightful streams crossed by the jeep track, we noted an oddity in the "desert-alpine" mixture of plants -- the sagebrush was mostly dead, as if stricken by a blight. Later we found the reason -- the state sprays these meadows to kill non-useful plants, meaning those that can't be eaten by cattle. This, also explained a stand of dead lodgepole pine near the campground -- the trees killed to make more grass. Do these herbicides enter the flesh of the cattle? Who knows?

Back at Cold Spring Campground Friday afternoon our complete gang of Puget Sounders assembled -- three families plus friends, 17 people and one dog, a sizable "camp-in" after all. We were joined by Jerry Vandiver and family to give the affair a joint Puget Sound-Okanogan sponsorship. The trout Jerry brought from Chopaka Lake highlighted the evening meal. And we talked about Willis.

Saturday we loitered slowly to the summit of Chopaka, starting on the jeep track, then climbing amid clumps of alpine trees through gentle grass dotted with cow pies and wallows. The state claims that "only half the grass is eaten each year." A local informant commented, "Yes -- only half the grass -- the half that's above ground."

The over-grazing has done terrible damage. Some species of plants -- including the once-common huckleberries -- have been completely wiped out. Now, by use of herbicides, the state is further molesting the ecosystem, which is so ravaged that years will be required to repair the damage -- years, that is, after the cattle leave and respectful management begins.

Fortunately, a field of frost-wedged boulders stops the hooves and we wandered to the summit plateau in genuine, clean, alpine meadow.



Napeequa Valley by Richard Brooks

Nowadays jeeps rarely attempt to follow the track, but motorbikes run free. We encountered only one gang of wheels on the weekend -- a Boy Scout troop! -- and they spent most of their time razzing the campground. The sparse local population so far has saved Chopaka from being over-run by motorcycles -- which surely should be forced to stop at the official road-end. The terrain can't tolerate unlimited wheels and there's no practical way to prevent meadow-gouging if the jeep track is left open to mechanized travel.

The meadows were wide and green, only an occasional lingering snow patch -- and this on Memorial Day! The Horseshoe Basin area was still thoroughly white though mere weeks from melting free.

The hiker detailed other Okanogan gripes about Chopaka management. A horse-loading facility built near Cold Spring to serve recreationists has been taken over by cattlemen. Further, across the road from Cold Spring is a private cabin, built on state land without legal authorization by the cattlemen, who aren't about to be expelled because there, each fall, they regally entertain certain state officials. Willis had already described to us the famous parties in the illegal cabin, the good feelings encouraged there among cattlemen and state officials. Now, from this hiker and others, we found the situation is known to everyone in the Okanogan.

Our first walk, Friday afternoon, was along the old keep road that climbs spindly pine forest (all this country was burned off in a series of hugh fires about 1929) to parklands on the side of Chopaka Mountain, then traverses down and up and finally climbs meadows to the 7300-foot saddle between the main summit of Chopaka and its satellites nearby north -- 7715 Joe Mills Mountain and 7820-Hurley Peak (both considered part of Chopaka). We left the jeep track at the saddle and wandered west on a 7160-foot meadow plateau to views north to Snowshoe Mountain, west to Goodenough Park and the peaks around Horseshoe Basin. We met an Okanogan hiker on his way to Long Draw and Horseshoe Basin -- the trails are mostly unmarked but popular with the knowing locals.

We roamed the mountain top in heather and moss seeking new and different views down the stupendous scarp to Palmer Lake, exploring to other summits, and returned to camp early in the afternoon. The round-trip hiking distance from road-end to Chopaka summit is about 5 miles, elevation gain 1700 feet, an easy walk. Another mile of high green ridge leads to Hurley Peak and even better views, and there is enough more highland to kill a rich 2 days, not including trips to Snowshoe Mountain, Goodenough Park, Horseshoe Basin, all of which can be reached from Chopaka if one knows the way or is experienced in routefinding. The state should sign the routes and do the small trial improvement required to tie Chopaka into the Pasayten Wilderness Area.

With the help of Jerry -- and of Willis, who accompanied us in spirit through the weekend, our N3C Reconnaissance of Chopaka was a magnificent success. We recommend that other N3C members make their own inspection. Can't wait for highland summer on the Cascade Crest? Itchy to wander meadows? Try Chopaka in late May.

Don't visit Chopaka after mid-June or so. The cows will be there, the pies fresh and stinking, the creeks unsafe for hikers, the recreation value of Chopaka Mountain currently is limited to the brief period from mid-May to mid-June, between the snows and the cows.

However, let all Chopaka converts -- Okanoganites, now joined by Puget Sounders and other "outsiders" -- pledge to get the cows out of the grass. The grazing fees received by the state are so small it makes no economic sense to continue wreckage of the recreation resource.

The recreational visitors are few now, but the numbers will grow. The cows should be eliminated immediately to allow abused meadows to begin the long, slow process of recovery.

We need, and must have, a Chopaka Wilderness Area, with cows and jeeps and motorbikes barred. The land should be reserved for its highest use, not the lowest.

TRAIL BIKE TRIPS IN

WENATCHEE NATIONAL FOREST

We recently heard the Supervisor of one National Forest in Washington describe the motorcyclists as "incurable." We heard the Supervisor of another National Forest in the state declare that the majority of his citizens' advisory committee dislikes motorcycles.

We did not hear the Supervisor of Wenatchee National Forest say a word.

Now, we won't exculpate the other Supervisors, the other Forests, all of whom must share the guilt for allowing motorized degradation of the wildland. N3C member Russ Jolley, who has done his duty by firing off letters of complaint to the Forest Service, reports that not a single trail on the Twisp Ranger District of Okanogan National Forest is closed to machinery. Indeed, the District Ranger has sold off his horses and bought a stable of six motorcycles and he and his staff now do all their back-country administrative work on wheels. Scooter tracks lead, for example, to Twisp Pass -- and illegally down into the National Park. Who's to stop them?

But to return to Wenatchee Forest.

The people there do an excellent thing -- sending out a weekly news release during the recreation season giving information about campgrounds, snow conditions, fishing, hiking, and the like.

For the past year or so these news releases frequently have featured "recommended bike trips".

Now they've gone whole hog and issued a special map and trail log, titled Trail Bike Trips -- Wenatchee National Forest. We urge each and every N3C member to get a copy. Write:

Forest Supervisor
Wenatchee National Forest
Wenatchee, Washington 98801

This horror says "The motorized outdoorsman has become an important member of our family of forest users." It shows "60 trails covering more than 460 miles that are open to 2-wheeled motorized travel."

-- Oh, yes, it also lists restricted areas, gives "rules of the trail," and the "Code of Ethics" of the Centaur Clubs of Washington. Who is kidding whom? If the typical bike-rider gave a damn about restrictions, rules, and ethics, he wouldn't be on a bike in the first place. We know that. How come Wenatchee National Forest doesn't know it?

We are led to believe Wenatchee National Forest does not have a very fine sense of attunement to the values of nature. Chainsaws and logging trucks have made them punchy.

So, friends, write for your free copy of the richly-illustrated map and brochure designed to invite, encourage, increase the pollution of Wenatchee National Forest.

Motorcycle Rules Protested

By **STEPHEN KENT**
Associated Press

OLYMPIA — Motorcycle and four-wheel-drive enthusiasts turned out in force last night to protest proposed rules of the State Department of Natural Resources prohibiting off-road use of their vehicles except on designated trails.

A majority of those speaking from the standing room crowd of 250 persons agreed rules were needed to guide conduct on the department's 3 million acres of land, but objected to the present version.

The rules, which have been in effect on a temporary basis, will expire October 21. They cover sanitation, behavior, use of fire and other items, but it was the regulations for motor vehicles which drew the most

fire. Twenty-five of the 29 speakers opposed the provision.

Mike Bigley, the hearing officer, said the section would undergo further study as a result of the objections.

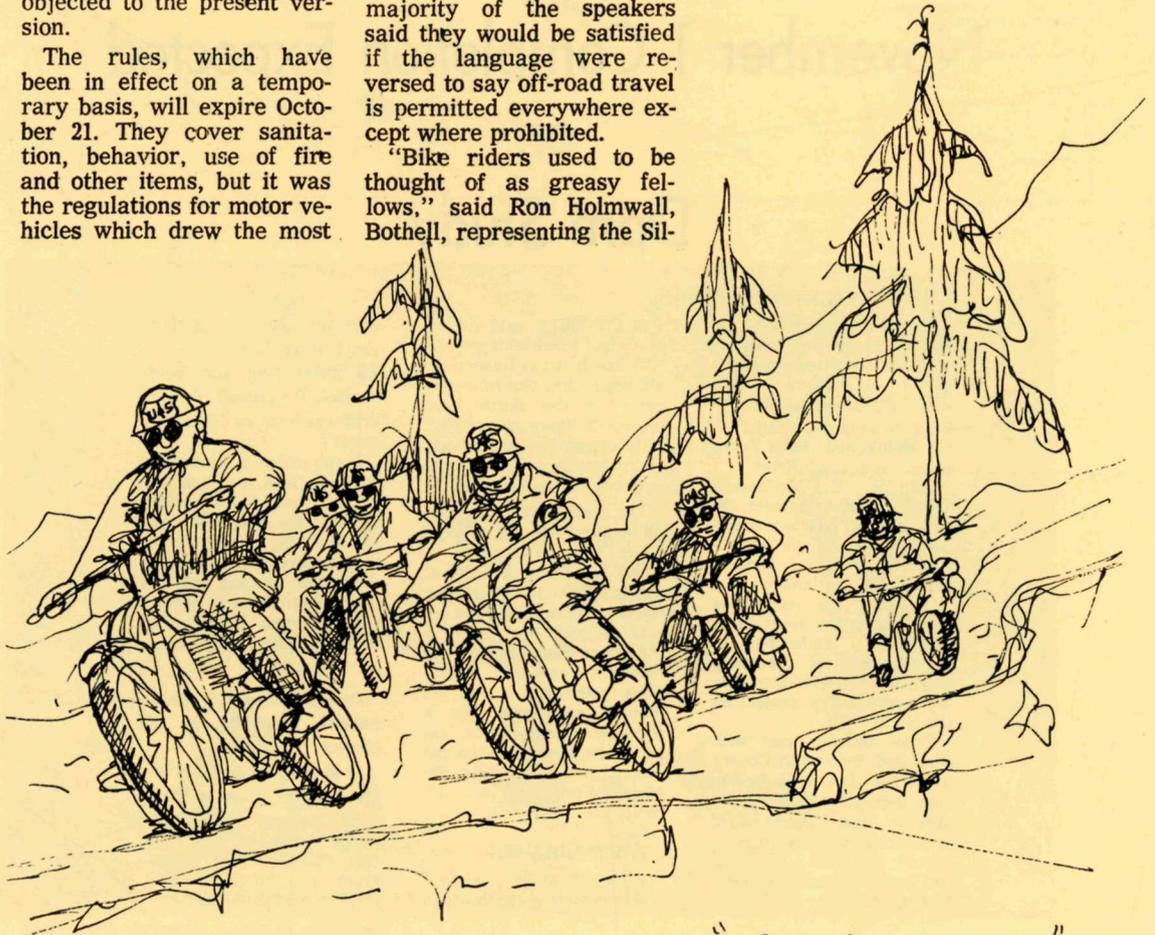
"We have no intention of excluding any legitimate recreational pursuit from the state land," said Al O'Donnell, head of the department's recreation division.

The rules said off road travel is prohibited except on trails or routes designated by the department. The majority of the speakers said they would be satisfied if the language were reversed to say off-road travel is permitted everywhere except where prohibited.

"Bike riders used to be thought of as greasy fellows," said Ron Holmwall, Bothell, representing the Sil-

ver Lake Trail Kings. "The motorcycle public today are family people and concerned with conservation. We would hate to see public lands shut down because of the minority who abuse it," he said.

Representatives of the Mountaineers, the Washington Environmental Council, and the Sierra Club urged the rules be adopted as they stand.



"SIX - AT PLAY?"

SNOQUALMIE RIVER DAMS

Editor's Comment:

Isn't it wonderful how the benefit-cost ratios shift on further study?

Weyerhaeuser Timber Company, which originally opposed both the North Fork and Middle dams, backed off on its opposition to the Middle Fork dam, under certain pressures from certain quarters. But it continued to oppose the North Fork dam. And so lo! Now the North Fork dam doesn't look too good -- though it looked swell as hell when the Army Engineers made their first study. But Middle Fork dam continues to excite the engineers.

We can now predict that the Army will recommend flooding the Middle Fork.

Our answer? Let's send the entire Army Corps of Engineers to Vietnam and force them to stay there forever. Sure, it'll be tough on the Vietnamese. However, they have weapons and can fight back. Not so us poor, exploited Americans, who must submit to every outrage perpetrated by the Army Engineers.

November 1 Completion Expected on Dam Study

By BOB LANE

The Seattle District of the Army Corps of Engineers expects to complete by November 1 its restudy of the corps' controversial plans to build flood-control dams on the Middle and North Forks of the Snoqualmie River.

Col. R. E. McConnell, Seattle District engineer, today said he has not determined what he will recommend to the corps' division engineer in Portland.

However, the corps has been asking the reaction of flood-control authorities to the possibility of abandoning plans for a \$60 million dam and hydroelectric project on the North Fork.

Crops officials met with King and Snohomish County authorities last week to discuss that possibility and "it appears they (flood-control authorities) will not strongly oppose us if we go in with one project instead of two," McConnell said.

McCONNELL said the restudy has shown both projects still are feasible financially, although the benefit-to-cost ratio for the North Fork project is "very close to 1." This means the annual cost of maintaining the project would equal the benefits.

The corps prefers a minimum benefit-to-cost ratio of 1.2 to 1 or 1.3 to 1, under which the annual benefits of the projects would exceed the annual cost, the engineer said.

A flood-control dam and reservoir on the Middle Fork, estimated to cost \$45 million, apparently has a stronger benefit-to-cost ratio. In its first report on the project, the corps said the Middle Fork ratio was 1.5 to 1.

THE MIDDLE FORK project as originally proposed would include a 190-foot-high

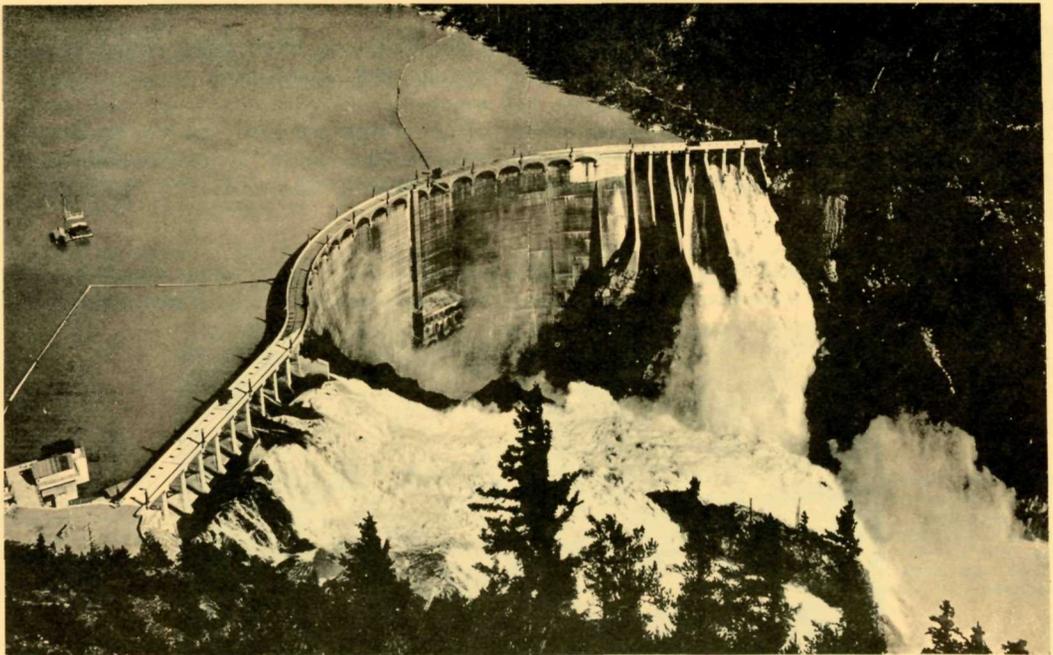
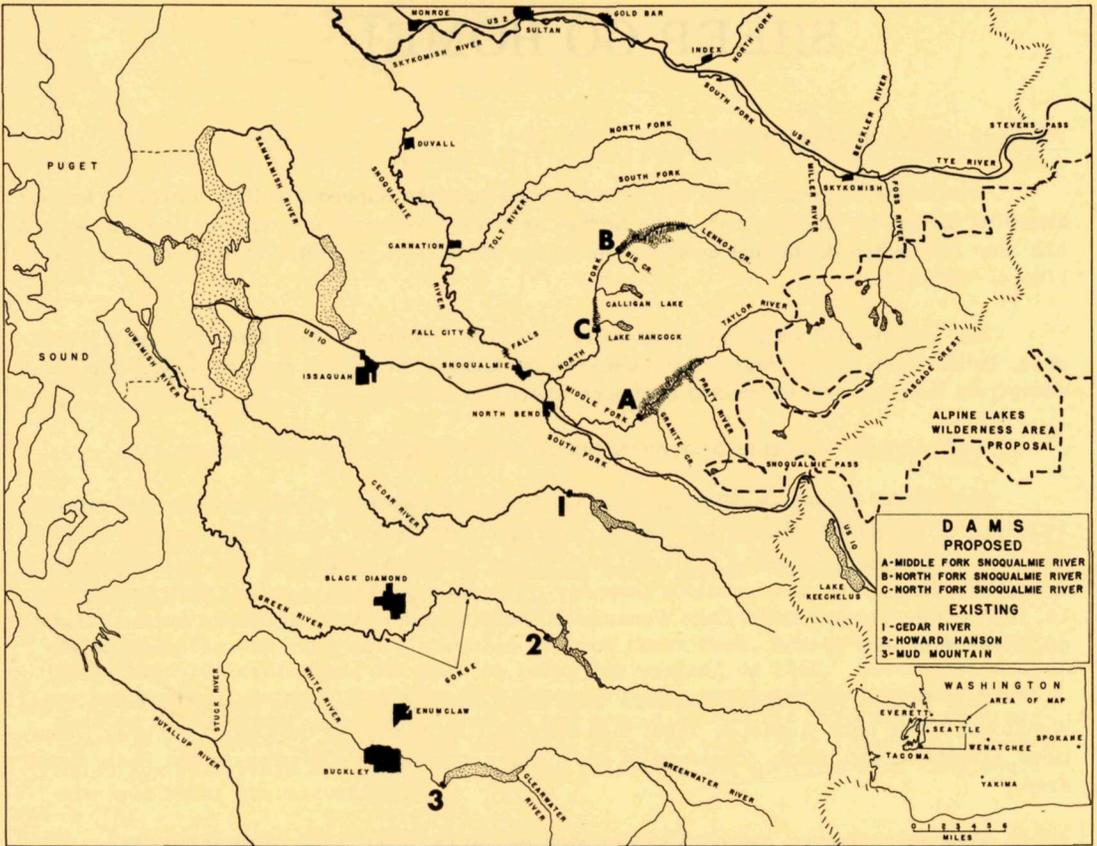
dam six miles east of North Bend. It would create a pool 5.9 miles long and would control the runoff from a drainage area of 160 square miles.

Corps officials announced Snoqualmie River plans early last year. Many persons opposed the projects, arguing that they would destroy a natural recreation area already heavily used and that flood control would subject the Snohomish River valley to heavy industrial growth.

Others questioned the financial feasibility of the project.

In March, the corps' rivers and harbors board in Washington returned the project to the division office for further study "relative to preservation of existing natural-environmental values."

Seattle Times, October 20, 1969



SHEEP GO HOME!

Part One: Sheep at Buck Creek Pass

Wenatchee National Forest has banned sheep from the Napeequa valley to prevent further abuse of the fabled "Shangri La" of the North Cascades. As noted in an earlier issue of WC, it has also eliminated the hoofed locusts from Spider Meadow -- this after violent complaint from hikers. Hurrah!

But how about Rock Creek, Leroy Creek, Carne Mountain? How about the Little Wenatchee, Indian Pass, White Pass? We must keep the heat on the Forest Service to push the sheep down from the highlands to lowland feed pens where they belong.

Following are excerpts from news releases of Wenatchee National Forest:

June 1969: "There are presently two bands of sheep grazing on the Leavenworth District. They are in the Second Creek, Dry Creek, and Van Creek areas. Each band contains approximately 1,000 ewes and lambs. One band is owned by Martinez Livestock, Inc. and the other by Robert Brothers Land and Livestock Company. The sheep will graze on this district until July 10, 1969 and then travel to the Lake Wenatchee District's high country allotment for the remainder of the summer."

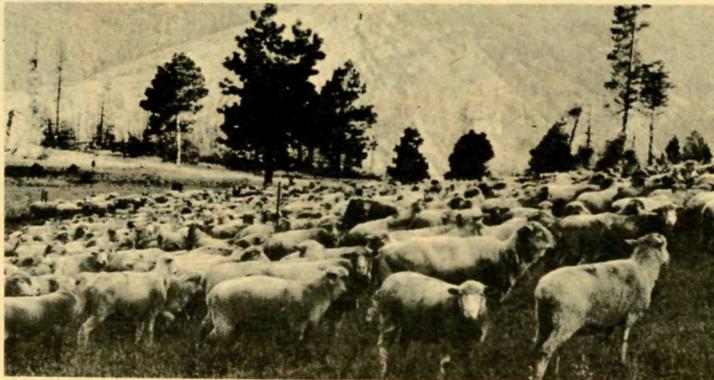
July 1969: "The Robert Brothers Land and Livestock Company's sheep will be up Little Wenatchee Trail until August 9, 1969, then they will be grazing in the Cady Pass area. Martinez Livestock, Inc. herd, composed of 2200 sheep, are up the Chiwawa in the Buck Creek area."

Your editors once shared Meander Meadow, at the head of the Little Wenatchee, with a band of Robert Brothers sheep. We hiked the valley trail amid the wreckage of mangled flowers, amid the stench.

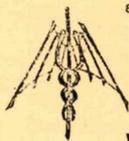
On our travels to Buck Creek Pass and Middle Ridge, we were lucky enough to miss connections with the Martinez marauders. Others have not been so fortunate.

We recently received a second-hand verbal complaint (loud, angry) from a summer 1969 horse party. They were "run out of Buck Creek Pass" by the sheep. On moving over Small Creek to Middle Ridge, they found "not enough grass to feed horses or deer" -- all eaten by 2000 head of sheep.

Wenatchee National Forest has received a complaint too -- and a rather significant one in that it was made by a member of the Citizens Advisory Committee of that forest. Following is his letter:



820 NORTH CHELAN AVENUE / WENATCHEE, WASHINGTON 98801 / (AC 509) 663-7111



WENATCHEE VALLEY CLINIC

September 5, 1969

Archie Mills
United States Forest Service
Wenatchee, Washington 98801

Dear Archie:

This will confirm our conversation of the other day about sheep in the Wilderness Area. I would like to remind you again that the Glacier Peak Wilderness area was created for people, not for sheep. This misuse of the Wilderness Area that my wife and I noticed Labor Day weekend would be the "last straw" that should end forever these transgressions.

To be specific, my wife and I traveled up Buck Creek Pass, across Middle Ridge to Image Lake, Suiattle Pass and back on Labor Day weekend of 1969. Near Miner's Creek we met a Forest Service employee from Darrington who was very upset because sheep were on Middle Ridge, had overgrazed it and forced he and his friend, another employee of the Forest Service, Lake Wenatchee area, to take their horses well over a mile from this basin for feed. He and the friend he had with him said they would complain about the situation.

When we got back to Middle Ridge, which ends up on Fortress Mountain, my wife and I took the side trip up the trail to the Middle Ridge Sheep Camp. We were greatly disturbed over our observations. This ridge has been overgrazed, apparently for years. There were large areas of dust with only islands of sod left. There were many channels of erosion already starting from previous years of overgrazing and for practical purposes, there was not a blade of grass left in the entire basin. There were hundreds of dusting beds created by the sheep. As you know, overgrazing in the past is a matter of public record and apparently attempts have been made to correct the damage that was done. I was amazed to see that such conditions still exist and will probably continue to be repeated unless pressure is brought to bear. I hasten to add that I do know what overgrazing is, for you have been one of my teachers over the years.

When we arrived at the camp site, we found a pile of trash, tin cans and recent beer cans. Despite the Forest Service's excellent policy of "pack it out", apparently there was no attempt at this sheep camp site.

INTERNAL MEDICINE * FREDERICK E. RADLOFF, M.D., GEORGE F. KRAKOWKA, M.D., THEODORE J. FULLER, M.D., ROBERT J. HOXSEY, M.D.,
LESTER E. BAUER, M.D., BURTON R. GOWING, M.D., WILLIAM M. MCKEE, M.D., CARL H. KJOBECH, M.D., RADIOLOGY * LLOYD H. SMITH, M.D., JOHN W.
GARDNER, M.D., JOHN T. JENKINS, M.D., RADIOLOGY * FRANK F. ALLEN, M.D., GENITAL SURGERY * A. DONALD HAUG, M.D., ALFRED J. STOJOWSKI,
M.D., GERALD E. GIBBONS, M.D., CHRISTOPHER STAHLER, JR., M.D., DERMATOLOGY * PHILLIP M. DAVENPORT, M.D., OTOLARYNGOLOGY * HOWARD
B. DANFORTH, M.D., GRIPOPAEDIC SURGERY * EDWARD F. CADMAN, M.D., W. VAUGHN SMITH, M.D., PEDIATRICS * WARREN J. KRAFT, M.D.,
DONALD B. FAGER, M.D., RONALD H. WOJNAR, M.D., GYNECOLOGY & OBSTETRICS * FRANKLIN E. KELLS, M.D., EARNEST A. MOVIUS, M.D., JOHN D.
MANHART, M.D., NEUROLOGY * ROBERT M. RANKIN, M.D., PATHOLOGY * GARY T. HANNON, M.D., ADMINISTRATION * WIN BAKER, R. F. ARMSTRONG

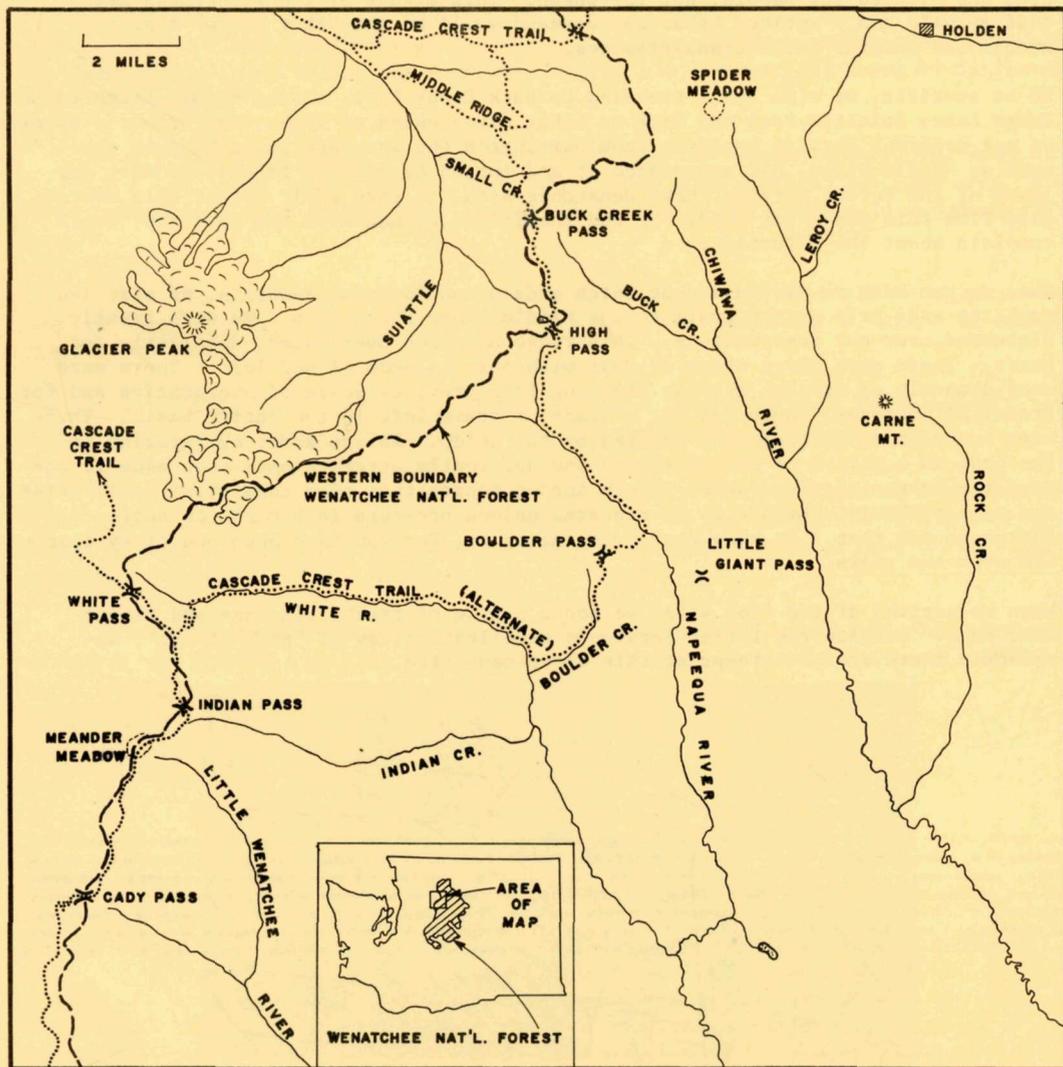
The final insult of the day was to arrive at Buck Creek Pass at approximately 1:00 P.M. to find a huge band of sheep on the Cascade Crest Trail. The shepherd was ensconced right at the sign labeled "Buck Creek Camp". He had his mules tethered to the trees and four yapping dogs. This was obviously a gross disregard of the Cascade Crest Trail and the timing could not have been worse, for the following weekend was the opening of the High Buck Season which means that dozens of hunters will be entering the area hoping to find clean campsites, uncontaminated water and in particular, grass feed for their horses.

Sheep in the Wilderness Area are an anachronism. Overgrazing, leaving trash, and grazing their herd on the Cascade Crest Trail and in particular having a band of sheep in such a popular hunting area as Buck Creek Pass would demand an explanation. As you know, I have been very loyal to the U.S. Forest Service all these years and probably because of this, I was appointed to the Citizens Forest Service Advisory Council. It would have been easier to have ignored the above, however, my conscience would not allow. When the Forest Service chooses to replace me on this Advisory Council, I will understand why.

Best personal wishes.

Yours truly,

George F. Krakowka
George F. Krakowka, M.D.



Part Two: Sheep on the Chelan Crest (Summit) Trail

The fame of the Chelan Crest Trail lies in the future -- but famous it surely will become. This past summer a party of well-known conservationists made the complete high-country tour from Prince Creek to Stehekin, and several addressed vigorous objections to the Wenatchee National Forest about the presence of sheep. One of the gripers, R. J. Brooks, was particularly tenacious. Following is the correspondence that resulted. Net gain? Well, the sheep are still there, and the multiple-abuse gang has an arsenal of glib reasons why they should remain, but please note that a meeting will be held "to further refine plans for management and livestock handling." It's a small step -- but a perceptible one.

The pressure exerted by one man -- Brooks -- when multiplied by the thousands of hikers and horsemen whose recreation is degraded by sheep, will be effective ultimately. We present this correspondence as a model to be emulated.

Don't just sit there and grumble -- write letters!

July 24, 1969

WENATCHEE NATIONAL FOREST
Wenatchee, Washington

Attention: Mr. Wright, Supervisor

Dear Mr. Wright:

We recently had the pleasure of hiking the summit trail above Lake Chelan from Prince Creek to Stehekin. We were incredibly impressed with the beauty of the country and infuriated that its beauty was so badly damaged by sheep grazing in the meadows. For a full day we walked through lands where every blade of grass and flower was gone, where the streams were polluted, the stench of rotting manure was ever present and the sparse turf badly damaged. Everyone we met on the trail shared our irritation with the situation.

The grazing of sheep in prime recreational lands appears to have long outlived its usefulness. I would be very interested in your comments as to how much longer the public will have to put up with this outrageous practice? I also would appreciate knowing whether the Forest Service has any current plans to log any of the forests north of Safety Harbor Creek?

Your advice will be appreciated.

Yours very truly,

R. J. Brooks

RJB/wh

pc: Senator Henry M. Jackson
Rep. Lloyd Meeds

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE

Wenatchee National Forest

P.O. Box 811, Wenatchee, Wash. 98801

REPLY TO: 2300 Recreation Management
(7730)

August 1, 1969

SUBJECT: Management, Summit Trail Area - Chelan District
(R. J. Brooks' letter of July 24)



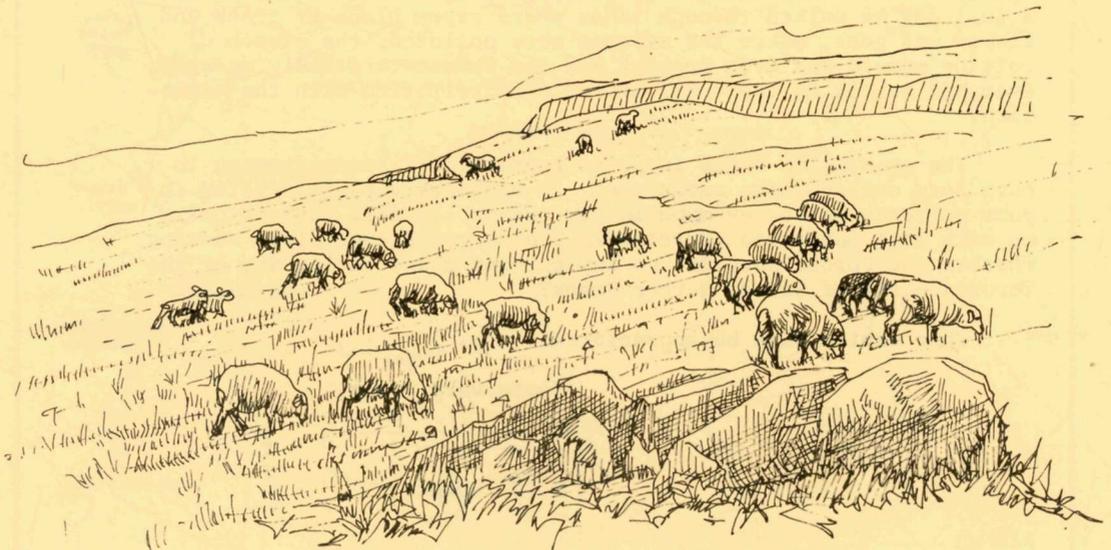
TO: R. J. Brooks
5430 West Marginal Way S.W.
Seattle, Washington 98106

Grazing of domestic livestock is one of the uses provided by the Multiple-Use, Sustained Yield Act of 1964. Suitable range for sheep grazing has been inventoried tributary to the Summit Trail which you hiked over.

Sheep grazing in this area has been permitted for many years. Our records reveal that in 1913-1915 5,200 sheep were permitted in the Chelan Summit area. Through the years, permitted numbers have been decreased. Now 1,200 are permitted on alternate years. During the past three grazing seasons the permittee has been granted nonuse. The grazing use is conservative, using a superior grazing system. From a range management viewpoint we are satisfied with the use being made by the range resource.

We have no current plans to log north of Safety Harbor Creek.

A. C. Wright
A. C. WRIGHT
Forest Supervisor



August 6, 1969

Mr. A. C. Wright
Forest Supervisor
WENATCHEE NATIONAL FOREST
P. O. Box 811
Wenatchee, Washington 98801

Re: 2300 Recreation Management (7730)
Management, Summit Trail Area - Chelan District

Dear Mr. Wright:

We have your reply of August 1 regarding the grazing of sheep on the summit trail above Lake Chelan.

While the grazing of 5,200 sheep may have been appropriate in 1913, the grazing of 1,200 sheep in 1969 is totally unacceptable. Your figures on the number of sheep that should be grazed in this prime recreation area should be inversely proportional to the number of people that visit the area. Compared to 1913, the number of visitors has increased astronomically. There certainly is not a place in your multiple use management program for both people and sheep. I wish you could have listened to a sampling of the reactions of the parties we met on the trail, and you wouldn't be "satisfied" with your grazing program. Whether the Forest Service wishes to recognize it or not, it is doing severe damage to the recreational values of the land for relatively measly grazing fees.

I was very disappointed with the Forest Service response on continued grazing in prime recreational lands. If this is an unalterable position, it would appear the Forest Service is forcing the public to urge the management of these lands by another agency.

Your further response would be very much appreciated.

Yours very truly,

R. J. Brooks

RJB/wh

cc: Senator Henry M. Jackson
Rep. Lloyd Meeds



LLOYD MEEDS
2d DISTRICT, WASHINGTON

AL SWIFT
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

JIM PRICE
DISTRICT OFFICE DIRECTOR
ROOM 201
FEDERAL BUILDING
EVERETT, WASHINGTON
ALPINE 9-2233

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
AND LABOR

SUBCOMMITTEES:
GENERAL EDUCATION
SELECT EDUCATION
SELECT LABOR

COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR
AND INSULAR AFFAIRS

SUBCOMMITTEES:
INDIAN AFFAIRS
IRRIGATION AND RECLAMATION
PUBLIC LANDS

August 11, 1969

Mr. R. J. Brooks
5430 West Marginal Way, S. W.
Seattle, Washington 98106

Dear Mr. Brooks:

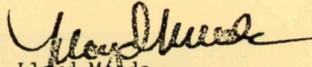
Thank you for the copy of your letter to Mr. Wright of the Forest Service, discussing the sheep-grazing policy in Wenatchee National Forest.

As you know, the Forest Service attempts to provide the public with a multiple use program, through which forest lands are used for logging, grazing, wildlife management, and recreation, in order to maximize public benefit in all areas. The Forest Service is charged by Congress with the responsibility of weighing the relative merits of particular land uses, and priorities accordingly. Usually the Forest Service performs this task quite well, although there are occasionally grounds for criticism regarding a particular decision.

You might consider writing to Congressman Tom Foley, in whose district the Wenatchee National Forest lies. I know that he will be interested in your views.

Thanks again for bringing this matter to my attention, and I hope you'll always feel free to write.

Sincerely,


Lloyd Meeds
Member of Congress

LM:dbS

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
 FOREST SERVICE
 Wenatchee National Forest
 P. O. Box 811
 Wenatchee, Washington 98801

REPLY TO: 2300 - Recreation
 (7730)

August 11, 1969

SUBJECT: Management, Summit Trail Area - Chelan District
 (Your Reference letter of August 6)



TO: Mr. R. J. Brooks
 5430 West Marginal Way Southwest
 Seattle, Washington 98106

We agree that sheep grazing in the Chelan Summit Area may be totally unacceptable to some for reasons of their own. From a land management standpoint it is acceptable at this point in time. It is possible that in the future use pressures may change and conflicts of use may dictate changes in management. Multiple use has the flexibility to change. We are confident that the use being made of the range resource is acceptable.

The range was analysed in 1963 by qualified range technicians. This analysis revealed a gross carrying capacity of 10,002 sheep months on the Buttermilk Allotment only part of which you traveled through. Deductions were made for soil protection, recreation closures, reservation for recreation stock use, and management, resulting in a net carrying capacity of 4800 sheep months. Present use on an alternate-year basis is harvesting about half of this conservative estimate of usable forage.

Permanent range transects have been established to measure condition and trend of vegetation and soils over the primary range on this allotment. Results of such studies enable our Range Scientists to determine proper stocking and impact upon basic resources.

Mr. A. Trebor, current permittee on the Buttermilk Allotment, has had much experience in managing sheep in the higher basins such as Harts Pass. The Forest Service has enjoyed excellent cooperation from Mr. Trebor in the past and according to reports from the Okanogan Forest Staff, no complaints have ever been received from his use of the National Forest ranges.

We agree there has been an increase in visitor-use since 1913 along the Chelan Summit, but certainly not in "astronomic" proportions. The early prospectors, trappers, hunters, and stockmen have for the most part been replaced by today's multi-purpose recreationists whose number are ascending.

You mention the "measly grazing fees" collected for use of Federal range. Our permittees who are dependent upon Forest range to round out their yearlong ranch operations, are business men who must own and use commensurate ranch lands. Thus they pay property taxes, employ yearlong personnel, and contribute much to the economy of their local communities.

Production of wool and mutton has long been a part of the western rural economy. The Forest Service can and does devote certain lands to grazing use by dependent ranchers. The highly bred ewe with her healthy lamb is part of our western heritage.

Multiple use of the National Forest does not connote "many uses" on every parcel of land. Just as recreation is paramount in select areas, grazing by permitted livestock is of primary importance in others. The Buttermilk Grazing Management Plan states that sheep will not be grazed in areas of high recreational value adjacent to lakes and streams or adjacent to main trails. Trails must be crossed if sheep are to fully utilize the range. Sheep will traverse a trail only where this is the only pass through that parcel of range. Where the reverse has been done, it is in violation of the approved plan and steps will be taken to investigate and correct the situation.

Feel free to discuss this matter further with us should we have failed to answer your questions.

A. C. Wright
A. C. WRIGHT
Forest Supervisor

HENRY M. JACKSON, WASH., CHAIRMAN
CLINTON P. ANDERSON, N. MEX.
ALAN BIBLE, NEV.
FRANK CHURCH, IDAHO
FRANK E. MOSS, UTAH
QUENTIN N. BURDICK, N. DAK.
GEORGE MCGOVERN, S. DAK.
GAYLORD NELSON, WIS.
LEE METCALF, MONT.
MIKE GRAVEL, ALASKA

GORDON ALLOTT, COLO.
LEN B. JORDAN, IDAHO
PAUL J. FANNIN, ARIZ.
CLIFFORD P. HANSEN, WYO.
MARK O. HATFIELD, OREG.
TED STEVENS, ALASKA
HENRY BELLMON, OKLA.

JERRY T. VERKLER, STAFF DIRECTOR

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

August 19, 1969

Mr. R. J. Brooks
The Chemithon Corporation
5430 West Marginal Way S. W.
Seattle, Washington 98106

Dear Mr. Brooks:

As Senator Jackson is in Washington State during the August recess of Congress, I am taking the liberty of acknowledging your recent correspondence including a memorandum you received from A. C. Wright, Forest Supervisor of Wenatchee National Forest and a copy of your reply to him regarding the grazing of sheep on the summit trail above Lake Chelan.

In order to avoid any unnecessary delay, we have initiated an inquiry in the Senator's name with the appropriate officials of the Forest Service in your behalf. Senator Jackson will be in touch with you when the requested report has been received.

Sincerely yours,

Doris Whitmus

Doris Whitmus
Personal Secretary to
Henry M. Jackson, U.S.S.

HENRY M. JACKSON, WASH., CHAIRMAN	GORDON ALLOTT, COLO.
CLINTON P. ANDERSON, N. MEX.	LEN B. JORDAN, IDAHO
ALAN BIBLE, NEV.	PAUL J. FANNIN, ARIZ.
FRANK CHURCH, IDAHO	CLIFFORD P. HANSEN, WYO.
FRANK L. MOSS, UTAH	MARK O. HATFIELD, OREG.
QUENTIN N. BURDICK, N. DAK.	TED STEVENS, ALASKA
GEORGE MCGOVERN, S. DAK.	HENRY BELLMON, OKLA.
GAYLORD NELSON, WIS.	
LEE METCALF, MONT.	
MIKE GRAVEL, ALASKA	

JERRY T. VERKLER, STAFF DIRECTOR

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

September 15, 1969

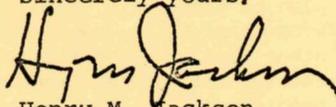
Mr. R. J. Brooks
The Chemithon Corporation
5430 West Marginal Way S. W.
Seattle, Washington 98106

Dear Mr. Brooks:

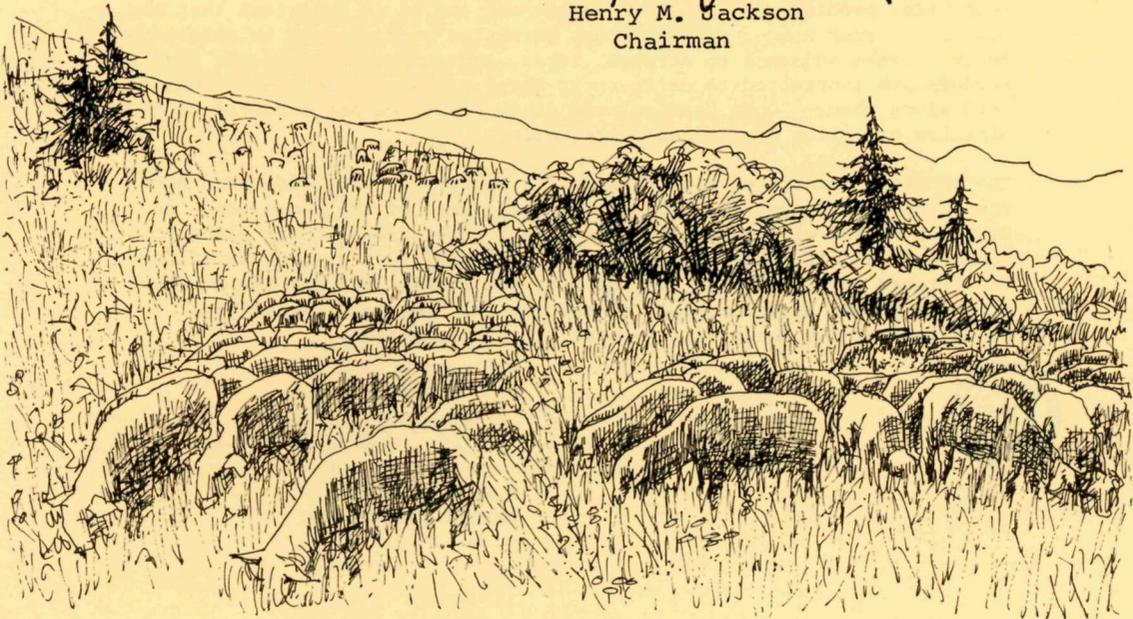
Enclosed is a copy of a report I have received from the Forest Service in response to an inquiry I made in your behalf in connection with sheep grazing.

I hope this information will be helpful in answering some of the questions you raised. If you feel you would like any additional facts, please do not hesitate to write me again.

Sincerely yours,



Henry M. Jackson
Chairman



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20250

SEP 13 1969

IN REPLY REFER TO

2230

Honorable Henry M. Jackson
Chairman, Committee on Interior
and Insular Affairs
United States Senate

SEP 11 1969

Dear Mr. Chairman:

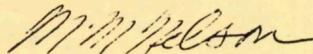
This is a further reply to your letter of August 20 concerning questions on sheep grazing raised by Mr. R. J. Brooks of Seattle.

The interest and concern expressed by Mr. Brooks are appreciated. Although the Forest Service does not condone the type of use he describes, livestock grazing on a sustained yield basis is one of the multiple uses of National Forest land for which we are responsible. This, of course, means that grazing must be compatible with other resource uses and values such as wildlife, watershed protection, outdoor recreation, and timber production.

The sheep in question graze along the Chelan Summit Trail on the Butter-milk Allotment on the Wenatchee National Forest. This trail traverses through the upper forest and sub-alpine portion of this range unit. Although this allotment has been grazed almost continually by sheep for the past 45 years, their numbers have been greatly reduced. The current management plan is based on a thorough range allotment analysis which considers forage production, soil characteristics, range condition and trend, and other land and resource needs. It provides for one band of sheep to graze two and one-half months on alternate years. The plan recognizes problems of livestock management and it is important that the District Forest Ranger and livestock permittee work closely to alleviate these. Areas adjacent to streams, lakes, and campgrounds are off limits. Herders are instructed to drift their sheep across trails rather than herd along them. "Open herding" and other practices are employed to minimize trampling damage and over-grazing.

The problems associated with this year's management were discussed with the herders on August 14. Mr. Al Trieber, owner of the sheep, and the District Ranger will meet next spring to further refine their plans for management and livestock handling. As an established grazing permittee, Mr. Trieber is a qualified user of National Forest land but the problem situations must be corrected. We are hopeful that more intensive management of the sheep will resolve existing problems.

Sincerely,



M.M. NELSON
DEPUTY CHIEF



Part Three: Are Sheep a Permanent Part of North Cascades Scenery?

For reasons of its own, the Wilderness Society recently published in The Living Wilderness -- without any editorial note of possible dissent -- an article by Colonel Hubert D. Burke, described as chief recreation specialist for the U. S. Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Forest and Range Experiment Station, Portland, Oregon. The article was presented as a paper at a Forest Service Region 6 Range Management Workshop.

The paper is thoughtful and thoroughly worthy of publication. But we disagree with its unanswered suggestion that people can be trained not only to tolerate sheep, but to like them.

Does everyone enjoy "lines of brown cows moving to mountain pastures in Switzerland"? Not by a long shot. When American climbers and hikers go on pilgrimage to the birthplace of alpinism, they return with tales of babbling creeks, quiet tarns -- all polluted. They describe places they wish they could have camped -- except nobody camps in Swiss meadows (all of which are "pastures").

Some years back we met a young Swiss climber in the Selkirkles. He had emigrated to Canada because Old World mountains were too dirty for his tastes. He was rapturous about how here, in the New World, he could drink mountain water, could see really wild flowers, could sleep in the grass, didn't have to share highland splendors with a bunch of damn domestic animals.

Colonel Burke may find it "challenging to contemplate the results" if people learn to love to go camping with sheep. Don't hold your breath, Colonel -- not, that is, unless you're walking through a demolished garden, enjoying the stench and "the sight of sheep grazing in the wilderness."

The future of grazing on wilderness will depend largely upon the tradition that develops in wilderness grazing administration within the next few years. Unless livestock owners and grazing administrators can find means of modifying present practices so as to achieve the preservation of the wilderness landscape, it is not difficult to foresee strong forces demanding removal of all domestic livestock from the wilderness. But it is challenging to contemplate the results if present traditions were changed to promote widely accepted wilderness values. Sheep are now being used to reduce weedy ground cover in some popular camping areas. Sheep- or cattle-grazing might be used at carefully selected times on certain meadows to maintain a plant cover having a high proportion of showy flowers.

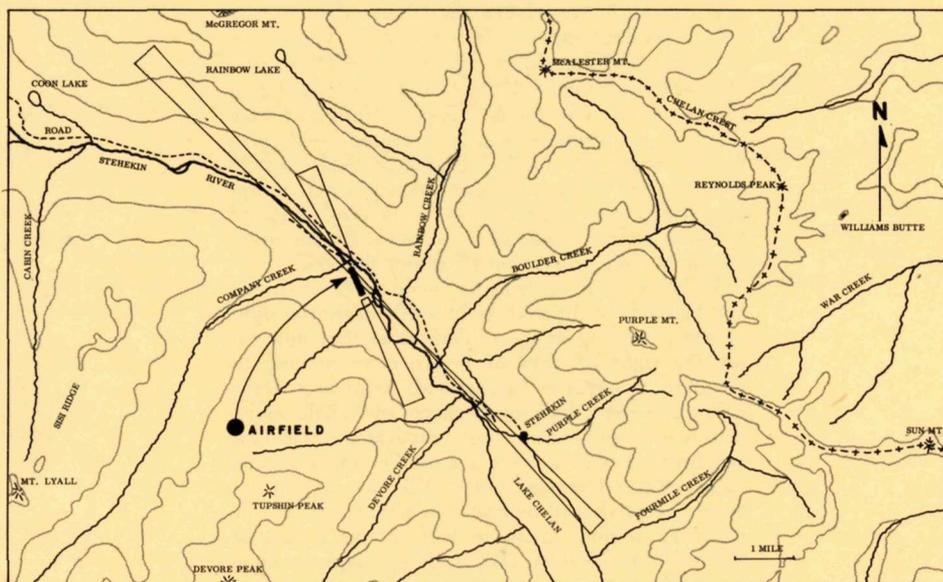
If this type of grazing is found to be desirable and becomes traditional, people will enjoy the sight of sheep grazing in the wilderness as they now enjoy the sight of lines of brown cows moving to mountain pastures in Switzerland. At present, some wilderness users look upon sheep and cattle as invaders because present range practices are economic and because of this, often are indifferent to, or run counter to, wilderness values. Whether or not domestic livestock will be removed altogether, will be tolerated in some areas, or will become a part of the traditional wilderness landscape, depends upon the skill of range management professionals and their sensitivity to the esthetic and recreation values in the wilderness.

THE STEHEKIN AIRSTRIP

by
Our Stehekin Correspondent

The Stehekin airstrip is by all odds the worst outrage to this part of the country that has so far been perpetrated. From any of the hills or peaks near the Valley it is a great ugly scar that rivets attention to the extent of wholly dominating the Valley. Close-by it is a bit of desolation in the midst of what I recall vividly as splendid forest. The only Valley trail has to begin with a long haul the length of this trip against windblown dust and then up through a burn caused by careless control of slash fires. The airstrip was originally billed as an emergency landing strip, but this characterization has so far found only the justification that it was the cause of four deaths-- those of some Seattle fliers who crashed there under adverse flying conditions, conditions which not a few fliers who have used the field say are not abnormal there at all. In fact the few planes which use this strip do so for purely recreational purposes-- to invade an essentially wilderness area without payment of any of the tokens of physical exertion that are the proper concomitants of wilderness appreciation. Beyond this, the strip does not apparently meet FAA standards. The field should be closed immediately to public use other than extreme emergency to planes in the air. Ultimately the area should be restored as nearly as possible to a natural condition considering the extensive land-skinning to which the area has been subject.

There are stories current hereabouts, however, that the discovery of the dangerously substandard character of the strip is leading some individuals to press -- not for a closing of the strip -- but to an enlargement of the field, perhaps a doubling of its size. Such a doubling of size would not materially change the dangerous air conditions that are so chronic there and would far more than double the devastation already existing. It would lay the shores of one of the finest streams reaching the valley waste. It would grossly diminish the area available for public enjoyment by a substantial fraction. It would increase amateur use of the strip and would in all probability be responsible for further accidents -- each with a high potential for accompanying forest fires. Only by the chance that brought last years disaster plane down on the narrow road prevented a major fire in a tinderdry area.



MOTORCYCLES AND SHEEP ON THE CHELAN CREST TRAIL

In July of 1969 a number of us birdwatchers accompanied Ray Courtney and his gang on a "Hike It and Like It" trip along the Chelan Crest Trail from Prince Creek to Stehekin. (If you haven't heard about these trips of Ray's, write him at Stehekin, Washington, for details. To minimize impact on the country, his customers must hike -- no long strings of passenger horses. However, the gear is carried on a small number of horses -- which also pack out all the garbage. Tents and meals are supplied.)

Anyway, it was a magnificent experience and we all came away convinced this glorious trail demands the highest possible form of protection. -- Which it is not getting now.

The Forest Service is converting both the Chelan Crest Trail and the Chelan Lakeshore Trail into motorcycle speedways just as fast as funds allow. Fortunately, a small portion of each trail lies in the Lake Chelan National Recreation Area -- but even the Park Service is not immune to pressure from the machine fanatics, and with Big Brother Forest Service leaning heavily, has not yet barred machines from the Recreation Area.

Moreover, the Forest Service continues to allow sheep to graze on the Chelan Crest. The former holder of the grazing permit for Prince Creek recently sold his sheep, saying, so it is reported, "Well, my family has grazed that country for more than half a century, but now I think there are better things to do with those meadows." The sheepherder thinks so, but not the Forest Service.

In response to a complaint about sheep and motorcycles, Mr. A. C. Wright, Supervisor of Wenatchee National Forest, has these comments:

"Sheep grazing has been permitted there for a number of years. Records indicate during 1913-15 5200 sheep were permitted in the Chelan Summit area from Sunrise Lake to Surprise Lake. Through the years numbers have been decreased to 1200 sheep on alternate years...."

"The Summit Trail is planned as a principal land access route to the Lake Chelan National Recreation Area. As funds are available it is being improved to all-purpose trail standard. It is suitable for trail bike, horse, and hiker use."

That's plain enough. The Chelan Crest (Summit) Trail is designed to be the motorcycle route into Stehekin. Because it is "suitable".

What must we do? Is there no way to "get through" to Wenatchee National Forest?

Following are two letters that were written to Mr. Wright by Grant McConnell, Professor of Government at the University of California (Santa Cruz). They are eloquent statements of the case.



August 6, 1969

Dear Mr. Wright:

Thank you very much for your response, dated August 1, 1969, to my own letter of July 22, both regarding the policy of your Forest on motorcycles and sheep in the area of the Summit Trail above Lake Chelan.

I note that the reasoning given for the present policy is your desire to follow a "positive" rather than a "negative" plan. It seems evident to me that a policy which has destructive effects on the land on either side -- is little better than a play on words and I scarcely believe this is the way you indeed make policy. As I grope for an alternative explanation, it occurs to me that your impulse is generous -- to avoid saying "no" to any vocal group seeking some use of the public lands. While this impulse (if it is the explanation) is admirable in itself, I do not believe it can consistently be made the basis of responsible administration. Certainly, I do not believe that you would follow it were you met by requests from pyromaniacs for indulgence of their special tastes in Wenatchee Forest. The difference between permitting such a "use" and allowing motorcycles and sheep in the Forest is a matter of degree. .

If a policy permitting cycles and sheep in such an area as that near the Summit Trail is deeply unwise on the score of the consequences to the land, it is just as unwise from the standpoint of effective administration. The introduction and perpetuation of such practices will inevitably bring administrative headaches which I know you would prefer to avoid. And, ironically it will not be "multiple use" for the simple reason that such destructive uses will drive out those which are non-destructive. A Gresham's Law, in which bad uses drive out good, will be found to prevail.

But I am most troubled by the implication in your statement about the liking of some individuals for the "pastoral" scene of sheep grazing. This seems to be that the matter is simply a matter of taste. Much more than this is involved: the care and protection of superb lands from serious and objective damage. As for sheep being a "relict of the old West", as a westerner, I feel I must object that there are things about the frontier, the destruction of the buffalo, lynchings, and bounty hunting of Indians, which deserve to be relegated to the past. Sheep in such an area as that of the Summit Trail fall into this category.

I strongly hope that you will make a further examination of these problems. The issues are important and the current situation deeply disturbing. I fear I must ask that my protest stand.

Sincerely,

Grant McConnell



Stehekin Washington
July 22, 1969

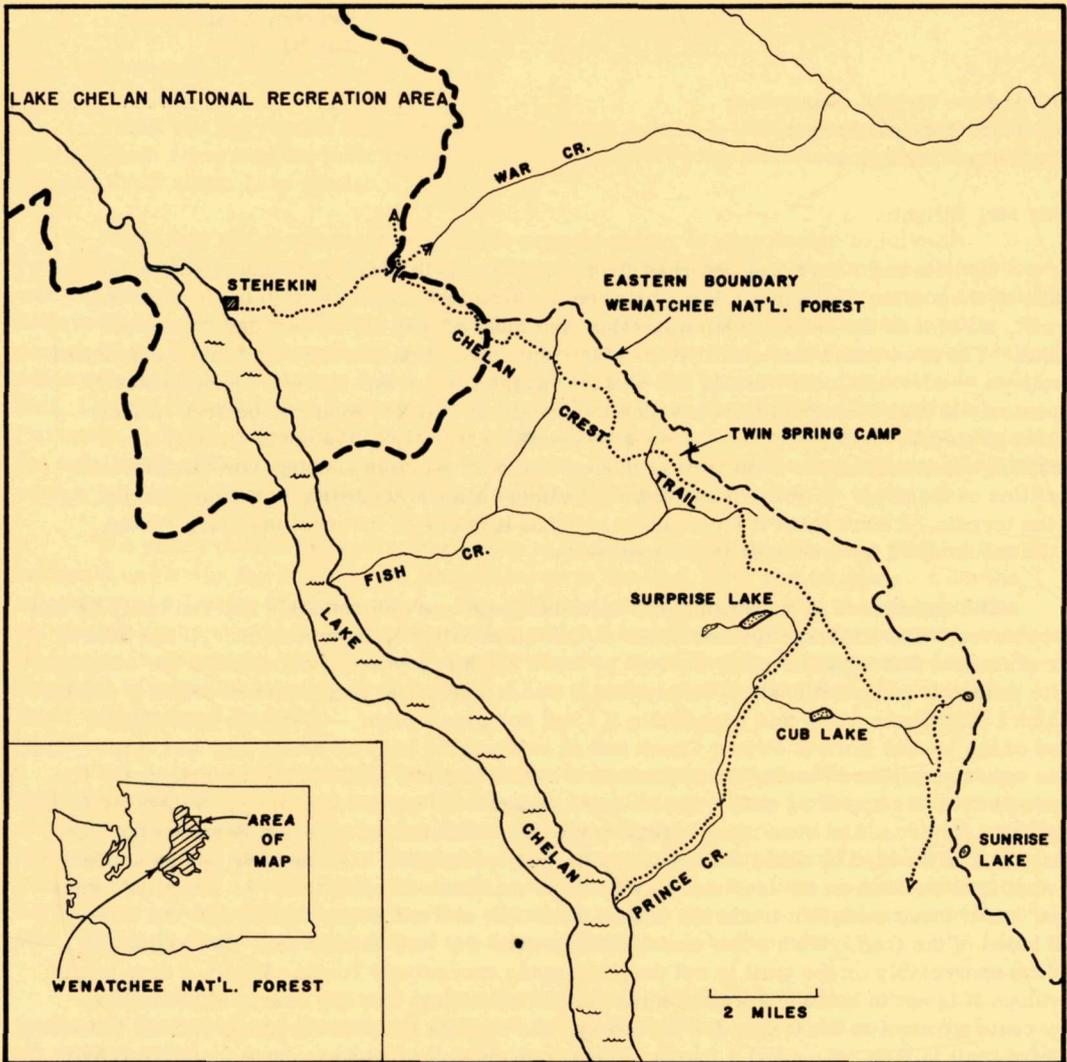
Mr. Andrew Wright, Supervisor
Wenatchee National Forest
Wenatchee Washington

Dear Mr. Wright:

My wife and I have just returned from a six-day walk over one of the really superb trails of the nation, the Summit Trail between the head of Prince Creek to the head of War Creek, all of it in the Lake Chelan watershed and most of it in the area under your supervision. The area which the trail traverses is exquisite. It passes through almost continuous meadows -- of which most were in full blossom at the time of our travel -- and it rises repeatedly to high vista points from which the great peaks to the west can be seen in their fullest grandeur. Moreover, as one progresses along the way to the north there is a mounting sense of climax. The trail is modest and very much in keeping with the essential qualities of the area. It goes up and down but almost always according to the necessities of the terrain. I don't think it too much to say that it is one of the most inspiring routes in the mountains I have seen on three continents.

The experience of traversing this splendid route was unfortunately marred badly by two discoveries. The first was the encounter at Cub Lake with five motorcycles. At the time of our arrival at that beautiful spot, several of these machines were charging about the campsite quite randomly and pointlessly. To say that it was a discordant note would be to put it mildly. I think I might have found this forgettable if I had not gone further -- over the route to the head of the Middle Fork of Prince Creek and on to Surprise Lake by which they had come -- and seen what has happened to the countryside as a result of a few years of motorcycle use. The consequences are appalling and, I can believe, difficult for anyone who has not witnessed it in person to picture. And even more alarming was the indication of a Forest Service sign that this abuse of the land by these machines is officially permitted. Let me give you an account of what is to be read on the land and seen of these machines in operation: As a cyclist comes over one of these mountain trails his wheels churn the soil and rock, cutting into the bottom and sides of the trail. With a few such passages over the very friable soil, the trail either widens appreciably or the trail is cut deep and made exceedingly rough. Where a deep trench develops it is apt to become a watercourse for the runoff and then the next cyclist takes a new route adjacent to the trail a few feet away. He repeats the process along with his followers. A third trail is then cut -- and a fourth. We saw numerous stretches where there were four such trenches and the signs that others were already pioneered. This means a swathe of as much as 30 feet. The worst situation is in the meadows, especially those that are still moist. Here the cyclist sinks deep and his wheels spin badly, churning up a black mire. He is not followed by his party, each member of which takes a new bit of meadow to churn. I watched the five cyclists in question do just this by our campsite below Boiling Lake. Subsequent cycle parties probably will behave similarly. Then, as the cyclist emerges from the bog he has made, he races his engine and charges at random across the more solid ground tearing up still more countryside. I think it should be emphasized that there have only been a few years of experience with these machines and that what I have described has already occurred on a relatively little known trail. Unchecked, this abuse will take on a geological order of magnitude. This situation is genuinely scandalous and has the making of a growing disaster.

The other discovery was made as we at last became free of the devastation caused by the motorcycles and headed up over the divide into Fish Creek. We had two miles of unmarred trail and then encountered another form of destruction, this time worse yet. At a point not far from the ten mile sign (i. e. from War Creek Pass) the meadow had been churned and chewed by sheep. This was on a very steep and unstable hillside where I had supposed compe-



tent range management would always have banned this sort of intrusion. It had been visible, of course, for some distance that past grazing had caused earlier damage. But here -- in the second half of the twentieth century -- was evidence of utter anachronism: the land skinning of the early frontier era was still going on. We found the block in the bowl just beyond that most perfect of stopping places, Twin Spring Camp. The presence of this flock on these slopes was a disaster beyond any possible justification.

We have been profoundly saddened by these discoveries in such a superb area. We strongly hope that you will be able to take urgent measures to rescue the area from these two forms of gross abuse. While I appreciate that your responsibilities are very broad, I do ask that you record this letter as a friendly but nonetheless strong protest against what is occurring to these public lands that are in your care.

Sincerely,

Grant McConnell

MORE -- NOT LESS -- WILDERNESS IS NEEDED

and

PEOPLE DON'T LIKE TRAIL BIKES

The Pacific Northwest Forest and Range Experiment Station of the U. S. Forest Service frequently does valuable research which is promptly ignored by the operations branch of the Forest Service.

An example is the research paper noted below. (For a free copy, write the Pacific Northwest Forest and Range Experiment Station, U. S. Forest Service, Portland, Oregon.)

Table 18. — Number of respondents observed and expected, by camping style and by answers to question "How many of the following could you meet and still have an enjoyable experience?"

Opinion about other recreationists	Camping style							
	Easy access		Combination		Remote		Total	
	Number observed	Number expected	Number observed	Number expected	Number observed	Number expected	Number observed	Percent observed
About hikers:								
Unfavorable	8	3 ¹	3	8 ¹	1	1	12	4.0
Favorable	16	24	62	61	15	8 ¹	93	31.3
Very favorable	33	38	108	98	9	14	150	50.5
Indifferent	19	11 ¹	21	27	2	4	42	14.2
Total responding	76	76	194	194	27	27	297	100.0
No number indicated	137	---	207	---	34	---	378	---
No response	41	---	22	---	1	---	64	---
Total questioned	254	---	423	---	62	---	739	---
About horsemen:								
Unfavorable	28	20 ¹	41	47	5	7	74	22.3
Favorable	22	35 ¹	96	85	14	12	132	39.9
Very favorable	23	24	60	60	10	9	93	28.1
Indifferent	15	9 ¹	15	20	2	3	32	9.7
Total responding	88	88	212	212	31	31	331	100.0
No number indicated	123	---	191	---	30	---	344	---
No response	43	---	20	---	1	---	64	---
Total questioned	254	---	423	---	62	---	739	---
About trail scooters:								
Unfavorable	120	127	311	307	51	48	482	87.6
Favorable or very favorable ²	15	14	34	33	3	5	52	9.5
Indifferent	10	4 ¹	5	10	1	2	16	2.9
Total responding	145	145	350	350	55	55	550	100.0
No number indicated	67	---	57	---	7	---	131	---
No response	42	---	16	---	---	---	58	---
Total questioned	254	---	423	---	62	---	739	---

We'll not attempt to summarize the research findings here, but do recommend that every student of the subject obtain and study the report.

However, we want to note a couple of significant things.

First, the data indicate that "easy-access campers" -- those who limit their activities to automobile campgrounds and the vicinity -- are mostly inexperienced in the outdoors -- they are "beginners." Their children, who first meet the forests and rivers by car-camping, tend when they become adults to seek "remote camping."

What conclusion can be drawn? Says the report: "The pattern suggested by these data is the flow of new and less experienced campers into the easy-access areas with the 'old hands' feeling crowded and moving on to more challenging camping experiences. If such a pattern holds, then recreational planners may wish to insure that there are always ample primitive and near-primitive camping areas available for the former easy-access campers."

To spell it out: Forest Service and other recreational managers see the massive hillward migration of car-campers and are projecting this into the future and calling for more roads to everywhere to satisfy the demand. What they do not see is that the children of the easy-access campers will be seeking wilderness. Today's swarms of car-campers mean tomorrow's swarms of wilderness-wanters. Therefore, the unroaded de facto wildlands must be preserved for future needs. If every scrap of remaining wildlands were saved, it still will not be enough a few years from now. So stop it with the "recreation roads," Forest Service. Especially such stupid plots as the "Around Mount Baker Highway".

* * * * *

The second matter we call attention to in the report is the conclusive finding that people don't like trail bikes. Everyone knows this intuitively, of course, but here are solid statistics. As shown in the table reproduced below, 87.6 percent of the respondents felt "unfavorable" about meeting scooters on the trail.

We only wish Wenatchee National Forest, in particular, were not so pig-headed about ignoring research and instead trusting its motor-wrecked reflexes.



Some prime hunting is within reach of motorized travel.

R. F. Mangold

N3C BOOKSHOP

For Travel . . .

For Reference . . .

For Fun . . .

N3C Members Deduct 10% From All List Prices Shown Below

THE BIG PICTURE

The Wild Cascades: Forgotten Parkland

The Exhibit Format is out of print, but the scaled-down paperback version is going strong. Same old test by Harvey Manning and lines from Theodore Roethke. In addition, dozens of new color photos by many photographers and a new fighting foreword by Pat Goldsworthy. At this low low price, buy dozens and give them for Christmas and bridal showers. Ballantine - Sierra, 1969. \$3.95

The North Cascades National Park

109 photos in black and white, 15 in color, by Bob and Ira Spring. Text by Harvey Manning tells stories of climbs and hikes he and his family and friends have made in the area. Foreword by Pat Goldsworthy calls for a New Campaign to save the endangered valleys and peaks omitted from protection by the 1968 North Cascades Act. 145 pages, 10 by 12 inches. Superior Publishing Company, Seattle, 1969. \$17.50

The Cascade Range

150 color photos, many in the North Cascades, by Ray Atkeson. Covers the range from California to Canada, forests to glaciers, flowers to volcanoes. A magnificent overview by a famous photographer who has walked the Cascades for several decades. 190 pages, "exhibit format" size and style. Charles H. Belding, Portland, 1969. \$25.00

The North Cascades

68 classic photos by Tom Miller displayed on 10-by-12 inch pages. Cold ice and stark cliffs and warm meadows from Dome Peak to the Pickets to Shuksan. Peak-top panoramas and basecamp scenes. Text by Harvey Manning, maps by Dee Molenaar. The Mountaineers, 1964. \$12.50

TECHNIQUE

Mountaineering: The Freedom of the Hills

By the Climbing Committee of The Mountaineers, edited by Harvey Manning. The revised Second Edition of this standard text on hiking and climbing includes new material on equipment, alpine cuisine, rock and ice technique and has been updated throughout. 525 pages, hard-bound. 16 photos, 135 drawings. The Mountaineers, 1968. \$7.50

GUIDEBOOKS

100 Hikes in Western Washington

For each of the 100 hikes there is a page of text telling where to walk and camp and look, a sketch map by Marge Mueller, and on the facing page a photo by Bob and Ira Spring. The trips extend from ocean beaches to valley forests to high meadows to easy summit rocks, from Mt. Adams to the Canadian border, the Olympics to the Methow. 200 pages, soft cover. The Mountaineers, 1966. \$4.95

50 Hikes in Mount Rainier National Park

A new title in the famous "Hikes Series" of The Mountaineers. The 71 photos by Bob and Ira Spring, the 51 maps by Marge Mueller, the hike descriptions by Ira Spring and Harvey Manning cover every trail in Rainier Park and much off-trail rambling. 125 pages, soft cover. The Mount Rainier Natural History Association and The Mountaineers, 1969. \$3.95

Footloose Around Puget sound: 100 Walks on Beaches, Lowlands, and Foothills

Another new title in the "Hikes Series". For each trip there is text by Janice Krenmayr, a map by Helen Sherman, and one or more photos by Bob and Ira Spring. Describes places to walk on summer evenings and winter Sundays -- or any other time. Footpaths in city parks of Seattle, Tacoma, Olympia, and Anacortes, beaches of Puget Sound open to public access, and trails through forests and along rivers and lakes in foothills of the Cascades and Olympics. The Mountaineers, 1969. \$4.95

Selected Trails of the North Cascades National Park and Associated Recreation Complex

A handy pocket guide to some 70 trail hikes (plus variations) in the country we've all been thinking so much about and working so hard to save. By Fred T. Darvill, Jr., M. D., longtime N3C member. Enough data here to keep a person happily hiking for years and years. Published by the author, 1968. \$1.00

Trips and Trails, 1: Family Camps, Short Hikes, and View Roads in the North Cascades and Olympics

In the "Hikes Series", with text by E. M. Sterling, 106 maps by Marge Mueller, and 128 photos by Bob and Ira Spring. Covers logging road and other viewpoints, hikes up to several miles in length, and places to camp and things to do. Especially valuable for people new to the area and seeking a comprehensive notion of how to explore, and for people who can't walk very far -- such as 2-year-old children (and their parents). 240 pages, soft cover. The Mountaineers, 1967. \$4.95

Trips and Trails, 2: Family Camps, Short Hikes, and View Roads in the South Cascades and Mt. Rainier

Companion to the above volume, same format, by the same people. Extends through the Cascades from the Snoqualmie Pass vicinity to the Columbia River. The Mountaineers, 1968. \$4.95

Routes and Rocks: Hiker's Guide to the North Cascades from Glacier Peak to Lake Chelan

By Dwight Crowder and Rowland Tabor of the U. S. Geological Survey. A classic appreciation of the high country, one of the most thoroughly useful and charming guides ever written to any mountains anywhere. Full descriptions of all the trails and off-trail high routes good for hiking in the Glacier Peak, Holden, and Lucerne quadrangles, with information on places to camp, viewpoints, and things to see. Frequent notes explaining the geologic story spread before your eyes as you walk. Some 100 line drawings, 9 photos. A back-cover pocket holds the three quadrangle maps, which have special overprints. 240 pages, hardbound. The Mountaineers, 1965. \$5.00

Hiker's Map to the North Cascades: Routes and Rocks in the Mt. Challenger Quadrangle

By Rowland Tabor and Dwight Crowder. Covers the heart of the north section of the new North Cascades National Park. The same approach as the above, but in shorthand form. The first hiker's guide to the Picket Range, Custer Ridge, and adjoining country. In a back-cover pocket is a U. S. G. S. Challenger Quad printed on an over-size sheet with planimetric maps on borders covering the approaches. Special overprint shows trails and off-trail routes, camps. The text describes the routes, points of geologic interest. 48 pages, paper cover. 5 photos, 12 drawings. The Mountaineers, 1968. \$2.95

WINTER GUIDEBOOKSNorthwest Ski Trails

Public ski areas (more than 20) and choice ski tours (more than 41 basics, with infinite variations) from Garibaldi Provincial Park in British Columbia, through the Cascades and Olympics of Washington, to Mt. Bachelor in Oregon. How to enjoy the white wilds on the boards. 117 photos by Bob and Ira Spring, 83 maps and drawings by Marge Mueller, and text (including a section on touring equipment and technique) by Ted Mueller. 225 pages, soft cover. The Mountaineers, 1969. \$4.95

Snowshoe Hikes in the Cascades and Olympics

So you don't like boards but do like the high winter? Try webs. 81 prime hikes, from the Canadian border to the Columbia River, from easy beginners' walks along flat roads to mountaineering trips on high volcanoes. A full exposition of all needed equipment and technique. 15 photos, 75 maps. By Gene Prater, the universally acknowledged expert on Cascades webbing. (His wife Yvonne was editor of this magazine in the olden days). 100 pages, soft cover. The Mountaineers, 1969. \$3.50

MAPSThe North Central Cascades

A pictorial relief map by George W. Martin and Richard A. Pargeter. This 25-by-30-inch four-color map covers, roughly, the area from Snoqualmie Pass north to Glacier Peak. Roads and trails shown -- giving lots of ideas and places to go and what to expect. Published by the authors, 1964. \$2.25

Mount Rainier National Park

A pictorial map by Dee Molenaar. A 24-by-24-inch four-color Essential for any person visiting The Mountain or thinking about it. Published by the author, 1965. \$1.95

N3C BOOKSHOP

(NOTE: MEMBERS DEDUCT 10% FROM LISTED PRICES)

N3C Bookshop
Route 4, Box 6652
Issaquah, Washington 98027

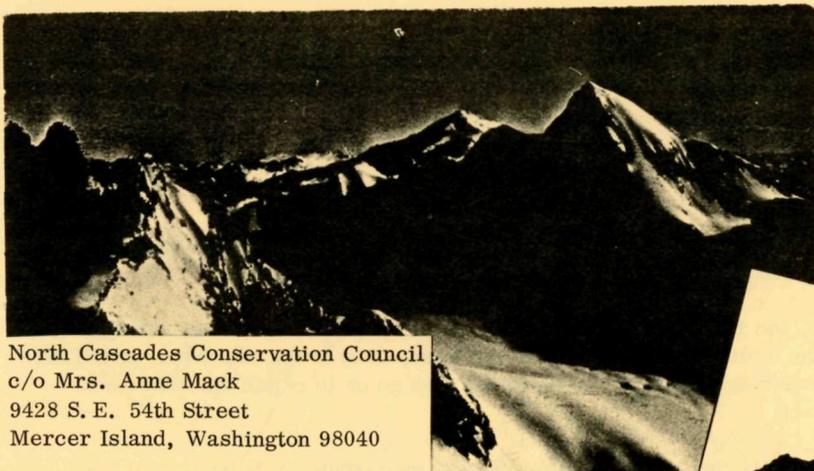
Wild Cascades	\$3.95	_____
North Cascades National Park	\$ 17.50	_____
The Cascade Range	\$ 25.00	_____
North Cascades	\$12.50	_____
Mountaineering: The Freedom of the Hills	\$7.50	_____
100 Hikes in Western Washington	\$4.95	_____
50 Hikes in Mount Rainier National Park	\$3.95	_____
Footloose Around Puget Sound	\$4.95	_____
Trails of North Cascades Park	\$1.00	_____
Trips and Trails, 1: North Cascades and Olympics	\$4.95	_____
Trips and Trails, 2: South Cascades and Mt. Rainier	\$4.95	_____
Routes and Rocks: Glacier Peak to Lake Chelan	\$5.00	_____
Hiker's Map -- Mt. Challenger Quadrangle	\$2.95	_____
Northwest Ski Trails	\$4.95	_____
Snowshoe Hikes	\$3.50	_____
North Central Cascades	\$2.25	_____
Mount Rainier National Park	\$1.95	_____

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____

Ship to: _____

Address: _____

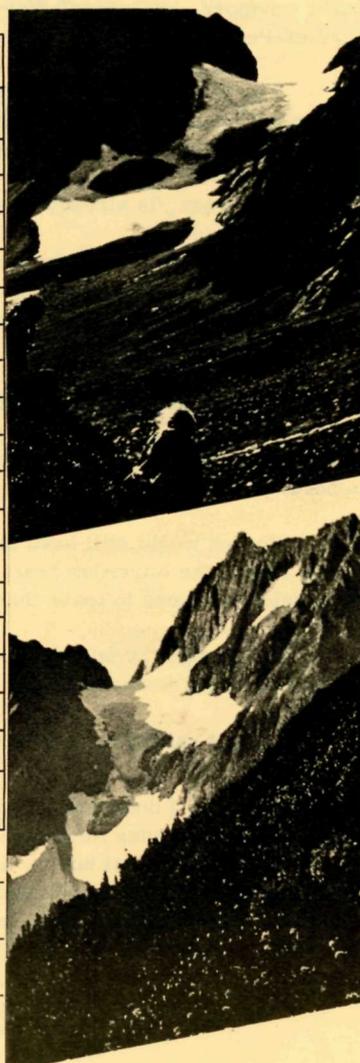
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____



North Cascades Conservation Council
 c/o Mrs. Anne Mack
 9428 S. E. 54th Street
 Mercer Island, Washington 98040

Please send the following giant (G-largest), jumbo (J), and regular (R) glossy, color, postcard scenes of Washington's North Cascades:

No.	Scene	Size	
1	Trapper Lake near Cascade Pass	J - 10¢	
2	Johannesburg ^{out of stock} Cascade Pass	R -	
3	Magic Mt. at Cascade Pass	R - 5¢	
4	Cascade flower garden and stream	R - 5¢	
5	Bonanza Peak above Lake Chelan	R - 5¢	
6	Glacier Peak through Cloudy Pass	R - 5¢	
7	Autumn colors along Stehekin River	R - 5¢	
8	Autumn colors along Stehekin road	R - 5¢	
9	Magic Mt., flowers at Cascade Pass	R - 5¢	
10	Stehekin ^{out of stock} mountain glaciers	J -	
15	Glacier Peak across Image Lake	G - 15¢	
17	Myrtle Lake in the Entiat Valley	R - 5¢	
18	Sunrise on Glacier Pk. & Image Lake	J - 10¢	
19	Mt. Challenger from Tapto Lake	J - 10¢	
28	Clark Range from Image Lake alplands	J - 10¢	
31	Suiattle River Basin and Tenpeak Mt.	J - 10¢	
41	Aerial view of Chickamin Glacier	R - 5¢	
Set of 17 cards (1 of each)		\$ 1.10	
Check, payable to North Cascades Conservation Council, enclosed for:		\$	



TO: (Name) _____

(Street) _____

(City) _____ (State) _____ (Zip) _____

IRATE AND HIS FRIENDS

Keep the Horses out of High Pass!

Dear Irate Birdwatcher,

The ban on sheep in the Napeequa Valley should be applauded by all birdwatchers. However, the Forest Service plans for trail access to that valley burn me up.

As you may know, the FS is building a Cascade Crest Trail Alternate that will diverge from the main route in the White River, climb Boulder Pass, drop to the Napeequa, climb High Pass, traverse precipitous ridges to Buck Creek Pass, then go on to rejoin the main route in the Suiattle.

The annoyance to me is that the Alternate, like the main route, will be a great big super-trail designed (apparently) for two horses to gallop side by side. Doesn't the FS ever build, anymore, low-grade hiker-only trails? Doesn't it plan any horse-free enclaves in the Glacier Peak Wilderness Area?

The super-trail is already complete over Boulder Pass into the Napeequa, which from now on will be infested by mounted deerslayers. So, the sheep were banned from the Napeequa in 1969 to conserve the soil and grass. Ultimately, I predict, horses will also be banned for the same reason. Why not now? Why not cut them off at Boulder Pass? (The other access, Little Giant Pass, is already closed to horses -- too dangerous.)

Hikers still have a chance to stop completion of the super-trail, which hasn't yet reached the rough spot in and around High Pass. This section is snowy and rocky, completely lacking in horse feed, and will be very dangerous for stock even if a Cascade Crest Freeway is blasted and tunneled out of the cliffs.

Why not at least stop the horses in the Napeequa and leave High Pass for hikers? If a trail must be built, make it a low-grade trail. Save thousands and thousands of dollars in dynamite by cutting steps in the rock, stringing cables -- safe enough for hikers, but impassable to horses.

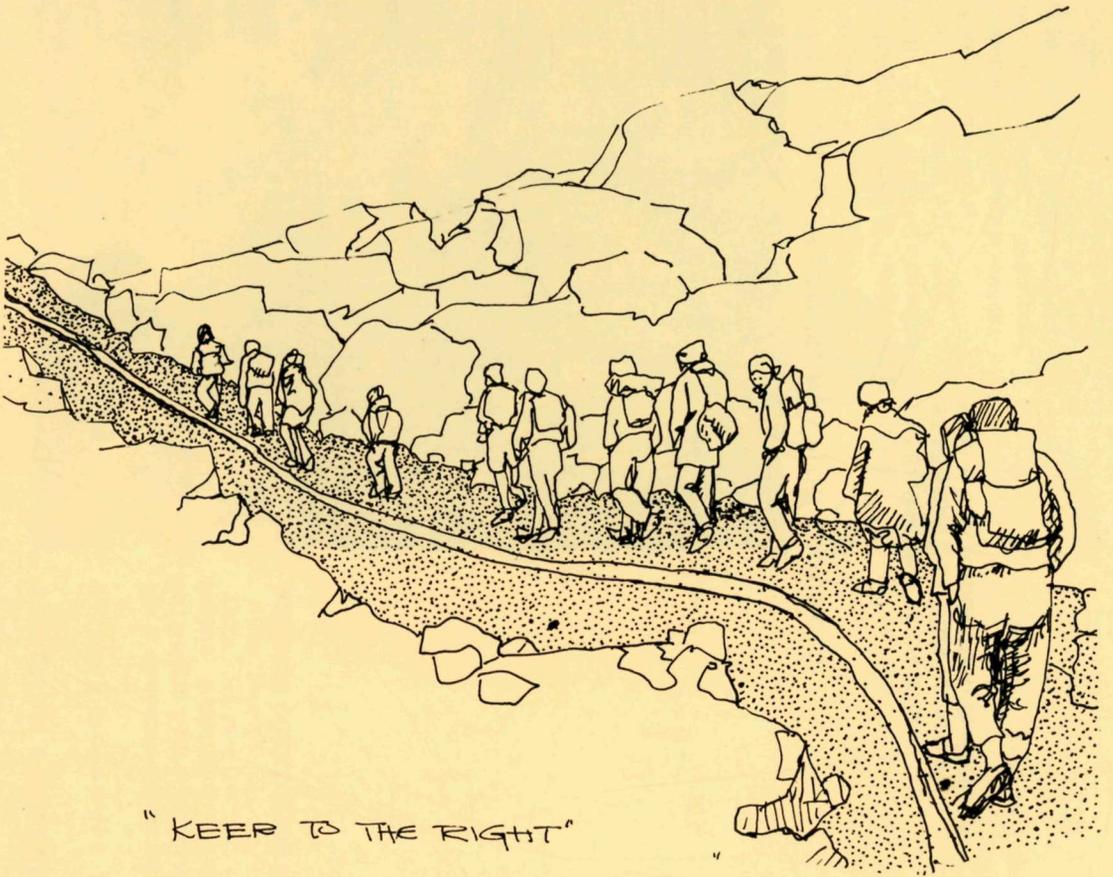
Horses would still have the main Cascade Crest Trail route, and could chomp and tromp around the Napeequa grasslands and the Buck Creek Pass region. It seems a small concession to hikers to leave them a little bit of horse-free walking there.

I challenge the fairness to hikers of designing the entire Pacific Crest Trail System and all its alternates for horses.

I'm not calling for a crusade against horses -- just fair play for hikers.

Actually, I don't know if you've heard about it, but an ecological inventory being made for the North Cascades National Park by the University of Washington College of Forest Resources stresses that horses are essentially alien in the delicate meadows of the Cascade Crest and environs. They do tremendous damage in the soft ground of the wet lands. It's only a matter of time until they are limited to the sort of rocky, dry trails typical of the east-slope Cascades.

Why, then, must the Forest Service invite damaging over-use of fragile areas?



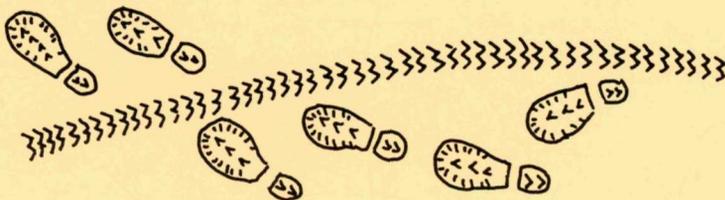
Incidentally, the thoughtful horsemen, the ones who care about the land, are already voluntarily limiting their use of horses. Long before the Forest Service booted the horses out of Cascade Pass, the best-known professional packer in Stehekin refused to pack parties there.

Well, is a case in point and a logical place to begin, let's get the Forest Service to reconsider plans for High Pass -- make it a foot-only trail.

Are you with me? If so, why don't you and your friends write letters to the FS complaining?

Your buddy,

The Infantryman





THE WILD CASCADES

October-November 1969

North Cascades Conservation Council
3215 North East 103rd Street
Seattle, Washington - 98125

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
SEATTLE, WASH.
PERMIT # 8602

NORTH CASCADES CONSERVATION COUNCIL
Founded 1957

PRESIDENT: Patrick D. Goldsworthy

EDITOR: The Wild Cascades

Harvey Manning

Route 3, Box 6652

Issaquah, Washington - 98027

Published bi-monthly... 50¢ a copy

Subscription price \$5.00 per year

STAFF WRITER: Alice Thorn

STAFF ARTIST: Eliza Anderson

STAFF CARTOGRAPHER: Steve Hodge