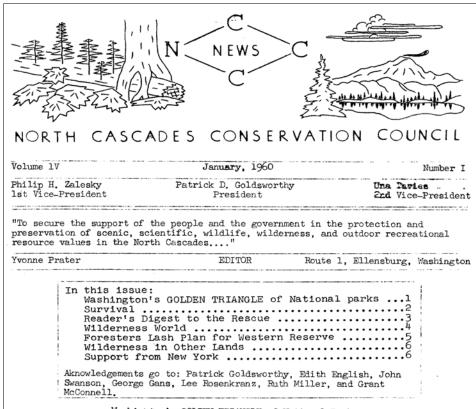
A brief history of *The Wild Cascades*: A call to action

By Tom Hammond

etty Manning, Editor in Chief of *The Wild Cascades*, is stepping down from her position of running the publication. The editorial committee has been charged with taking on her duties, though not even a group of us can seem to accomplish what Betty has done since 1992. As the transition chugs along, we decided to chronicle the history of this publication, to take this time to reflect on where we've been, and where we're going.

My wife Athena and I met with Betty and Patrick Goldsworthy at the Manning Cougar Mountain hut to have a chat about remembrances. As we discussed *The Wild Cascades*, we noticed the conversation kept coming back to the future, and how our meeting was really a call to action for all of our membership. Sorry folks, but this article ends up with some "action items" and homework for all of us.

Patrick Goldsworthy, with Laura and Phil Zalesky, founded the North Cascades Conservation Council. The NCCC publication, *The Wild Cascades*, began in 1957 as NCCC News, a monthly report of the issues and concerns being worked by the NCCC. Usually about six pages, this mimeographed, stapled newsletter was the *de facto* journal of record of the NCCC, through which the organization reached out to members, constituents, lawmakers and adversaries alike.



Washington's GOLDEN TRIANGLE of National Parks by P. D. Goldsworthy

The Golden West, once the goal of America's pioneers, now is famous as the western climax of a great nation. California in the Golden West has fittingly named a
major entrance to our country and its great land-locked harbor the Golden Gate. Now
Washington may gain recognition as part of this historic setting if it succeeds in
establishing what should be called the Golden Triangle of National Parks. Seattle as
the center of this triangle can become the nation's most beautiful city surrounded by
the nation's most beautiful scenery in the Golden Triangle of Mount Rainier, Olympic
and North Cascade National Parks.

On January 6, 1960 Congressman Thomas M. Pelly introduced HR 9360 and Congressman Don Magnuson introduced HR 9342, both in the House of Representatives. These bills, both now in the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs have the following identical wording:

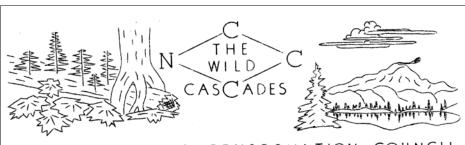
To provide that the Secretary of the Interior shall investigate and report to the Congress on the advisability of establishing a national park or other unit of the national park system in the central and north Cascades region of the

As seen here, NCCC News became *The Wild Cascades* in June of 1961, a momentous occasion in the history of North Cascades conservation efforts.

Patrick remembers typing page upon page, then running the mimeograph machine, and having board members come to his home to manually assemble and staple the newsletter. What doesn't appear on these reproductions is that the paper used was a mellow yellow color.

Enter the Mannings. The journal came out sporadically in the early years. Harvey

Manning became editor in the early 1960s. Harvey lent the considerable force of his pen to the publication, at times as The Irate Birdwatcher, at times as himself. The phrase, "Irate Birdwatcher" is now synonymous with "fighting conservationist." Harvey wasn't alone—Joe Miller, aka The Kaopectate Kid, unleashed his sharp wit on poor public lands policy, calling connected citizens to action. He is remembered, with his wife Margaret, for studying and saving the Big Beaver Valley from the threat of a higher Ross Dam.



CONSERVATION COUNCIL CASCADES

June 1961

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



ONCO MORE, DEAR TIGERS!

How many millions of Americans read, and saw, the case for wilderness presented recently in Life? We don't know. this unprecedentedly wide distribution of "our side" is one more reason for saying the time for action is now.

CONRAD WIRTH, Director of the ". . . people are National Park Service: making up to the problem and are beginning to take the initiative. . . . "

STEWART UDALL, Secretary of the Interior: ". . . never before has a President of the United States given such a broad and comprehensive mandate to conservation. . . .

DR. IRA N. GABRIELSON, President of the Wildlife Management Institute: "The Wilderness Bill, before Congress each of the past five years has the President's It has the people's support. . . it merits immediate approval by Congress.

CLIFFORD V. HEIMBUCHER, President of Trustees for Conservation: "The Wilderness Bill. . . has in the 87th Congress the best chance for enactment it has ever had.

SENATOR CLINTON ANDERSON, Chairman of the Senate Interior and Insular Affairs . . I believe the 87th Congress will send a Wilderness Act to the Presi-Committee: dent and he will sign it into law.

"Once more unto the breach, dear friends, once more. . . In peace there's nothing so becomes a man As modest stillness and humanity; But when the blast of war blows in our ears, Then imitate the action of the tiger. . .

From September of 1962 until August of 1992, The Wild Cascades appeared much as you see it today—grayscale with a more formal cover and look, though with smaller dimensions of 6.75" x 9.5".

Betty Manning took on the role of editor in 1992.

The professional and consistent layout that we see today was first done in February of 1993 with the help of former board member Kevin Herrick. Contributors are generally NCCC board members, an impressive collection of scientists, professors, lawyers, engineers and other informed professionals and regular citizens passionate about our way of life here in the Pacific Northwest. Pat Hutson, a formet Stehekin resident now living in Oregon, does a fantastic job of graphic design.

Throughout its evolution, The Wild Cascades has served as the means by which we inform and educate on the values of the NCCC and what we see as important to our region. There's a need for publications that adhere to high standards of journalistic integrity and honesty now more than ever. The issues brought forth in this publication are important and worthy, because the North Cascades and all who depend on these glorious mountains are important and worthy.

Despite the growth of online/computer media, we are happy TWC continues to fill its crucial role in championing and informing conservation ethics and efforts. And here's where all of you come in. We'd like to get to know you. We would like to see our membership become more engaged in all of our conservation efforts. We invite our membership to contribute in ways suited to your talents and abilities, not just with money. We have a blog, we have a website, we have this publication and we have a need for your energy and passion to protect tens of thousands of acres that remain outside national park and Forest Service Wilderness designation.

And what's the point, you might ask, of all this nostalgia? Is NCCC looking back just to praise itself and its heroes for past accomplishments? Far from it! We'd like to grow the membership, but more importantly, engage the membership, and The Wild Cascades is a perfect venue for that. Our vision for conservation of the Cascades includes YOU — and we need to hear from you! There are many pressing issues beyond those we've covered in past issues, ones you know and care about. Places you go that deserve better protection, ones that only you can tell us about. Help YOUR NCCC to help you pursue those issues YOU believe in!

Visit:

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