

Commentary

Winter 1981

Winter is a period of contradiction, a time in the natural world when all things seem still and dormant. But this winter is a time of phenomenal energizing in the world of human affairs.

Specifically, a new President, a new Senate, and new committees are charging the air with new and different approaches and programs. We wish them well and offer to assist them in any way we can to protect the nation's park and conservation resources.

At the same time, new members are bringing added energy to NPCA's Board of Trustees. We now have forty Board members, with new diversity and depth of experience to carry on the great traditions of NPCA.

And, with the passage of Congressman Morris Udall's bill, we will derive renewed energy from Alaska's inspirational beauty and the assurance that some of the best of it will be there for all generations to enjoy.

Our attention has been focused in laser-like fashion for ten years on Alaska. Now we recognize the dedication of Congressman Udall, who, with President Carter, Secretary Andrus, Assistant Secretary Herbst, and others, led the fight for the Alaskan parklands. We also recognize the continuing contribution of two of NPCA's trustees emeritus, Horace Albright and Dick Pough, two of the great conservationists of our land.

But we are still uncertain about the future. Will spring be a robust and renewing time with color and drama that is in the best interests of parks and conservation? Or will it be a period of challenge to and confusion about the tenets of our nation's park and conservation programs?

I was recently struck by the results of a survey published in the London Times. The number of visitors to the United States from Britain has tripled since 1975. The major regions they visit are the Eastern Gateway, the Far West, and "George Washington country"—areas in which great emphasis is placed on national parks and conservation resources. The survey noted that British visitors come to the United States, first, to experience the American life; second, to meet interesting people; and, third, to see beautiful scenery. Clearly, the people of Britain and elsewhere around the world, who have so many natural resources of their own, come to the United States in ever-increasing numbers to enjoy the quality of our life, which is closely tied to natural settings.

We can be dormant this winter, and "cautiously optimistic," as the Washington lingo goes, or we can be open and willing to help. We will try the latter. We cannot wait to be asked. Our mandate is too significant, too time-dependent. The energy of human commitment is like bread, in a way. It must be used now, or it loses its taste and goes stale.

I would hope that this period will be filled with positive energy leading to continued improvement of our way of life. All of us at NPCA, and many others, are ready to add our energy to assure that Americans will continue to attract and stimulate other peoples as we enjoy, through the protection of our nation's parks and conservation programs, our nation's wonderful natural and historic heritage.

-Paul C. Pritchard Executive Director

Editor's Note

With the beginning of the New Year, the magazine acquires a new name and a New Look. On November 21, 1980, the Board of Trustees voted to shorten the name of the magazine to something less cumbersome—and to emphasize its focus on the national parks. We hope the updated, more contemporary format will indicate to our members the new, innovative approaches NPCA will be taking in its programs and other activities in the coming year.

In case you hadn't noticed, we have instituted another change in the magazine as well.

The size of the magazine is slightly smaller. We found that by making this very subtle change, NPCA will be able to save money on both paper and postage. We are continuing to look for other ways to realize savings without reducing the quality of service to our members. As always, we are eager to hear from you and to learn how you like these changes.

Last November a survey was mailed to a few of you to help us develop a profile of NPCA's membership, its attitudes on park and conservation matters, and its magazine reading preferences. By learning more about you members, we hope we can better serve your interests and concerns. We shall be publishing the results of this survey after we have had a chance to compile and evaluate the responses. It will be interesting for each of us to see how we compare individually with the results of the survey.

Finally, late in November NPCA sponsored a member's reception and dinner in Washington, D.C., in conjunction with the Board of Trustees' meeting. We shall publish a report on the reception and meeting next month.—*EHC*



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National Parks & Conservation Association—established in 1919 by Robert Sterling Yard with the support of stephen Mather, the first Director of the National Park Service—is an independent, private, nonprofit, public service organization, educational and scientific in character. Its responsibilities relate primarily to protecting, promoting, and enlarging the National Park System, in which it endeavors to cooperate with the National Park Service while functioning as a constructive critic. Life memberships are \$750 Annual membership dues, which include a \$7 subscription to National Parks, are \$150 Sustaining, \$75 Supporting, \$30 Contributing, \$22 Cooperating, and \$15 Associate. Student memberships are \$10 Single copies are \$2. Contributions are deductible from federal taxable income, and gits and bequests are deductible for federal git and estate tax purposes. Mail membership dues, correspondence concerning subscriptions or changes of address, and postmaster notices or undeliverable copies to National Parks & Conservation Association, 1701 Eighteenth Street, NW, Washington, DC 20009 When changing address, please allow six weeks' advance notice and send the address label from your latest issue along with new address. Advertising rates are available on request from headquarters. *National Parks* is published monthly. Contributed manuscripts and photographs are welcome. They should be addressed to the Editor at Association headquarters and should be accompained by a stamped, self-addressed envelope. No responsibility can be assumed for unsolicited material. Articles are published for educational purposes and do not necessarily reflect the views of this Association. Title registered U.S. Patent OF files, Copyright e 1980 by National Parks & Conservation Association. Printed in the United States. Second class postage paid at Washington, D.C., and at other offices.

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new perspective on our oldest national park

Verne Huser

Can you imagine Yellowstone National Park during the winter? Imagine the boardwalk you followed through the geyser basin during your summer visit covered with snow thawed by thermal activity and refrozen into glistening blue ice. Imagine evergreens flocked with rime to create ghost trees—a forest of grotesque white giants even more other-worldly seen through the steam that spawns them. Imagine frost flowers and frozen waterfalls and frosted geyser cones—frosted, that is, until the next eruption.

Imagine, too, bison shoveling away the snow with their massive heads to feed on the wintercured grass, elk wading in the river to reach the narrow layer of vegetation between frozen ground and frigid air, coyotes hunting snowy fields for mice that tunnel beneath the soft white cloak.

And imagine another world in miniature in that tiny microclime between the surface of perpetually hot pools and the cold air of a Yellowstone winter— 30° , 40° , 50° , or more below zero. Here flourishes a narrow, colorful ribbon of life, composed of bacteria and algae, flies and their larvae that feed on the bacteria and algae or on other flies and their eggs and larvae, tiny red mites, spiders, dragonflies, even a few birds that prey upon the predators. Some of these organisms are color-coded by temperature tolerance, creating patterns that liven the winter scene of black and white. Many feet of snow fall in Yellowstone's high country between November, when the roads normally close, and the May opening. Some wildlife migrates to lower elevations, some to points further south, and some—mostly bears and rodents—sleeps through the colder months, but much of the park's wildlife is active throughout the winter.

The members of the deer family—the elk, the moose, and the mule deer—as well as their fellow ungulates, the bison, spend the winters browsing and grazing wherever they can find food. In many cases that is the park's numerous thermal areas where geysers, fumaroles, and hot springs help to melt away the thick layers of snow, and where the narrow microclime supports vegetational growth even during the coldest weather.

The coyote, the wolf (if indeed the wolf survives in Yellowstone), the cougar, all function during the winter because their food is still available, as do smaller carnivores like the pine martin, the winterwhite weasel known as ermine, and the river otter that feeds on fish and plays in the snow, developing super-slick slides through the beaten snow into the open water of numerous creeks and streams. Along these same watercourses many of the elk feed, often standing in the water to reach the dried grasses and forbs between snow and frozen ground along the bank.

Squirrels are about, too, as well as porcupine and

by Verne Huse

on winter forage,





varying hare—commonly called "snowshoe rabbits"; all leave interesting patterns in the snow. Weasels often burrow through the soft white fluff after mice, leaving small entry and exit holes.

Birds are not as abundant as during the summer season, but their variety and number are impressive nevertheless. Canada geese concentrate in the thermal areas, and trumpeter swans thrive in a few pockets along the Madison River where a variety of ducks and the bald eagles are most often seen. Ravens, gray jays—also known as camp robbers or whiskey jacks—and Stellar's jays are year-round residents as is the water-loving dipper or water ouzel, which does most of its singing during the winter. Great gray and great horned owls also frequent the winter scene, leaving their wing-tip prints in the snow when they swoop silently down to nip a mouse or weasel and end its trail of tracks and life.

Visitors to Yellowstone's winter wonderland find that Old Faithful takes on a small-town air in winter in contrast to the crowded-city atmosphere that prevails during the summer months. Indeed, they are often outnumbered by the wintering elk and bison that congregate in the thermal areas to survive the snow season.

From the first major snowfall of the season, which may come as early as mid-October, until the roads are plowed out for early-May opening, Yellowstone is essentially an oversnow park. Only the road from Gardiner, Montana, through Mammoth Hot Springs east to Cooke City, Montana, remains open in winter. All other roads are passable only by oversnow vehicles, which are restricted to the unplowed roads. Consequently, instead of the million-visitors-amonth traffic of the summer months, Yellowstone—our oldest and one of our most heavily visited parks—offers an off-season adventure to relatively few visitors—just over 50,000 from mid-December through mid-March in 1979–1980. A few winter visitors enter the park on skis or snowshoes, but the vast majority go by snowmobile, using either individual machines or concessionaire-operated snowcoaches—bus-like oversnow vehicles carrying eight or ten passengers.

In spite of the difficulty of getting there, however, the number of visitors to the park in winter has increased dramatically during the past decade. Only ten rugged individuals skied or snowshoed into the park in the winter of 1968-1969; more than 5,700 did so the winter of 1976-1977, while snowmachine use increased from 5,218 during the winter of 1966-1967 to more than 50,000 in 1979-1980. Most of this increase occurred during the early 1970s, with a steady rise in visitor numbers ever since. And no wonder, because Yellowstone is truly a winter wonderland even if the price of a visit during the snow-bound months includes the noise and smell of snowmobiles, whether individual machines or the snowcoaches which provide the means of access for the vast majority of winter visitors.

Snowcoaches haul visitors into Old Faithful, and although snowcoach tours from Old Faithful to the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone are available, the trip into the park frequently offers ample opportunity to observe both wildlife and thermal phenomena.

Although confrontations between park visitors and wildlife are more common during the summer



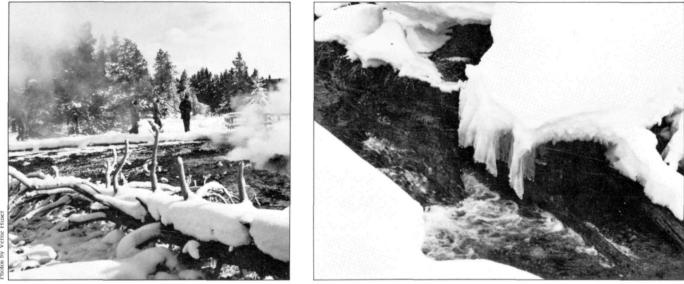


than in winter, their impact upon wildlife can be more critical during the colder months, because so many creatures are living a marginal existence. Apparently, the park's wildlife can become accustomed to the intrusion of snowmobiles—as they are to automobiles in summer—so long as the machines stay on the unplowed roads. Too often they do not, however. The extent of human impact upon Yellowstone's wildlife in winter is currently being studied as part of on-going research designed to determine what disturbances are occurring and to decide what steps should be taken to ameliorate them.

Despite all the snow machines and the people, however, the pervasive spirit of Yellowstone in winter is that of the natural world: thermal steam rising in the clear, cold air, elk and bison grazing close at hand, snow-covered trees and fantastic patterns of frozen steam. The winter wonderland created by the combination of superheated steam and subzero air defies description—you have to see it to believe it. I hope you will. □ Bison foraging by thermal pools, skiers crossing snow-covered boardwalks, steam clouding the frigid air—all are part of the Yellowstone scene in winter.

Free-lance writer, photographer, and river guide Verne Huser is well equipped to describe Yellowstone in winter, having led a Smithsonian Associates' study tour into the park for three winters. His most recent article for our magazine, "River Running in the National Parks of the West," appeared in August 1979.





The magic of winter transforms Yellowstone's beauty into a fairytale landscape cloaked with snow and shrouded in frozen mist.

IF YOU GO to Yellowstone in winter, remember that only the road from Gardiner at the North Entrance through Mammoth Hot Springs to Cooke City on the east, is open all winter, but this drive does offer an excellent opportunity to see wildlife. Private snowmobiles entering the park are restricted to unplowed roads and subject to park regulations and no cross-country vehicles are permitted in the park.

You can travel by snowcoach to Old Faithful—where the park's only winter accommodations are available—from either Flagg Ranch to the south or West Yellowstone to the west for fees ranging from \$36 to \$52. Winter accommodations include spartan rooms at the Snow Lodge—neither Old Faithful Lodge or Inn are open in winter—good meals, a small limited bar, ski and snowshoe rentals, and a tiny gift shop.

Snow Lodge is normally filled to

capacity during the Christmas-New Year holiday as well as over the long February weekend. If you want to avoid crowds, especially crowds of snowmobilers, make your reservations for mid-week, rather than a weekend.

The Old Faithful Visitor Center is open during the winter season from about mid-December to mid-March, providing information, evening programs, and winter walks. Ranger-led hikes around the Geyser Hill Loop as well as ski and snowshoe treks with naturalists are available.

If you are one of the growing number of people who want to get away from the machines and strike off into the woods on skis or snowshoes, you can leave the civilized world behind by taking oversnow day hikes around the Upper Geyser Basin or into the surrounding hills where you can visit such unique attractions as Fairy Falls, Imperial Geyser, Mallard Lake, or Lone Star Geyser. All unplowed roads and trails are open to cross-country skiing and snowshoeing. If you are planning to strike out on your own, however, be sure that you discuss your trip with a ranger and are prepared for extremely cold conditions.

Be aware that any wildlife you encounter *is* wild, no matter how close it may be to roads or thermal features. I have been treed by a band of bison while on foot near Old Faithful and have seen bison "buffalo" a snowmobiler into quitting the field.

Additional information about winter activities and services can be obtained by writing the superintendent, Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190, or calling (307) 344-7381. For information and to make reservations at Old Faithful Snow Lodge, write Yellowstone Park Division, TWA Services, Inc., Yellowstoné National Park, WY 82190 or call (307) 344-7321. Many adverse pressures are undermining the fundamental purpose of our national parks



What is Happening to Our **NATIONAL PARKS?** Michael Frome

Nost of the Galapagos Islands are protected as a national park of Ecuador. Mount Cook and Milford Sound are within national parks on the South Island of New Zealand. The plains of Serengeti spread aross national parks of East Africa, and the heart of the Transvaal veldt is safeguarded within Kruger National Park of South Africa. Even the lovely region that inspired English poets in known today as the Lake District National Park. On our own continent Banff national Park constitutes the showpiece of the Canadian Rockies.

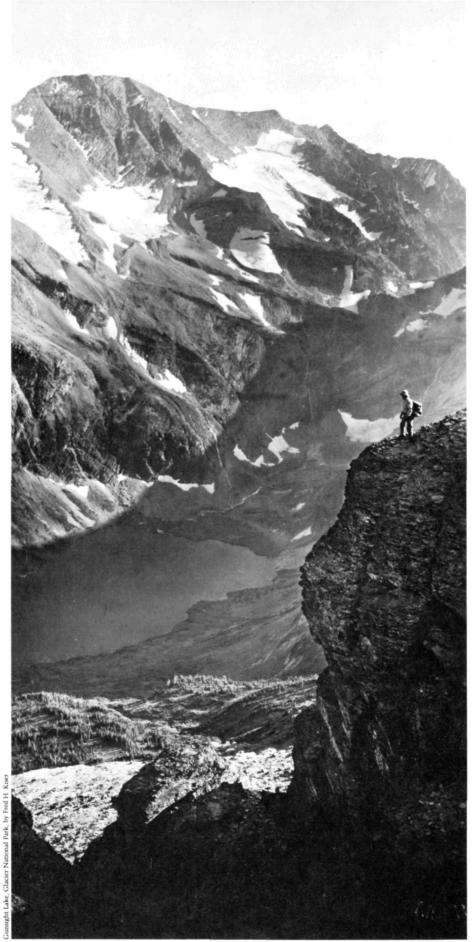
These magic places are not



only superlative travel destinations, but part of a worldwide system of national parks in more than ninety different countries. The idea, however, was born in the United States. When Yellowstone was set aside in 1872, it became the first national park, the first anywhere on earth. Yellowstone is the symbolic representation of preservation, of all places kept free as God made them.

Our national parks constitute an endowment of riches that makes the United States the envy of the world. The Everglades, Grand Canyon, Glacier, Great Smoky Mountains, Yellowstone and Yosemite, Zion and Bryce are renowned as natural marvels because they have been designated for preservation. The National Park System has grown from the establishment of Yellowstone a little over a century ago to embrace more than 325 units in 30 million acresnot only national parks, but archaeologic monuments, historic areas, national rivers, seashores, parkways, and recreation areas, extending from Alaska and Hawaii across the continent to the Virgin Islands. Only two states, Connecticut and Delaware, are not represented in the National Park System.

These areas comprise a gallery



of treasures that inspire, instruct, and stimulate well being. And with their museums, trailside exhibits, guided walks, audio-visual programs, and campfire programs, the parks have proven a major force in cultivating the art of intelligent travel.

Preservation of the natural, historic, and cultural heritage for public enlightenment and enjoyment is the main purpose of the parks. Nevertheless, although technically noneconomic in nature, they contribute significantly to the economy of wide areas beyond their borders. National parks are critical to tourism in a number of states. Glacier and the gateways to Yellowstone are Montana's major attractions. Washington is endowed with three national parks -Mount Rainier, North Cascades, and Olympic-plus Coulee Dam Recreation Area and San Juan Islands National Historical Park. Alaska has Mount Mc-Kinley National Park, Glacier Bay and Katmai national monuments, plus an emerging network of fabulous new parks and monuments that will cover more land than all the rest of the National Park System put together. Even with the oil boom of today, tourism based on these areas is destined to become Alaska's foremost industry. Among eastern states, Virginia is represented by Shenandoah National Park, Blue Ridge Parkway, Assateague National Seashore, Jamestown and Yorktown-companion pieces to Williamsburg-and major Civil War sites from Manassas battlefield to Appomattox, every one of them a tourist highlight of the state.

The national parks influence is felt in major cities as well as in

wilderness. In San Francisco, Golden Gate National Recreation Area includes one of the finest promenades in the country, near Fisherman's Wharf, and Muir Woods, the cathedral-like grove of redwoods at the foot of Mount Tamalpais. In Washington, D.C., the Washington Monument, Lincoln Memorial, most other monuments and shrines, and nearly everything green in the city are administered by the National Park Service. In Philadelphia, Independence Square, birthplace of the nation, represents the most extensive and complex restoration ever undertaken by government—a combined federal, state, and city effort, mostly within Independence National Historical Park. Although national parks are superior attractions that contribute to tourism, their value is greatest because they are not commercialized. In fact, sustaining the tourism potential relates directly to protecting the integrity of the attraction. Therein lies a message for all America. Mark it a red alert. The parks are in such grave danger today that they will need every bit of understanding and support that can be mustered in their behalf.

O n all fronts, the very values that make the parks worth saving are being threatened and undermined. The more national parks we establish, the greater becomes the demand. That is understandable. In the early days of the parks, and until World War II, they were mostly to be found in remote areas of the West. Few Americans could afford to visit them, and then only by long train trips. Besides, there was lots more elbow room in the



country. Millions have an abundance of leisure with which to seek relief from urbanization and stress. But the greatest parks are thoroughly overused—and abused as well. Air pollution, water pollution, and *people* pollution are prevalent. Only degree and form vary, ranging from overcrowded campgrounds, delapidated, deteriorating, and unsafe visitor accommodations operated by commercial concessioners to litter, defacement, and vandalism.

In 1950 the number of visits to all national parks was less than 50 million, but the curve was rising sharply. By 1960 the annual total was 135 million, and this year it is likely to reach 285 or 290 million. During these years of expansion in use, Congress concentrated on making it easier for millions to enter the parks, but with scant attention to giving field personnel the means to supervise crowds or to protect the natural values.

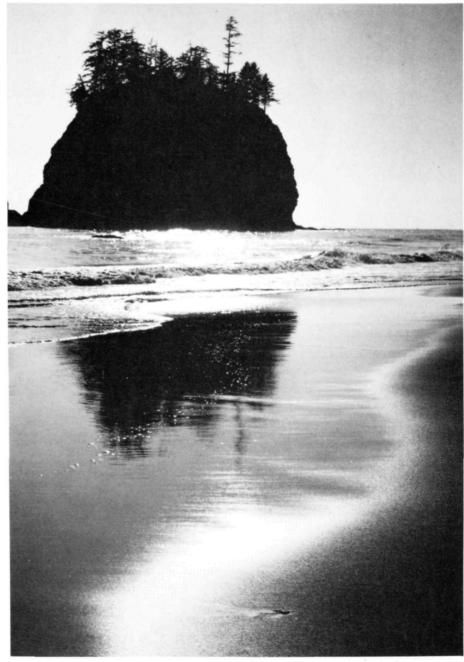
Consequently, many historical buildings are in danger of serious decay. In a number of cases standards of public health and sanitation are not being met. Moreover, when you give an agency money to construct something, that agency will find something to construct. Park officials tend Preservation of the natural, historic, and cultural heritage for public enlightenment and enjoyment is the main purpose of the national parks...



to favor building new roads when they don't have enough money to keep trails in repair. Ultimately both the visitor and resource are the losers.

To illustrate the point, twenty years ago in Yellowstone National Park an ill-conceived and ill-designed tourist city named Canyon Village was implanted in the midst of wild country, producing urban blight with all its problems. South along the Yellowstone loop road the air is polluted by the exhaust from automobiles that bring viewers to Old Faithful, while tens of thousands of visitors these cars disgorge compact the surrounding soil. They cannot hear the subterranean cannonading of the great geyser; but, of course, their experience has already been altered and degraded. Little wonder that the grizzly bear, which symbolized the wild character of the park, is in perilous condition, and that the park has become the playground in winter of 30,000-plus snowmobilers, a mechanized recreational use that is incompatible with preservation.

In May 1980 the National Park Service issued a report titled "State of the Parks." It is a long overdue systematic attempt to identify critical problems and Air pollution . . . water pollution . . . overcrowding . . . unsafe accommodations . . . vandalism . . . decaying historical buildings . . . off-road vehicles . . . toxic chemicals . . . subdivisions. . . . National parks are like little islands of nature pressed on all sides by the spread of civilization. . . .



problem areas. The report warns that "Threats will continue to degrade and destroy irreplaceable park resources." As this document reveals, rocks, plants, and fossils are being stripped by souvenir hunters. Vegetation is being destroyed by dune buggies, snowmobiles, and other off-road vehicles. Toxic chemicals from outside industries are ruining the air and water in sanctuaries supposedly free of the poisons of super-civilization. Subdivisions on private inholdings are destroying the scene and spirit of national battlefields and natural areas.

Worst of all, perhaps, is the threat of the government's own energy hunt on public lands. In the Southwest-a world of red rocks and limitless vistas-some of America's clearest skies and waters are likely to be turned into the dirtiest. Huge strip mines and coal-fired power plants, some already operating and others planned, are designed to furnish power for cities in Southern California, Nevada, and Arizona. But because such plants cannot meet California's air quality requirements, utilities have elected to burn the coal at mine mouths where regulations are lenient. The net effect, if this should be tolerated, will be to create layers of smog over one-



fifth of the entire National Park System, including Grand Canyon, Mesa Verde, Zion, Bryce, Capitol Reef, and Canyonlands national parks, plus spectacular Monument Valley and the Hopi and Navajo Indian reservations.

Glacier National Park, straddling the Continental Divide in northern Montana, to cite another example, is known and loved for its alpine lakes, hanging glaciers, ice-carved valleys, and wildlife. The park may seem secure, but nearby copper smelters already have caused fluoride contamination in parts of the park. Eight miles from the northwest corner of the park, across the Canadian border, a Canadian-British syndicate has proposed a strip-mining project that would cause siltation of the famous North Fork of the Flathead River. And just west of the park the U.S. Forest Service is pressing the case of mining and logging that would have still more impacts on the Flathead River watershed, as well as on the range of the vanishing grizzly and elk.

Disruptions of park values come in diverse forms, but among the most devastating are those political in nature. Years ago the National Park Service built for itself a reputation as a bureau powered by professional ethics and uniquely free of political pressures. This is no longer the case. Democratic and Republican administrations alike and congressional power brokers have politicized the agency, influencing personnel selection and treating the parks like political pork on a par with roads, dams, and military bases.

In 1973 the concession to provide lodgings, meals, and other services in Yosemite National Park was acquired by MCA, a Hollywood entertainment conglomerate. It seemed an unlikely choice, but MCA had visions of turning Yosemite Valley into a major resort and movie set. Two years later congressional inquiry revealed how the head of MCA, Jay Stein, felt he could bypass park officials and have them overruled through connections in Washington, including the White House. Little wonder that park officials are almost always cautious, and sometimes timid. They know they can be transferred or ruined by standing on principle before the politically powerful.

he picture of the national parks today is gloomy, but it's not hopeless. It helps to hearken back to the fall of 1870, when a group of explorers, accompanied by a small military escort, spent a month in the wilds of western Wyoming. They journeyed amid the high mountains, majestic waterfalls, plunging canyons, and amazing geysers of the Yellowstone country, which few white men had seen before them, and gave names to many features, including Old Faithful. Then came the question of what to do with

the area. Around a campfire one night they pondered claiming it for themselves, as they had a legal right to do; but the longer they talked, the more they realized they must share these treasures for the benefit of all people. That unselfish decision led to the establishment of Yellowstone National Park through action of Congress and signature of President Ulysses S. Grant on March 1, 1872. It was a revolutionary idea that has since flowered around the globe and proven its worth many times over.

National parks are like little islands of nature pressed on all sides by the spread of civilization. They have become more valuable and vital with the years as sources of relief from the tensions of civilization. Until now the public has largely taken these areas for granted and assumed that all goes well. As long as Americans are in the dark about actual conditions and crises, national parks will continue to go downhill. Given the facts of the case, however, public awareness and involvement can still reverse course and save the parks.

Environmental author and critic Michael Frome's most recent article for our magazine, "Disneyland North," appeared in February 1980. Mr. Frome has spent much of the past year in travels ranging from the Galapagos Islands to South Africa, England, Ireland, and Guadalupe, during which he visited a variety of national parks, including our own Yellowstone. Members will be glad to learn that his most recent book, The National Parks, published in 1977 with photos by David Muench, will be reissued in paperback this year.

ALASKA

Conservation Mandate of the Century

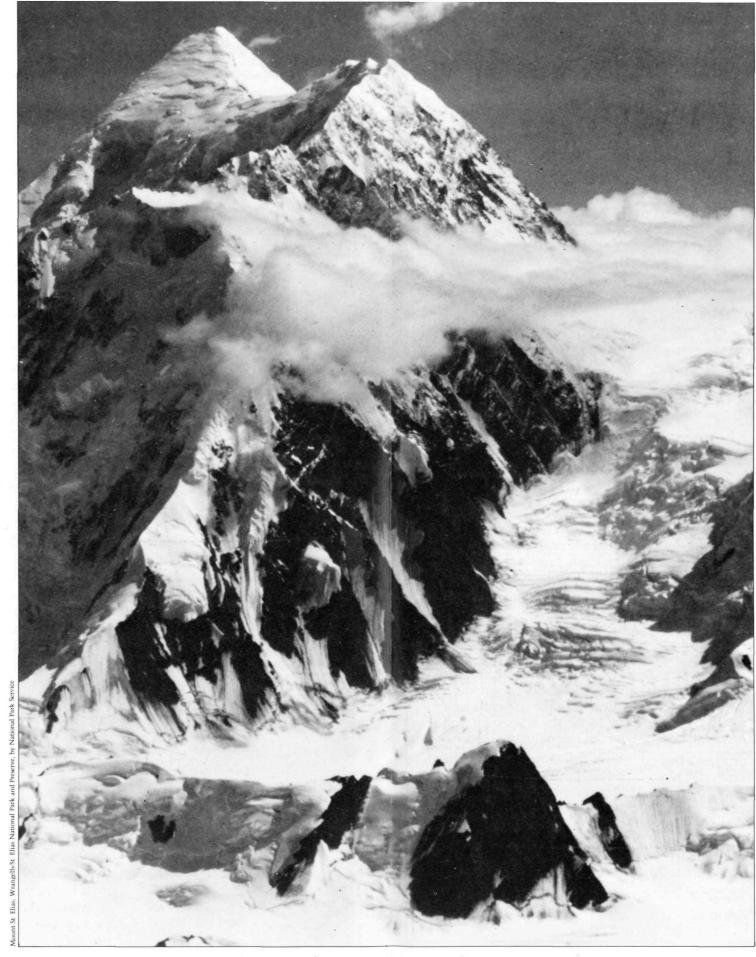
After putting up with more than four years of reading blow-by-blow accounts of bill numbers, legislative hearings, committee votes, filibuster threats, moves for "cloture," pleas for letters, the pitfalls of politics, and the woes in the life of an NPCA lobbyist stalking the halls of the Capitol, you can take a breather and think about the majestic peaks of the Gates of the Arctic, the wild rivers of the Yukon, and the great herds of caribou streaming across the Arctic. It's time to celebrate the conservation victory of the century. At long last, on November 12, 1980, Congress cleared the Alaska wildlands legislation, and President Carter signed P.L. 96-487 on December 2.

Although the measure does not include everything sought by NPCA and the rest of Alaska Coalition, in perspective we can take great pride in the fact that it more than doubles the size of the National Park System and the National Wildlife Refuge System and more than triples the National Wilderness Preservation System. It protects more than 100 million acres as new national park and wildlife refuge system units and wild and scenic rivers.

The measure is the Tsongas-Roth-Hatfield Substitute to HR 39, which passed the Senate this past August and the House on November 12-shortly after Congress returned from the election recess. Although conservationists originally sought to incorporate improvements into the Senate bill, postelection "political realities" led Alaska champion Morris Udall to press for timely House action on the Senate bill.

Although Udall and NPCA still object to provisions such as allowance for oil and gas exploration on the William O. Douglas Arctic Wildlife Range, he notes that the bill "provides essential protection for much of America's greatest frontier. And it does so while making key resource areas available for development . . . it does accomplish 85 to 90 percent of the things the House wanted. Accepting it doesn't mean the Alaska job is done. We intend to correct the deficiencies in the next Congress."

The bill sets aside 43.6 million acres for the National Park System and 53.7 million acres for the National



NATIONAL PARKS [] IANUARY 1981

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The areas that will be protected by the new Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act include the highest peak in North America, the only remaining complete ecosystems and largest remaining intact watershed, our greatest wild rivers, and our only remaining truly large and healthy populations of wildlife. "At the forefront of the battle to protect these

Joan Moody

Wildlife Refuge System, creates an overlay of 56.6 million acres of wilderness within the conservation unitsincluding 5.4 million acres within the Tongass National Forest-and designates seven wild and scenic rivers outside of conservation system units as well as nineteen additional segments within the units.

wildlands was the Carter Administration." says NPCA Executive Director Paul Pritchard. "History will probably record this law as one of the greatest achievements of President Carter. Ironically, this goal for which he had worked so long was realized after he had lost the Presidency." NPCA has also lauded the efforts of Interior Secretary Cecil Andrus in addition to those of congressional champions. Without the invaluable leadership of Representatives Morris Udall, John Seiberling, Phillip Burton, John Anderson, Tom Evans, and other colleagues, the Act would never have achieved repeated victories in the House. Udall was awarded the "Conservationist of the Year" award by NPCA for his efforts. In the Senate, Paul Tsongas, John Durkin, William Roth, Alan Cranston, John Chafee, Gary Hart, Charles Mathias, and many others worked tirelessly in the difficult process of crafting the new Act.

NPCA has worked for the protection of Alaska's wildlands since before 1971, when the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act mandated protection of the national interest lands in the state. The Association was one of the leaders in the Alaska Coalition. NPCA Director of Federal Activities T. Destry Jarvis, one of the five members of the Coalition Steering Council, says, "NPCA is proud to have been a part of the coalition not only because of the great cause of preserving Alaska's wilderness but also because of the fine people in the coalition. This group stands as a solid example of democracy in action and the power of people at the grassroots level to make a difference in Washington. Ultimately, the support of concerned citizens across the country created this Act. We wish to give a big thank-you to NPCA members who helped." Watch for a special celebration issue of the magazine—and thanks again. You did it!

Joan Moody, Senior Assistant Editor of National Parks, worked as a writer with the Alaska Coalition.



We'd like you to meet Park Ranger Judy Winkelmann, whose **HANDS** TELL THE LINCOLN STORY

Tony L. Sullivan

he little boy stuck his head into the room where Judy Winkelmann was about to present a slide show about Abraham Lincoln to a class of fifth-graders visiting the Lincoln Home National Historic Site in Springfield, Illinois. He was just like all the other little boys who visit the site-beaming, excited, and a little bit awed by everything associated with the tall president in the stovepipe hat.

"Did vou see Mr. Lincoln's home?" Judy asked. The boy's face brightened and he nodded.

"Good, I'm glad you did," she said, but as the boy and his mother left the room, Judy did a doubletake. The mother was signing to her young son. The boy was deaf.

Judy sagged where she stood. "Why didn't you tell me?" she thought to herself.

That boy was only one of approximately 400,000 visitors to

Judy Winkelmann signs a welco

Abraham Lincoln's Springfield home each year. But he was one for whom Judy keeps a special lookout-his hearing was impaired.

Judy Winkelmann is a National Park Service ranger at the Lincoln Home—one of nineteen full- or part-time rangers who lead small groups of visitors through the historic building while describing the family life of the sixteenth president. So far, she is the only ranger who can communicate the same information to a deaf person.

About one in every 33,000 visitors to the home each year acknowledges being deaf. There are probably others who do not because they do not want special attention. So, although she wishes that more deaf visitors would make themselves known to her, Judy concerns herself with the few who have done so. She also has been able to convince her supervisors that Lincoln Home rangers should have a sign language training program.

A bundle of energy from the top of her tan felt hat to the bottom of her spit-shined oxfords, Judy is especially friendly to children. No words stand alone when she speaks. She gestures endlessly and even her thoughts are animated. Her face and large green eyes dramatize each scene she describes. And when she talks, her hands are always moving—which makes her a natural for communicating with the deaf.

Judy first became interested in sign language through a co-worker who knew enough to be able to greet deaf visitors, escort them through the home, and tell the Lincoln story.

By the time her friend was transferred elsewhere, Judy could sign "Hi, friend," when a deaf person came through, but she wanted to do more. In January 1979 Judy and six other rangers enrolled in a manual communications course at Lincoln Land Community College in Springfield. But when the 12-week course was over, only Judy remained—the other rangers had been transferred.

Through the summer and fall of that year, Judy did her best to get the message across to deaf visitors. She also submitted a formal proposal to Superintendent Albert W. Banton, Jr., asking that any ranger willing to do so be permitted to learn manual communications skills.

Banton accepted the proposal not only to serve visitors better, but also to give his rangers a special challenge to vary the routine. Judy has already led several deaf groups through the Lincoln Home. The interpretation she offers is less detailed than that given to visitors who can hear, but as she says, "it's better to do that little bit than to do nothing."

Judy's tours usually begin at the visitor center, one block west of the Lincoln Home, where she shows visitors objects from Lincoln's time to preface the actual tour.

Reaching into a tall, black stovepipe hat, Judy pulls out a pair of wire-framed spectacles.

"Why a pair of spectacles?" she asks with her hands.

"Because there are a lot of people who don't know that Mr. Lincoln wore them," she answers, the index, middle, and ring fingers of her right hand bent over her tucked-in thumb in the sign for "them." "There are not many pictures of him wearing glasses."

Another dip into the large hat, and she pulls out a pair of white kid gloves. "Are these Mr. Lincoln's?" she asks. "No, these belonged to Mrs. Lincoln," she answers with a smile.

Yet another trip into the depths of the hat brings forth a carved wooden horse. "Now what is this? Who does this belong to? Right! To Willie and Tad, Mr. Lincoln's sons."

After the hat is emptied of a quill pen, a volume of Shakespeare, and one of the apples Lincoln liked to eat, Judy holds up a slate like the one Willie and Tad used. She shows her audience a lace bonnet, a fan, and a set of the big hoops that held out Mrs. Lincoln's skirts. Finally, crinkling her face, Judy shows her guests the kind of itchy long woollen underwear that Willie and Tad had to wear.

Later, inside the Lincoln home, Judy makes simple statements about the rooms with her hands. She tells the deaf visitors about little things, and often that is all she has to do to start questions coming. "So," she says, "it's not like I'm standing here trying to tell the whole story by signing, which I know I can't do."

"If they are having hearing problems, they know how difficult it is to communicate," she says. "They understand when they see me stumbling and stuttering with my hands. It gives us a kind of bond when we talk...."

Kight now, Judy has interested six rangers in signing for the deaf. Before their classes began last fall, Judy started them off with what she knows. That way she gave them a little head start and kept herself in practice at the same time. She is counting on deaf visitors and teachers of the deaf to suggest improvements their interpretation might need.

Only a few of the estimated 250,000 deaf people in the United States will benefit from Judy's program each year. But Judy thinks that small number is worthy of the effort, nevertheless.

"I'm willing to do anything," she says. "I'm trying, and the people at home are trying, too. At least, whatever we give them is more than what they got before. Before, there was nothing." \Box

Tony L. Sullivan has just completed a graduate course at the University of Illinois School of Journalism. His profile of Judy Winkelmann, written as a class assignment, developed out of his own interest in and study of sign language.

Parks Calendar / Winter 1981

EASTERN STATES

Acadia National Park, Maine: Cross-country skiing; snowshoeing; ice fishing; ice boating; tobogganing. Write: Acadia NP, RFD 1, Box 1, Bar Harbor, ME 04069 or call (207) 288-3338

Cape Cod National Seashore, Mass.: Winter beach hiking; limited skating; ice fishing. Write: Cape Cod NS, South Wellfleet, MA 02663 or call (617) 349-3785.

Catoctin Mountain Park, Md.: Cross-country skiing. Write: Catoctin Mountain Park, Thurmont, MD 21788 or call (301) 824-2574.

Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, Pa.: Ice fishing; ice skating; snowmobiling, Write: Delaware Water Gap NRA, Bushkill, PA 18324 or call (717) 588-6637. Fire Island National Seashore, N.Y.: Winter beach hiking; fishing; snow camping at Watch Hill—campers check with park at (516) 597-6693. Write: Fire Island NS, 120 Laurel Street, Patchogue, NY 11772 or call (516) 289-4810.

Gettysburg National Military Park, Pa.: Cross-country skiing. Write: Gettysburg NMP, Gettysburg, PA 17325; (717) 334-1124. Great Falls Park, Va.: Cross-country skiing. Write: Great Falls Park, 9200 Old Dominion Drive, Great Falls, VA 22066 or call (703) 759-2915.

Morristown National Historical Park, N.J.: Cross-country skiing. Write: Morristown NMP, P.O. Box 1136 R, Morristown, NJ 07960 or call (201) 539-2016.

Prince William Forest Park, Va.: Cross-country skiing on park trails. Write: Prince William Forest Park, P.O. Box 208, Triangle, VA 22172 or call (703) 221-7181.

Saint-Gauden's National Historic Site, N.H.: Cross-country skiing; snowshoeing. Write: Saint-Gaudens NHS, RR 2, Windsor, VT 05089 (3 miles from the Cornish, N.H. site) or call (603) 675-2055.

Saratoga National Historical Park, N.Y.: Cross-country skiing, self-guided tour. Write: Saratoga NHP, RD I, Box 113-C, Stillwater, NY 12170 or call (518) 664-9821. Saugus Iron Works National Historic Site,

Saugus Iron Works National Historic Site, Mass.: Self-guided winter hiking trail. Write: Saugus Iron Works NHS, 244 Central Street, Saugus, MA 09106 or call (617) 233-0050. Shenandoah National Park, Va.: Cross-country skiing; snowshoeing. Write: Shenandoah NP, Luray, VA 22835 or call (703) 999-2243. CENTRAL STATES

Apostle Islands National Lakeshore, Wis.: January-March, cross-country skiing; snowshoeing; winter camping, registration required. Write: Apostle Islands NL, P.O. Box 729, Bayfield, WI 54814; (715) 779-3397. Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area,

Ohio: Skating; skiing; sledding; hiking; snowmobiling. Write: Cuyahoga Valley NRA, P.O. Box 158, Peninsula, OH 44264 or call (216) 650-4414.

Grand Portage National Monument, Minn.: Cross-country skiing. Write: P.O. Box 666, Grand Marais, MN 55604; (218) 387-2788.

Herbert Hoover National Historic Site, Iowa: Cross-country skiing. Write: Herbert Hoover NHS, P.O. Box 607, West Branch, IA 52358 or call (319) 643-2541.

Homestead National Monument of America, Neb.: Cross-country skiing. Write: Homestead NM, RFD 3, Beatrice, NB 68310 or call (402) 223-3514.

Ice Age National Scientific Reserve, Wis.: Cross-country skiing in the four units of the reserve now operational. Write: Ice Age National Scientific Reserve, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707 or call (608) 266-2181. **Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore**, Ind. (on Lake Michigan): Hiking; snowshoeing; crosscountry skiing; ski clinics for all ages; environmental education. Write: Indiana Dunes NL, 1100 N. Mineral Springs Road, Porter, IN 46304 or call (219) 926-7561.

International Peace Garden, N.D. and Canada: Cross-country skiing; snowshoeing. Write: International Peace Garden, P.O. Box 116, Dunseith, ND 58329 or call (701) 263-4390.

Jewel Cave National Monument, S.D.: Crosscountry skiing. Write: Jewel Cave NM, c/o Wind Cave NP, Hot Springs, SD 57747 or call (605) 673-2288.

Pictured Rocks National Lake Shore, Mich. (on Lake Superior): Cross-country skiing; snowshoeing; snowmobiling. Write: Pictured Rocks NL, P.O. Box 40, Munising, MI 49862 or call (906) 387-2607.

Scotts Bluff National Monument, Neb.: Winter hikes. Write: Scotts Bluff NM, P.O. Box 427, Gering, NB 69341 or call (308) 436-4340.

Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore, Mich. (on Lake Michigan): Cross-country skiing. Write: Sleeping Bear Dunes NL, 400 Main Street, Frankfort, MI 49635 or call (616) 352-9611.

Theodore Roosevelt National Memorial Park, N.D.: Cross-country skiing and snowmobiling on designated trails. Write: Theodore Roosevelt NMP, Medora, ND 58645 or call (701) 623-4466.

Voyageurs National Park, Minn.: Cross-country skiing. Write: Voyageurs NP, P.O. Box 50, International Falls, MN 56649 or call (218) 283-9821.

WESTERN STATES Bighorn Canyon National Recreation Area, Mont. and Wyo: Ice fishing. Write: Bighorn Canyon NRA, P.O. Box 458, Fort Smith, WY 59035 or call (406) 666-2412 or (307) 548-2251.

Bryce Canyon National Park, Utah: Crosscountry skiing; snowshoeing; overnight camping; snowmobiling, Registration required for all winter activities. Write: Bryce Canyon NP, Bryce Canyon, UT 84717 or call (801) 834-5322.

Colorado National Monument, Colo.: Crosscountry skiing. Write: Colorado NM, Fruita, CO 81521 or call (303) 858-3617.

Crater Lake National Park, Ore.: All types of winter recreation; cross-country skiing and snowmobiling on designated park trails; special winter slide programs. Write: Crater Lake NP, P.O. Box 7, Crater Lake, OR 97604 or call (503) 594-2211.

Craters of the Moon National Monument, Idaho: Cross-country skiing. Write: Craters of the Moon NM, P.O. Box 29, Arco, ID 83213 or call (208) 527-3257.

Curecanti National Recreation Area, Colo.: Cross-country skiing; snowshoeing; snowmobiling; ice fishing. From mid-December to mid-March. Write: Curecanti NRA, P.O. Box 1040, Gunnison, CO 81230 or call (303) 641-2337.

Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument, Calif.: Cross-country skiing. Write: Florissant Fossil Beds NM, P.O. Box 185, Florissant, CA 80816 or call (303) 748-3253.

Glacier National Park, Mont.: Skiing and ski touring; snowshoeing; cross-country ski trips led by park naturalists. No accommodations in the park in winter. Write: Glacier NP, West Glacier, MT 59936; (406) 888-5441. Grand Teton National Park, Wyo.: Skiing, cross-country trails, guided ski tours; twiceweekly snowshoe hikes, December to April, snowshoes provided; ice fishing; mountaineering for the experienced; snowmobiling on designated routes, permit required. Dial-Å-Park, (307) 733-2220, for recorded information about roads, weather conditions, and facilities, 24 hours a day. Write: Grand Teton NP, P.O. Drawer 170, Moose, WY 83012 or call (307) 733-2880.

Great Sand Dunes National Monument, Colo.: Cross-country skiing and snowshoeing. Write: Great Sand Dunes NM, P.O. Box 60, Alamosa, CO 81101 or call (303) 378-

60, Alamosa, CO 81101 or call (303) 378-2312. **John D. Rockefeller, Jr., Memorial Parkway**, Wyo. (links Yellowstone and Grand Teton national parks): December 1 to March 15,

cross-country skiing; snowcoach tours; and snowmobiling—permits required. Equipment rentals available. Write: c/o Grand Teton NP, P.O. Drawer 170, Moose, WY 83102 or call Grand Teton's Dial-A-Park service, (307) 333-2220.

Lassen Volcanic National Park, Calif.: Crosscountry and downhill skiing; ice skating on Reflection Lake; winter interpretive programs. Ski trails, tows, and rental equipment available. Ski patrol. Write: Lassen NP, Mineral, CA 96063 or call (916) 595-4444. Mount Rainier National Park, Wash.: De-

Mount Rainier National Park, Wash.: December to April. Cross-country skiing and snowshoeing—instruction and equipment rentals available; snowshoe walks, snowshoes provided; snow slides for inner tubes and platters; snowmobiling. Park publication, *The Snowdrift*, offers complete information about winter activities. Write: Mount Rainier NP, Tahoma Woods, Star Route, Ashford, WN 98304 or call (206) 569-2211. **Olympic National Park**, Wash.: Downhill and cross-country skiing and snowshoeing on park trails; snowshoe walks; winter naturalist programs; ski and snowshoe instruction; winter camping. Write: Olympic NP, 600 East Park Avenue, Port Angeles, WN 98362 or call (206) 452-9235.

Rocky Mountain National Park, Colo.: Downhill and cross-country skiing; snowshoeing; snowmobiling; ice fishing; ice skating at Hidden Valley; winter mountaineering in the high country. Write: Rocky Mountain NP, Estes Park, CO 80517 or call (303) 586-2371.

Sequoia-Kings Canyon National Park, Calif.: November to May, Nordic and downhill ski trails and snow play at Wolverton, where snowshoes, saucers, and ski equipment can be rented. Ski touring from Giant Forest Village. Write: Sequoia-Kings Canyon NP, Three Rivers, CA 93271 or call (209) 565-3341

Yellowstone National Park, Wyo.: Crosscountry skiing on nine trails; snowshoeing and snowshoe walks; snowmobiling; wildlife camera safaris led by park naturalists; snowcoach tours. Write: Yellowstone NP, Wyoming 82190 or call (307) 344-7381. **Yosemite National Park**, Calif.: Cross-country, alpine, and downhill skiing; alpine and Nordic ski schools; ski patrol, lifts, and equipment rental; snowshoeing; backcountry mountaineering—wilderness permits, good equipment, and careful planning necessary. Write: Yosemite NP, P.O. Box 577, Yosemite National Park, CA 95389 or call (209) 372-4605.

Dawn Hl

by Gene Galasso

This sensitive and serene watercolor captures a rare moment in the peaceful wilds.

NPCA is happy to bring our members the opportunity to acquire this unique print by Gene Galasso. Only 950 prints will be made and each will be personally inspected, signed and numbered by the artist.

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These prints sell for only \$55.00 each-a price considerably lower than most prints of lesser quality. We think you'll agree that this offering is a true service for our members. Remember, this is truly a limited edition; once this initial offering is sold out, no more prints will be available. For ordering, please use the coupon below. Be sure to enclose your check or money order with your request.



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NPCA at Work

Yosemite Blueprint Released at Last

NPCA believes the Park Service has drawn up an excellent blueprint for eliminating the overcrowding and congestion in Yosemite National Park in California, although the plan falls short on exactly how to implement improvements in public transportation and relocation of facilities.

After four and a half years of planning effort—including the most extensive public involvement program in the agency's history—on October 30 NPS Director Russell E. Dickenson announced release of the park's general management plan and accompanying final environmental impact statement.

"The Yosemite General Management Plan has been crafted with great care and sensitivity, examined and re-examined by the public and our staff professionals, revised and improved before reaching its current stage. We have studied both the plan and the public's views and are confident that the current version represents the best thinking available to guide the future of one of the most spectacular and popular parks in the world," Dickenson said. Major actions proposed in the plan include

• Designation of 90 percent of the park's ¾ million acres as wilderness, free from development

• Major progress in removal from Yosemite Valley of most Park Service and concessioner staff housing, warehouses, maintenance buildings, and administrative offices. The source of funds for the relocation effort is unclear, however.

• Overnight accommodation units will decrease by 10 percent, and will serve 12 percent fewer people. Camping sites will increase 9 percent; and day parking will decrease 16 percent, significantly reducing overcrowding in Yosemite Valley.

• Significant reductions in vehicle traffic in Yosemite Valley, with a goal of eventual elimination of private vehicles from the valley. The plan does not explain how this goal will be accomplished but a study to design alternative transportation systems to provide access to the valley is in progress. • Identification of specific areas in the park where public use for both day and overnight occupancy will be limited by regulation

• Improvement and expansion of regional services providing information and reservations for prospective park visitors.

The changes outlined in the plan will take time but, if implemented fully, will reverse the trend toward more and more development, and instead favor more sensitive natural preservation.

Mojave ``Crown Jewel'' of California Desert

In order to protect the California Desert's rugged canyons and other fantastic scenery, its archeological sites, forests of Joshua trees, herds of bighorn sheep, and multitude of other wildlife and vegetation, NPCA has supported BLM wilderness proposals and urged the agency to take additional protective measures.

Launching the largest single resource evaluation and land-use planning project ever undertaken in the United States, BLM has released a final environmental impact statement and proposed management plan for the 12 million acres the agency administers within the California Desert Conservation Area.

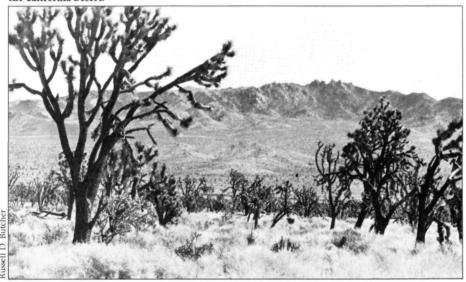
At recent field hearings and at conferences in Washington with BLM Di-

rector Frank Gregg, NPCA has focused on the need to preserve additional wilderness and to give special recognition to the "triangle area" in the heart of the Mojave Desert. Testifying at hearings in Needles, California, this autumn, NPCA Southwest Regional Representative Russell D. Butcher noted that the triangle, which is located between I-15. I-40, and the Nevada state line, could be protected as a "national scenic area." A Mojave National Scenic Area would preserve this magnificent "crown jewel" area of the California Desertranging from the upthrusted backbone of mountains extending through the triangle, to the second highest dunes in the nation, to the Cima Dome Joshua Forest-the largest one anywhere.

NPCA is enthusiastic about BLM proposals for wilderness within the triangle area-including the rugged and spectacular Granite and Providence mountains, the Castle Buttes, the magnificent Kelso Dunes, and the Cinder Cones. At the same time. Butcher urged BLM to provide more complete protection for important parts of the biologically significant New York Mountains and Midhills and for the Cima Dome Joshua Forest. He urged BLM to close the Bristol area near Soda Dry Lake to offroad vehicles. The closure is needed to protect washes and mesquite thickets that provide important wildlife habitat and the adjacent Devil's Playground, where BLM proposes to prohibit the vehicles.

Butcher also commended BLM for proposing important wilderness areas

The largest Joshua Tree forest anywhere and the New York Mountains are part of the wilderness of the California Desert.



adjacent to Death Valley and Joshua Tree national monuments, but called for additional wilderness in certain other units left out of the BLM proposals. These areas include part of the rugged Panamint Range adjoining Death Valley, habitat for desert bighorn sheep along the eastern boundary of that monument, and land in the Pinto Mountains along the northern boundary of Joshua Tree.

The Association also supports BLM wilderness proposals for the desert east of Indio and the ban on motorized recreational use of key areas there. \Box

GAO Investigates Park Health & Safety Hazards

The U.S. General Accounting Office, the investigative and audit arm of Congress, estimates that \$1.6 billion will be needed to correct already-identified health and safety hazards in National Park System units. A recent GAO study confirmed NPCA's long-standing studies and lobbying efforts for additional NPS funds. The study says that in Yellowstone alone, \$3.2 million will be needed to correct safety hazards at the Old Faithful Inn.

Investigators visited twelve units and found major problems in nearly all of them. At Glacier National Park in Montana, for example, sixteen of the twenty-five drinking water systems do not meet national or state drinking water standards. At Voyageurs National Park in Minnesota, raw sewage from an inadequate sewage system has surfaced within 150 feet of the well that supplies the Kettle Falls Hotel drinking water.

Some of the problems uncovered are the responsibility of the Park Service, whereas others are those of concessioners. But even in the latter case, it is still the Park Service's ultimate responsibility to ensure that public health and safety standards are met.

For years, NPCA has argued that the NPS needs more funds for construction of necessary facilities, maintenance, and rehabilitation of rundown facilities. Hopefully, the GAO report will convince the incoming Administration and Congress that more funds are needed now. □



Parks on the Line in Clean Air Act Debate

Even as industry and some consultants of the incoming Reagan Administration made noises about dismantling the Clean Air Act, in November EPA circulated preliminary final regulations under the Act to protect visibility in parks and wildernesses.

The final visibility regulations make some improvements over the draft regulations in response to public comments from NPCA and others. For example, they recognize the need to protect "integral vistas," areas not included in park boundaries that are an important part of the visitor's experience of the park. In a recent survey of visitors to Bryce Canyon, more than 99 percent of those interviewed said that scenic views are important aspects of their park visit, more than 98 percent said that clean air is important, and more than 95 percent stated that air quality degradation would impair their enjoyment of viewing overlooks or scenerv in the park.

The EPA regulations call for preserv-

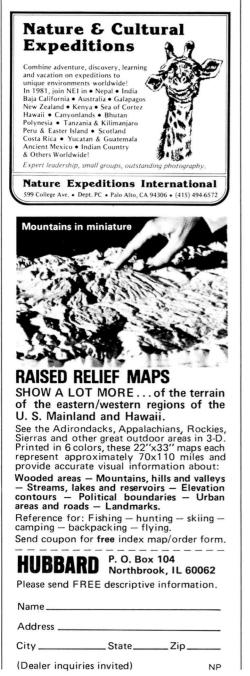
ing both "in-to-out" vistas—such as the views from Yovimpa Point in Bryce Canyon or from Red Eagle Mountain in Glacier National Park—as well as "outto-in" vistas such as the view of Acadia from the Maine coast.

However, NPCA believes the regulations still are inadequate. They do not clarify that the Park Service or other federal and managing agency should have the final say in what is an "integral vista." Moreover, the visibility requirements would affect new sources only; they should be applied to existing sources as well-such as the gargantuan Four Corners Plant in New Mexico, the "Angel of Death" in the heart of parkland. The regulations still do not recognize available monitoring and modeling techniques for tracing or predicting visibility impairments and give no schedule for incorporating these techniques.

Strengthening the Clean Air Act in the face of heavy industry lobbying will be one of the top priorities for NPCA and most of the nation's other environmental and health organizations during 1981.

The Act itself is up for reauthorization and several improvements are needed. Strong support for the "prevention of significant deterioration" and visibility sections of the Act will be critical to protect parks and wilderness. In its State of the Park report, NPS reports that air quality is endangered in more than 45 percent of the units of the Park System.

Eighty-three park reports specifically mention acid rain, a problem not ade-



quately addressed by the Act at present. Acid rain has already wiped out fish in half the high-altitude lakes in Adirondack park and threatens fifty thousand additional lakes in North America—many of them in our prime parks and wildernesses. NPCA has called for cutting in half emissions of acid-raincausing pollutants. Congress can greatly reduce sulfur dioxide emissions by clamping down on existing power plants many of which have been allowed to evade pollution limits and other requirements. \Box

Visitor Enjoyment at Redwood Increased

Protection of key redwood forests and programs to increase visitor enjoyment of Redwood National Park will be the results of an excellent new general management plan for the California park. The plan incorporates many features along the lines of NPCA recommendations.

It actually will increase access to more areas of the park even while it protects fragile areas. One-time logging roads will become hiking trails while a model land rehabilitation program is underway. A good public transportation system will preserve areas such as the famous Tall Trees Grove and Redwood Creek from overuse. Visitor activity centers will be provided to interpret each of the park's unique geographical areas. And cultural resource programs will involve Native Americans in the interpretation and protection of aboriginal village sites, historic trails, and areas of sacred and traditional importance.

The next step for protection of the redwoods, NPCA believes, is the need to join several state parks with the national park for management as a single unit-as intended when the national park was created. Another priority is the need to get the Highway 101 relocation constructed. At present visitor access and park protection is complicated by the fact that the park's primary road system-U.S. 101 and U.S. 199-is also the heart of the region's highway network. This problem will be greatly alleviated when nonpark traffic is rerouted by having U.S. 101 bypass Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park.

Businesses Oppose Jet Ban in Teton

Local businesses and the Wyoming congressional delegation are trying to block implementation of the Park Service's noise abatement plan for Jackson Hole Airport in Grand Teton National Park. The plan, which is supported by NPCA, will effectively ban commercial jets. Both the businessmen and congressmen have demanded that the Park Service prepare an environmental impact statement on the plan—a lengthy and unnecessary process considering that the ban obviously will protect the park. At press time in mid-November Sen. Alan Simpson (R-WY) had also attached a rider to the FY 1981 Interior Appropriations bill that denies the Park Service funds for carrying out the plan.

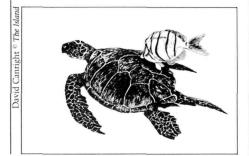
Jackson Hole business interests have been pressuring the Park Service for years to allow regular jet service into the airport, which is the only such facility in a national park. At first, expansion of the airport's runways was sought so that it could accommodate jets. When the expansion was denied by the Department of Interior, approval of use of Boeing 737's specially equipped for short runways was requested.

NPCA and other conservation organizations have opposed any expansion of the airport or its service, arguing that such a facility does not belong in a park and is degrading to the resources the park was established to protect. Furthermore, the air traffic is disruptive to visitor experience in Grand Teton, one of the Park System's most spectacular natural areas. Implementation of the noise abatement plan is a first step toward the eventual removal of the airport from the park in 1995, when the airport's lease expires. By limiting the type of traffic permitted into the airport-especially commercial jets-it is hoped that alternative sites will be seriously considered and developed.

Besides restricting the airport to planes that meet certain federal aviation noise standards, the plan specifies landing and takeoff patterns and permits the addition of a temporary air traffic con-*Continued* on page 27

Bookshelf

- * Speaking for Nature: How Literary Naturalists from Henry Thoreau to Rachel Carson Have Shaped America, by Paul Brooks. (Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1980. 304 pp. with drawings by author, \$12.95, hardbound.) "The views of nature held by any people determine all its institutions," Ralph Waldo Emerson asserted. Author Brooks, winner of the Burroughs Medal, demonstrates how the pen has been the chief weapon of the men and women who led the fight to protect the American environment over the past century. Fascinating portraits interspersed with original writings of poet Sidney Lanier, crusader Theodore Roosevelt, philosophical naturalist Aldo Leopold, and others.
- * Appalachian Mountains by Clyde H. Smith with text by Wilma Dykeman and Dykeman Stokely. (Portland, Oregon: Graphic Arts Center Publishing Co., 1980. 160 pp., 136 color illus., \$29.50, hardbound.) Large format, magnificent photography of Appalachian scenery and wildlife from deep blue ridges of Great Smokies in North Carolina to Katahdin in Maine. Accompanying text on lore and adventure of ancient wilderness. Handsome gift.
- * The Island: A Natural History of America's Coastal Islands by Bill Thomas. (New York: W. W. Norton & Company, 1980. 208 pp., 250 color photos and 30 black and white drawings, \$29.95, hardbound.) Beautiful photographic celebration of the islands that ring the shores of the United States along with informative text describing the biological web in these unusual environments and a down-to-earth plea for protecting them from pollution and development. Illustrates astonishing



range of island wildlife from musk oxen on Alaska's Nunivak Island to the strange creatures of the kelp forests on the submarine slopes of California's Channel Islands.

- *Assateague Island, produced by NPS Division of Publications with a description of barrier island natural history by William H. Amos. (Washington, D.C.: National Park Service, 1980. 175 pp., color photos, softbound, \$4.95.) Beautifully illustrated, comprehensive guide to Assateague National Seashore off Maryland and Virginia coasts. Describes historical lore and outstanding wildlife populations including thousands of migratory geese and famous wild ponies of Chincoteague. Outlines natural history of the island and features unusually detailed travel guide and maps with information on recreational opportunities such as camping and surf fishing. GPO Stock Number 024-005-00776-8.
- *The Overland Migrations, produced by the NPS Division of Publications with an historical narrative by David Lavender. (Washington, D.C.: National Park Service, 1980. 110 pp., color photos and drawings, softbound, \$3.95.) Vivid description of the midnineteenth century epic treks of many thousands of people heading across the plains of Oregon, California, and Utah. Features photographic impressions of landmarks along the way and map and visitor's guide to fifteen of the historic places associated with migrations, such as Jefferson National Expansion Memorial in Missouri, Scotts Bluff National Monument in Nebraska, Fort Laramie National Historic Site in Wyoming, and Sutter's Fort State Park in California. GPO Stock Number 024-005-00776-5.
- * NPCA BOOK SERVICE: Books indicated by an asterisk are available from NPCA. Members receive a 15 percent discount off prices listed above. Add handling fee of \$1.25 per book. Send check or money order to NPCA Book Service, 1701 18th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20009.
- *NATIONAL PARK SERVICE BOOKS: The starred books are available from GPO. A check or money order covering the full amount should be sent with title and stock number to Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

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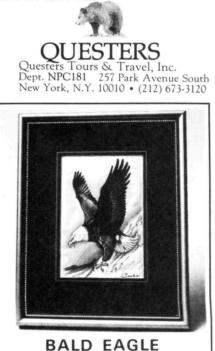
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P.S. on Parks

Wildlife poaching in Shenandoah National Park forced rangers to close two sections of the park to after-dark vehicular travel for the fifth season in a row.

Two portions of the Skyline Drive had to be closed from dusk to dawn from November 10 through January 5. Park superintendent Robert R. Jacobsen announced, "Several deer have already been killed this fall on Skyline Drive by poachers, and similar actions during the past five years have proved very successful in countering illegal hunting activities in these sections of the park." The nighttime closures have caused little inconvenience to legitimate park visitors. They have, however, cramped the style of what some rangers call the "slob hunters"-poachers who drive cars and pickups into the park at night in convoys, immobilize the deer with their searchlights, and shoot them for meat or to cut their antlers for display at "Big Buck" meetings. Shenandoah deer, more accustomed to people than animals that inhabit areas where hunting is legal, are easy prey for the convoys.

Prolonging a controversy over the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness, the state of Minnesota has decided to press on with a suit that would, if successful, benefit only a small minority of people. In July 1980 Federal Judge Miles Lord threw out of court three challenges to the 1978 law protecting this wilderness. In each suit, Judge Lord ruled in favor of the federal government, Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness, and others upholding the Act. Lord said, "it is clear beyond doubt that the Congress has determined that the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness is to be retained as a natural forest lakeland canoe area wilderness." The law restricts motor use in the wilderness, but it is a compromise that does allow about half of the pre-1978 motor use to continue and provides protection for resorts. Some vocal motor users in the northeast part of the state still are not satisfied, however. The state challenged the law at their request, maintaining that it deprived Minnesota of its authority over state-owned waters. Lord ruled that the property clause of the Constitution permits federal restrictions over nonfederal lands and waters

to protect public property and that nothing in the wilderness bill would prohibit the state from promulgating more stringent regulations than the federal ones. On October 1, the state filed a brief appealing the ruling in the Eighth Circuit Court; a decision is expected early this year. The Friends are deeply disappointed that the state has decided to squander tax money in this unreasonable suit, and we will continue to use all the resources at our disposal to fight for the protection of one of the greatest wildernesses on the continent.—Al Watson. Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness

The Children's Program at Valley Forge National Historical Park in Pennsylvania has met with enthusiastic responses from schools throughout the Philadelphia-South Jersey area. During the school year, four different lessons are available to visiting classes: "Soldier Life: The Revolutionary Soldier," "Foreign Influence in the American Revolution," "George Washington: The Soldier, the Man," and "Small Things Forgotten: The Material Culture." These lessons let the children explore questions such as, Why did young men join the Continental Army, and how did they spend their days at Valley Forge? Was the American Revolution a war between the thirteen colonies or a world war? Why was George Washington chosen to be commander-in-chief, and how did he overcome his problems? Our young critics usually rave about the program; one fourth-grader observed, "Never in my life have I seen and learned so much"—and that makes it all worthwhile.-Mary Devlin, Supervisory Park Technician, Valley Forge National Historical Park, Pennsylvania

Living history at Valley Forge



NPCA at Work

Teton-from page 24

trol tower, advisory signs, and several landing guidance systems.

A key feature of the plan that is supported by NPCA is a curfew on nighttime use of the airport. The plan also states that the Park Service will seek an airspace restriction from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to prevent unnecessary low flying over parklands. For political reasons, this request may be ignored by the FAA because of its conflict with NPS over jet access into the airport. In fact, at press time, the FAA was expected to release an environmental impact statement approving jet access into the airport.

The differing positions of the Park Service and the FAA on jets highlights the nagging question about who has final authority over the operation of the airport. If the Park Service refuses to prepare an environmental impact statement, it is likely that the Jackson Hole Airport Board will seek legal action to require the EIS, and more importantly, to define to the Park Service's authority. Legislation restricting NPS authority over the airport is also a likely ploy to shoot down the noise abatement plan.

YOU CAN HELP: The Park Service needs strong, broad public support for its plan to control the aircraft noise emanating from Jackson Hole Airport. Control of the noise is important, not only to the resources and visitors of Grand Teton National Park, but for the precedent it will establish concerning Park Service authority over such commercial facilities. Please write to

Superintendent Grand Teton National Park P.O. Drawer 170 Moose, WY 83012

Tax Benefits for Land Easements Urged

In mid-October a group representing the major conservation organizations met at NPCA to discuss legislation affecting donation of open space and conservation easements. Easements are a vital means of protecting natural areas across the country.

However, the legislation in question, "Tax Treatment Extension Act of 1980," which has passed the House and Senate in different versions, would limit tax deductions for donations of easements. Before an owner could take a deduction for open space, the Treasury Department would have to find that the donation would "yield a significant public benefit."

Conservationists maintain that the Treasury Department does not have the expertise to make the determination of public benefit for these lands. Moreover, in cases in which the Treasury Department judged that there was no significant public benefit, owners would be subject to the gift tax laws.

Conservationists sent a letter to President Carter asking him to support an amendment that would allow a tax deduction without a Treasury Department finding for easements donated to federal and state governmental units responsible for land and other resource conservation programs. At press time it was uncertain whether the legislation would be finalized in the lame duck congressional session, which began on November 12.

Death Valley Days '81

Because a congressionally authorized moratorium on surface mining disturbance in Death Valley National Monument expired this past September, NPCA has urged the federal government to move to acquire mining claims in order to protect certain key areas in the monument. Most notably, the borate claims in lower Furnace Creek watershed, located in view of Zabriskie Point; and talc claims in the Ibex Hills near Saratoga Springs need acquisition.

The Mining-in-the-Parks Act of 1976 placed the moratorium on new surface mining to give the National Park Service a chance to investigate the validity of many mineral claims within the 2million-acre monument. Fortunately, most of these claims have been declared invalid; but the borate claims near Zabriskie are among the valid ones.

The 1976 Act also required mining site reclamation—contouring, veneering of conspicuous white mine tailings, and reestablishment of drainage patterns. Reclamation by the mining companies is already underway at major borate mines along the monument's east side, including the huge open-pit Boraxo



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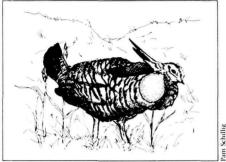
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Mine; and at several talc mines in the Panamint Range along the west side of Death Valley.

NPCA is urging federal acquisition of the lower Furnace Creek, Ibex Hills, and other valid mineral claims in areas of major environmental impact.



Dick Pough, Friend of the Prairie

Thanks to a grant from the Goodhill Foundation, NPCA is establishing an educational program to improve public understanding of the need to preserve a remnant of the Tallgrass Prairie in Kansas and Oklahoma. Special thanks must go to Richard Pough, President of the Goodhill Foundation, who has long inspired efforts to preserve the prairie. Pough encouraged the late Katharine Ordway, "The Lady Who Saved the Prairie." Miss Ordway's concern and philanthropy resulted in the creation of a network of prairie preserves in fifteen states.

One of the nation's leading conservationists. Pough has been involved in ecology for more than four decades. He is president of the Natural Area Council; director of the Scenic Hudson; chairman of the America the Beautiful Fund: a past chairman of the American Museum of Natural History's Department of Conservation and General Ecology; a past president of the Nature Conservancy; Defenders of Wildlife; and the Association for the Protection of the Adirondacks; a trustee emeritus of NPCA; a director of many other conservation organizations; recipient of many honors and awards; and author of the three Audubon Bird Guides.

"We hope NPCA's Tallgrass program will give concrete expression to Dick Pough's deep concern for the birds, other wildlife, and myriad grasses and flowers of the prairie," says Gil Stucker, chairman of the NPCA Board of Trustees.

ORVs Cut Back at Cape Cod

After five years of study, the Park Service announced in October that the use of offroad vehicles—now permitted to run roughshod over every linear foot of the major beaches in Cape Cod—must be cut back to preserve the coastal ecosystem of the national seashore. NPCA has urged such a cutback for years.

ORV use has grown to more than 30,000 visits a year at Cape Cod; the vehicles have crisscrossed the NPS unit damaging beach, breaking down dunes. tearing up heather and salt marsh, and destroying shorebird nests. In an analysis of management alternatives for offroad vehicle use at the seashore, the Park Service said in October that its preferred alternative would limit public use of ORVs to a designated corridor along the Outer Beach from Race Point to Coast Guard Beach in Eastham and would prohibit use of the oversand trails within the High Dunes except for commercial dune taxis on designated routes. Although the plan does not close all of the Cape to the vehicles, it is a substantial improvement because it would remove private vehicle use from the dunes and marshes-the areas most susceptible to damage. NPCA supports adoption of this alternative by the Park Service and also calls upon the agency to reduce the total number of ORV permits issued each year and to set a limit for the number of vehicles allowed at one time.

Offroad vehicle use of our national seashores has been identified as one of the most serious land use problems. At Cape Cod, one of our most famous seashores, the Park Service can begin to take a stand. \Box

Erratum: Student Conservation Association

We are sorry that the address for the Student Conservation Association was inadvertently omitted from the "Working Vacations in America's Parklands" article in the November 1980 issue.

For the High School Program, send a

postcard requesting a "Program Listing" and an application to

Student Conservation Assn., Inc. Box 550H

Charlestown, N.H. 03603 The deadline for high school spring programs is February 1, for summer programs, March 1.

For people of college age or older interested in the Park Forest Assistant program, send a postcard requesting a "Listing of Positions" and an application to

Student Conservation Assn., Inc. Box 550C

Charlestown, N.H. 03603 Call Scott Weaver at (603) 826-5206 immediately for spring Park and Forest Assistant jobs; apply by March 1 for these summer jobs.

NPCA Associated Organizations

NPCA Associated Organizations, which are local and regional groups with mutual interests with this Association, include the following. The Associates' areas of special interest are noted.

Archeological Conservancy—endangered sites of prehistoric cultures where the land is in need of preservation

Coalition for Canyon Preservation— Glacier National Park, Mont.

Committee to Preserve Assateague—Assateague National Seashore, Md./Va.

Fire Island Wilderness Committee—Fire Island National Seashore, N.Y.

Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness—Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness, Minn.

Historic Gettysburg, Inc.—Gettysburg National Military Park, Pa.

Monmouth Conservation Foundation— Gateway National Recreation Area, N.Y./N.J.

Olympic Park Associates—Olympic National Park, Wash.

Rumson Garden Club—Gateway National Recreation Area, N.Y./N.J.

Sandy Hook Veterans Historical Society—Gateway National Recreation Area, N.Y./N.J.

Save the Dunes Council—Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, Ind.

Scenic Hudson Preservation Conference—Hudson River Valley, N.Y.

Voyageurs National Park Association—Voyageurs National Park, Minn. □

William Zimmerman

It is with deep regret that NPCA brings you the news of the death of William Zimmerman on November 28, 1980. Mr. Zimmerman was long a valued member of the NPCA Board of Trustees. An attorney with a deep interest in environmental law. Mr. Zimmerman represented NPCA on several occasions such as the U.N. Conference on the Human Environment at Stockholm. He was a principal of Zimmerman and Scanlan, a New York consulting firm on real estate development, marketing, investment, and management. Mr. Zimmerman also was engaged in many kinds of public and charitable activities. For example, he set up an annual Zimmerman Prize to encourage protection of the natural resources of Israel. Bill Zimmerman's guidance and friendship will be missed. NPCA extends sincere condolences to his family. \Box

Feedback

MX Missile

As I send in my renewal of membership in National Parks and Conservation Association, to which I have belonged for over twenty years now, I would like to say that of all the issues I have received and articles and features I have enjoyed there is one issue that I treasure above all, one article that has caused me to keep this issue near my bedside along with a few favorite volumes-Eileen Lambert's piece on the Great Basin in September 1979. It so happens that I am a passionate lover of Nevada wilderness. To me it represents the real last frontier of the contiguous forty-eight states. And the Lambert article speaks of the glorious Snake Range,

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National Parks January 1981 issue Reader Interest Survey

So we can be sure we are meeting your needs, we want to know how interesting you found each item in this month's issue of the magazine. Please circle the number in the column to the right of each title that best describes your reaction. You may enclose comments or suggestions if you wish. Please mail the form to Editor, National Parks & Conservation Magazine, 1701 18th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20009.

	Very Interesting	Somewhat Interesting	Not Interesting		
COMMENTARY					
(inside front)	1	2	3		
EDITOR'S NOTE					
(inside front)	1	2	3		
YELLOWSTONE					
WINTER (p. 4)	1	2	3		
NATIONAL PARKS		2	0		
(p. 10)	1	2	3		
A. 0	1	2	5		
ALASKA VICTORY	1	2	3		
(p. 16)	1	2	3		
LINCOLN STORY	<u>e</u>		2		
(p. 18)	1	2	3		
PARKS CALENDAR					
(p. 20)	1	2	3		
NPCA AT WORK (p	p. 22-29)				
Yosemite	1	2	3		
California desert	1	2	3		
Health & Safety	1	2 2 2 2	3		
Clean Air	1	2	3		
Redwoods	1	2	3		
Teton	1	2	3		
Tax Benefits	1	2 2	3		
Death Valley	1	2	3		
Cape Cod	1	2	3		
NPCA Associates	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	3		
Pough/Prairie	1	2	3		
BOOKSHELF (p. 25)	1	2	3		
P.S. ON PARKS (p. 26))				
	1	2	3		
FEEDBACK (p. 29)	1	2	3		
LATEST WORD					
(inside back)	1	2	3		
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How would you rate	Excellent	Good	Fair Poor		
the cover?	1	2	3 4		
the covers	1	2	3 4		
Additional comments					

You may publish these comments \Box Your name and address (optional): _____ Mount Moriah, the unnamed peaks surrounding "The Table," Wheeler Peak, The Schell Creek Range. . . . All these areas would be in danger of partial or total destruction if the horrible nightmare of that air force boondoggle, the MX missile, is sited in the Great Basin. . . .

Ruth C. Douglas St. Helena, California

Member at Work

Postcards and the NPCA at Work section of your magazine are my way of getting my opinions to legislative decisionmakers and regulatory agencies. Pen in hand, I open to "At Work" first, then treat myself to your other articles, having mailed my work. More than any other organization, your publication makes this immediate response easy. I encourage more *looks* at the budget *early*. We have a number of conservation laws, but many of the regulations under these laws are not enforced because of budget restrictions. Now more than ever we must keep environmental protection laws from becoming perishing "blue laws."

E. S. Roberts Clemmons, North Carolina

Dubious on Yosemite

The National Park Service recently announced that it will reduce the amount of traffic into one of America's finest national parks, Yosemite. In doing so, it has once again gone too far. As Yosemite is such a national treasure, the Service should act to let *more* Americans see it, not less.

The reasons for the proposed reduction were given as problems of overcrowding, erosion, overuse, etc. I was in Yosemite on July 4 of this year, perhaps Yosemite's busiest time of the year, and found a campsite easily. The crowds were certainly *not* overbearing. I saw no instances of uncontrolled erosion, other than what is natural. The facilities were *not* overtaxed (although somewhat overpriced). . . . Currently Yosemite covers a vast amount of High Sierra, yet there is only one road which traverses the region, and access to most of the park is limited to either horseback or foot travel. I am not advocating building a multi-laned super highway which would obviously destroy much of the scenic beauty. But when I hear that our access to our national treasure is being cut off, I am a bit dubious as to why it is happening. . . . Should the Service carry out this plan, it will deny to millions of Americans a glimpse at a wonderful piece of America which all should see.

James L. Kraft, Esq.

Springfield, Massachusetts The goal of the NPS plan is not to keep people out of Yosemite. NPS believes—and NPCA agrees—that the Yosemite Valley is overcrowded with cars but has a much greater carrying capacity for people. To enable more people to have a quality experience in Yosemite, means of transportation other than the private auto must be found. Only access of cars—not people—is being cut off in the valley, and even then it will take years to phase out the cars. See page 22.

 Appendix of the United States Map Company is pleased to announce that the whole country is for sale: We're offering a huge mural map of the United States of America that measures 875 square inches, with leading cities, lakes, rivers, mountain ranges, national parks, forests and historical sites in breathtaking color, for ONLY \$1!
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The Latest Word

CONSERVATION ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE 96TH CONGRESS

The following list of a number of

conservation achievements during the 96th Congress includes many bills that were passed and sent to the President during the "lame duck" session, which concluded on December 16. NPCA actively worked for most of these on Capitol Hill, devoting particular time and effort to Alaska lands, the Historic Preservation Act Amendments, Chaco Canyon additions, Lake Tahoe, the Interior Department appropriations (particularly for the Park Service and the Land and Water Conservation Fund), and the Manassas National Battlefield expansion.

- --Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act
- --Chaco Canyon National Historical Park expansion, Salinas National Monument, New Mexico wilderness
- --Historic Preservation Act Amendments
- --Colorado wilderness/Rocky Mountain National Park additions
- --Martin Luther King National Historic Site
- --Georgia O'Keefe National Historic Site
- --Women's Rights National Historic Park
- --Kalaupapa National Park
- --Crater Lake National Park additions
- --Lake Tahoe/Toiyabe National Forest additions
- --Interior Department appropriations
- --Biscayne National Park expansion
- --Channel Islands National Park expansion
- --James A. Garfield National Historic Site
- --Additions to Big Bend National Park, Mound City National Monument, Grant Kohrs National Historic Site, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, Lyndon B. Johnson National Historic Park --Manassas National Battlefield additions
- --Manassas National Battlefield additions --Ice Age National Scenic Trail

<u>VOLUNTEERS NEEDED</u> NPCA needs assistance in its Washington offices with a number of functions--answering correspondence, filing, membership work, and specific projects as they occur. If you can help, please contact Karen Raible at NPCA Headquarters by calling (202) 265-2717.

JAMES G. WATT APPARENT CHOICE FOR INTERIOR

In December James G. Watt, president of the

Mountain States Legal Foundation in Denver, was revealed as president-elect Reagan's unannounced choice for Interior Secretary. Watt's group of lawyers has taken controversial stands on several issues, including those concerning parks and conservation. For example, his staff lawyers have argued that the Department of Interior does not have the power to restrict types of public access to federally owned land, such as in the case of protecting wilderness areas. However, transition team official Richard Fairbanks said he thought that environmentalists "will be happily surprised at Watt's management competence."

ARCHEOLO	GICAL	TREASURES	
AT CHACO CANYON			

Legislation enlarging Chaco Canyon National

Monument and redesignating it as the Chaco Cultural National Historical Park passed Congress in December. The region contains some of the most spectacular archeological remains in North America. Recent archeological research revealed that the Chacoan people developed a surprisingly sophisticated socioeconomic system in the 10th to the 12th centuries A.D. when Chaco was the center of a complex trade network. The law expands the monument's boundaries to include 13,000 additional acres and also designates thirty-three outlying areas as "archeological protection sites" for joint management by the Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, and Bureau of Indian Affairs through cooperative agreements with current owners.

ARCHEOLOGICAL CONSERVANCY NPCA congratulates the Archeological Conservancy for its recent receipt

of an Achievement Award from the Heritage Conservation & Recreation Service. The Conservancy, which preserves endangered prehistoric sites, is an Associated Organization of NPCA.





