
National Parks
The Magazine of the National Parks and Conservation Association
January/February 1994 $2.50
Special International Issue:
The North Cascades
Ecotourism in Latin America
World Cultural Resources
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TRIBUTE TO EXCELLENCE

Marjory Stoneman Douglas Award

Presented by NPCA and the Faultless Starch/Bon Ami Co., this award recognizes outstanding efforts resulting in protection of a unit or a proposed unit of the National Park System. The award is named in honor of Marjory Stoneman Douglas, who devoted many years to preserving the fragile ecosystem of the Florida Everglades.

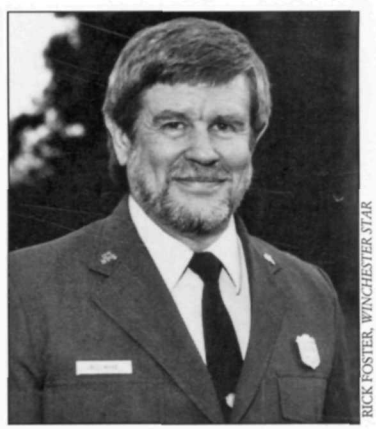
Dr. Liane Russell, the 1992 recipient, led efforts to establish the Big South Fork National River and Recreational Area in 1974 and to designate the Obed River as a Wild and Scenic River in 1976. For 25 years, she and the group she formed, Tennessee Citizens for Wilderness Planning, have successfully fought off a variety of threats to both rivers.

Liane Russell

Stephen Tyng Mather Award

The Stephen Tyng Mather Award, named for the first director of the National Park Service, is presented by NPCA and the Faultless Starch/Bon Ami Co. in recognition of a Park Service employee who has risked his or her job or career for the principles and practices of good stewardship.

The 1992 recipient is **Bill Wade**, superintendent of Shenandoah National Park. He used every means at his disposal to gain more stringent air pollution controls on power plants surrounding the park. Despite limited funds, he has built a strong research and monitoring program and has established cooperative planning efforts with surrounding counties.



RICK FOSTER, *WINCHESTER STAR*

Bill Wade

The Faultless Starch/Bon Ami Company wishes to congratulate the recipients of these awards and thank them for the excellent contribution they have made to the protection of our environment.

The Faultless Starch/Bon Ami Company has actively supported the efforts of organizations such as NPCA for more than 100 years and will continue to work toward the goal of preserving our natural resources for future generations.

MICHAEL H. FRANCIS

North Cascades, page 26

EDITOR'S NOTE

Why an international issue of *National Parks*, the magazine of the National Parks and Conservation Association (NPCA)? NPCA primarily focuses on national parks in the United States—but it is also involved in the world parks movement. Our expertise in creating and defending parks is useful to other countries as they develop their own park systems; at the same time, we can learn from successful programs elsewhere in the world. In this issue we examine the concept of "sustainable development;" a proposed international park in the North Cascades of Washington and British Columbia; ecotourism in Costa Rica and the Galápagos; and the urgent need to preserve the world's decaying cultural resources.

NATIONAL PARKS

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National Advertising Office
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1776 Mass. Ave., N.W., Washington, DC 20036
(202) 223-6722

National Parks (ISSN 0276-8186) is published bimonthly by NPCA, 1776 Mass. Ave., N.W., Washington, DC 20036. Single copies are $2.50. Title registered U.S. Pat. and TM Office, © 1994 by NPCA. Printed in the United States. Second-class postage paid at Washington, D.C. Contributed manuscripts and photographs should be addressed to the Editor and should be accompanied 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. POSTMASTER: Send address changes and circulation inquiries to: **National Parks, 1776 Mass. Ave., N.W., Washington, DC 20036.**

USA Newsstand Distribution by Eastern News Distributors, Inc., 2020 Superior St., Sandusky, OH 44870.

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The Audit Bureau

PRINTED WITH SOY INK

National Parks

THE MAGAZINE OF THE NATIONAL PARKS AND CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION

Vol. 68, No. 1-2
January/February 1994
Paul C. Pritchard, Publisher

OUTLOOK

FEATURES

DEPARTMENTS

COVER: *The Canadian North Cascades, as seen from Silver Lake, by Cliff Leight. U.S. and British Columbia officials are working to create an international park here.*

Established in 1919, the National Parks and Conservation Association (NPCA) is America's only private nonprofit citizen organization dedicated solely to protecting, preserving, and enhancing the U.S. National Park System.

Life memberships are $1,000. Annual memberships: $250 Guarantor, $100 Supporter, $50 Defender, $35 Contributor, $25 Active, $22 Library, and $18 Student. Of membership dues, $3 covers a one-year subscription to *National Parks*. Dues and donations are deductible from federal taxable incomes; gifts and bequests are deductible for federal gift and estate tax purposes. Mail membership dues, contributions, and correspondence to NPCA, 1776 Mass. Ave., N.W., Washington, DC 20036. When changing address, please allow six weeks' advance notice and send address label from your latest issue plus your new address.

Peace Parks

DUPONT PHOTOGRAPHERS

A COMMON BORDER may be the only thing two neighboring nations share, even though their ecological and sometimes their cultural heritages converge there. But a border need not be a divider of nations; it can be used as a symbol of bonds rather than boundaries.

"Transborder" parks are a creative idea, one that has often provided a much-needed opportunity for international cooperation. This was definitely true during the Cold War. In 1983, for example, NPCA brought together European park leaders from both sides of the Iron Curtain. Several noted that their nations had little else to cooperate about except for the parks that straddled their borders. The proposed Beringian Heritage International Park has been one of the cooperative efforts fostered by Russia and the United States. This park, which would bridge the Bering Strait, represents not only cultural and ecological ties, but important political ties as well.

The United States shares its borders with two important countries with which we have had peace for more than a century. Canada and Mexico have each joined with the United States on many common fronts, one of which has been the creation of border parks.

Efforts between Canada and the United States have resulted in designation of Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park (which includes Glacier National Park, Montana) and Roosevelt Campobello International Park on the Maine/New Brunswick border. And British Columbia has proposed that its new 2.3-million-acre Tatshenshini-Alsek Wilderness Park—along with neighboring Glacier Bay National Park and Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve in Alaska—be managed together as a world wilderness reserve.

NPCA has long worked with the Canadian government and Canadian environmentalists to preserve more common resources. Dale Crane, NPCA's Pacific Northwest regional director, has been a key player in efforts to create an international park in the North Cascades, a wilderness area on the border between Washington and British Columbia (see page 26).

To the south, Mexico has recently dedicated the Pinecate as a protected area adjoining Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, Arizona, and has long discussed setting aside the Sierra del Carmen wilderness area as a sister park to Big Bend National Park. In 1974, Chamizal National Memorial was established in the border town of El Paso, Texas, in commemoration of the 1963 Chamizal Treaty—the peaceful settlement of a 99-year boundary dispute between the United States and Mexico. This park celebrates international cooperation and understanding by presenting cultural programs in drama, dance, and music.

International border parks have served as places for peace and cooperation among neighboring nations, whether their relationship is one of harmony or tension. This is another benefit of parks and one that lasts forever.

Paul C. Pritchard

President, NATIONAL PARKS AND CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION

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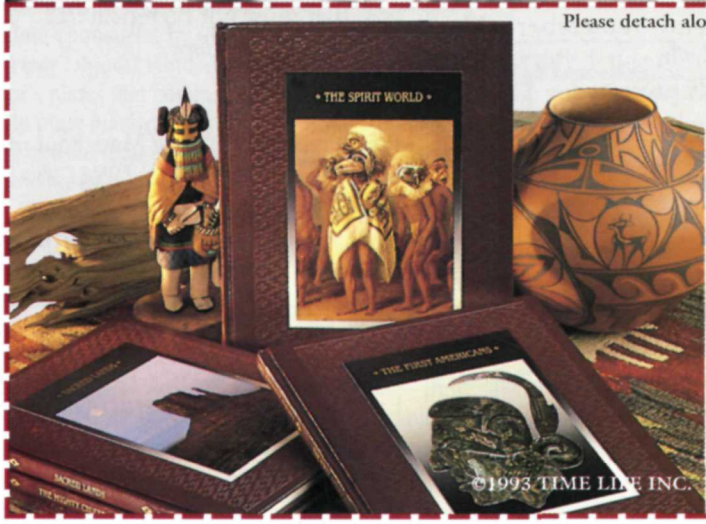

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LETTERS

Paving the Way

In his article "Roads to Ruin" in the September/October 1993 issue, Michael Milstein made several misstatements about Revised Statute (R.S.) 2477 with which we wish to take issue. First, the article unfairly affixed a negative connotation to R.S. 2477 rights-of-way claims. These claims were legally obtained and legally held by local governments for roads, pathways, and thoroughfares that existed prior to 1976. Unless the holder somehow abuses the claims process or adversely affects the environment outside the scope of the right-of-way, it is unfair to cast doubt on the rightness of the claims.

Second, by referring to the 1866 federal law that provided for R.S. 2477 rights-of-way claims as "archaic," the author wrongly implies that it is somehow illegitimate. However, it is federal law, created by members of Congress with the diverse interests of the American people in mind. To be sure, Congress repealed the earlier law granting new R.S. 2477 rights-of-way in 1976, but it also specifically grandfathered the scope of rights-of-way that already existed and that could be legitimately proven by local governments. The American people should continue to honor these contracts.

Third, the importance of existing R.S. 2477 rights-of-way is not to "pave obscure dirt roads and trails" on public lands. Instead, they are (1) to maintain legitimate rights-of-way in a safe condition for those who use them and (2) to preserve roads that constitute an integral part of the basic transportation systems of Western states containing vast tracts of public lands.

Claims deriving from R.S. 2477 are not antiquated legal curiosities, especially if one lives in remote areas of the West where many R.S. 2477 rights-of-way represent the basic transportation infrastructure. Instead, these claims are an attempt to preserve access to our public lands, and among our communities, in a safe and proper manner.

Orrin G. Hatch
U.S. Senator, Utah
Ted Stevens
U.S. Senator, Alaska

It is misleading to assert that most right-of-way claims are legitimate. Rights-of-way that qualify under R.S. 2477 are limited only to significant roads and highways constructed across public lands not reserved for other public purposes prior to 1976. This does not include local paths, hiking trails, and other lesser rights-of-way, even if used by residents, tourists, and hikers as access across federal lands. The scope of legitimate claims also does not allow the widening, realignment, or paving of rights-of-way through national parks or other federal lands without public input, environmental review, or federal oversight.

—the Editors

Lest We Forget

I was greatly disturbed to read the two letters under the heading "Memories of Manzanar" in the September/October 1993 issue. What the two writers fail to understand is that at Manzanar American *citizens* of Japanese descent were stripped of their rights guaranteed under the U.S. Constitution. There is no "ax to grind." The message to us is that the Constitution is only as effective as those willing to uphold it. If we fail to acknowledge and remember this shameful episode in our history, then none of us is truly protected.

Randall Fong
Lakewood, CO

I wish to respond to the two letters that appeared in the September/October 1993 issue that concerned the article "Remembering Manzanar" [May/June 1993]. One reader seemed to believe that the internment of Japanese Americans was wrong, but at the time warranted. The reader knew of no one who disapproved. The people who were interned disapproved. Don't they count?

Another reader seemed to feel that to make Manzanar a national park is to make a wasteful attempt to say "sorry." I do not agree. Such a park would preserve a piece of our shared history. It is part of the greatness of our country, not a weakness, that we can remember our true past.

Ann M. Hotta
El Cerrito, CA

I found the letter regarding Manzanar from Charles W. Phillips to be disheartening. If by interning Japanese-Americans on the West Coast during World War II we were simply defending our nation, as he claims, why didn't we intern German-Americans on the East Coast, since German U-boat attacks were a considerable fear of those living there during the war?

The answer is simple. The evils of Nazi Germany were perceived as those of evil men. The evils of Japan were perceived as those of an evil race. It was racism pure and simple. To bulldoze Manzanar as Mr. Phillips suggests would be truly sad. We must learn from our mistakes.

Michael Schuman
Keene, NH

I would suggest that *Manzanar,* [written by John Armor and Peter Wright with] photographs by Ansel Adams and commentary by John Hersey, is well worth reading. I too have visited Manzanar, but, contrary to the letter writer in the September/October issue, I think we must be constantly reminded of a mistake that must not be repeated.

Robert E. Wallace
Saratoga, CA

Please see our review of Manzanar *in the November/December 1991 issue of* National Parks.

—the Editors

Aboriginal History

I found that an article in the July/August 1993 issue ["New Findings at the Lost Colony"] had a particularly unfor-

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tunate quotation from NPCA's Bruce Craig, [who suggested that the continuum of history may have to take a back seat to the story of the "lost colony" and Fort Raleigh]. It is impossible for me to see how the history of the "lost colony" could be interpreted without including the intertwined fate of the Native American residents of the area and the European arrivals.

To put aboriginal history in the "back seat" at Roanoke would be interpretation indeed—the Euro-centric kind of history that the Park Service has been party to in the past. The educational role of our parks is important. I hope that I may see the day when the information presented in them is as honest and accurate as it can be.

Joyce H. Hall
Hanford, CA

Bruce Craig replies:
Honesty and accuracy are not at issue at Fort Raleigh—interpretive emphasis is. While Ms. Hall's point is well taken, I certainly hope decisions about "proper" interpretation at national park units will not fall victim to political correctness.

Everglades Cleanup

Please continue to keep us informed on the Florida Everglades cleanup issue [News, September/October 1993]. It will be nice to read a year from now that restoration progress has been made and even more satisfying to see the beauty of the Everglades ten years from now with my kids!

Robin Anderson
San Jose, CA

Correction

The Eugene O'Neill National Historic Site is located in Danville, California, not San Francisco, as stated in the photo caption on page 47 of the Sept./Oct. 1993 issue.

Write: Letters, NPCA, 1776 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Washington, DC 20036. Please include address and phone number for verification. Or call 1-900-835-6344. Callers will be charged 89 cents a minute. Instructions will be given at the time of the call. All calls and letters may be edited for length and clarity.

Statement of Ownership, Management, and Bimonthly Circulation of

NATIONAL PARKS

OWNER AND PUBLISHER: National Parks & Conservation Association EDITOR AND MANAGING EDITOR: Sue E. Dodge HEADQUARTERS OF PUBLISHER AND PUBLICATION: 1776 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Washington, DC 20036

STOCKHOLDERS, BONDHOLDERS, MORTGAGE, OTHER SECURITY HOLDERS: None

Average no. copies each issue during preceding 12 months.	Nov/Dec 92 through Sept/Oct 93	Single issue nearest filing date Sept/Oct 93
A. TOTAL COPIES PRINTED (net press run)	350,580	360,133
B. TOTAL PAID CIRCULATION		
1. Single copy sales	5,537	5,937
2. Mail subscriptions	339,159	349,482
C. TOTAL PAID CIRCULATION	344,696	355,419
D. FREE DISTRIBUTION	1,440	1,414
E. TOTAL DISTRIBUTION (Sum of C and D)	346,136	356,833
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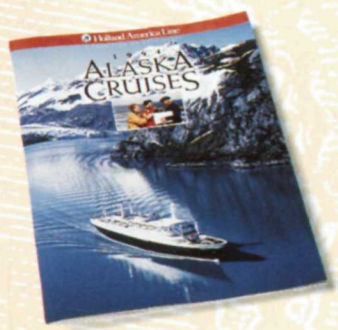

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NEWS

Debate Surrounds Presidio's Future

The Presidio, a 1,500-acre Army base in San Francisco scheduled to join the National Park System in fall 1994, has become the center of controversy.

Opponents of making the site a park point to the potential expense. NPCA and others cite the Presidio's extraordinary possibilities and argue that the cost can be largely offset by leasing the base's facilities.

Since 1776, when the explorer Juan Bautista de Anza established a fort there, the Presidio has served as a military post under the flags of Spain, Mexico, and, since 1848, the United States. It is also unique among Army posts for its architectural richness. Along with remnants of 18th-century Spanish construction, the Presidio contains hundreds of Victorian and early 20th-century mission-style buildings. The entire base was declared a national historic landmark district in 1962.

The same elements that made the Presidio a strategic outpost—sweeping views, abundant natural resources—also make it a place of remarkable beauty. Located at the entrance to San Francisco Bay, it provides spectacular vistas of the Pacific Ocean; the Golden Gate Bridge; the bay; and the skyline of San Francisco.

More than half of the Presidio is open space, preserving wild coastal bluffs, wetlands, sand dunes, and untouched shoreline. The base contains the last free-flowing creek within San Francisco and a forest of more than 400,000 trees planted in the 1880s. The United Nations has declared the Presidio and the surrounding Golden Gate area an international biosphere reserve, the only such reserve in a major urban area. The base is also a popular site for hiking, biking, surfing, sailing, and fishing.

JO-ANN ORDANO

The Golden Gate Bridge rises beyond the wild coastal bluffs of San Francisco's Presidio, scheduled to become a national park in 1994.

"There is nothing like this in the world," said National Park Service Director Roger Kennedy, stating that the Presidio is "astonishing in some of its qualities." Former Environmental Protection Agency Administrator William Reilly called the site "worthy of inclusion among the crown jewels in the system" of national parks.

"NPCA believes the Presidio will be an outstanding addition to the park system," said Dale Crane, NPCA Pacific Northwest regional director.

In 1972, Congress passed legislation providing that, if it were ever phased out as an Army base, the Presidio would be added to the adjoining Golden Gate National Recreation Area. The 1988 Base Closure and Realignment Act instructed the Army to vacate the Presidio by September 1995, a date since moved up one year.

To prepare to take over the site, the Park Service embarked on the most massive planning effort in its history. Under a proposal released in October, it will restore wetlands and the historic forest, increase open space, designate hiking and biking trails, and create a shuttle bus system.

With the Presidio, the Park Service is inheriting 870 buildings, 510 of them historic, and the Letterman Army hospital complex. Some will remain occupied by current tenants. Approximately 250 nonhistoric structures will be removed.

The Park Service plans to look for tenants for the rest of the buildings. It envisions the Presidio as a global center for environmental and international issues, inhabited primarily by nonprofit groups. "We have sought to create a

vision worthy of this magnificent site. Equally important, we have sought to ensure that the Presidio can fulfill its purpose as a national park in a manner that is fiscally responsible," said Brian O'Neill, future manager of the post.

Expenses include cleaning up toxic materials left by the Army; repairing road, water, and electrical systems; and bringing structures up to compliance with building codes and maintaining them. Leases will help defray the Park Service's share of the costs.

Reports that the price tag could be as high as $1 billion have raised some eyebrows. Rep. John Duncan (R-Tenn.) led an attempt this summer to cut spending on the Presidio for 1994. Others advocate turning over only key natural areas to the Park Service, putting the rest in state, local, or private hands.

A consulting firm hired by the Park Service put the cost of capital improvements at $590 million. All but $150 million would be financed by the Defense Department or through leases and the rest through philanthropy as well as federal appropriations, it said.

"It is important to remember that the transfer of the Presidio to the Park Service will be a significant savings to the federal government in comparison to its operation as a military installation," said Rep. Bruce Vento (D-Minn.), chair of the House subcommittee on national parks. Savings are estimated at $300 million over the next 15 years.

In "an effort to accelerate the Presidio's speed toward greater self-sufficiency," Rep. Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) introduced bills this fall allowing the Park Service to begin negotiating leases and setting up a public benefit corporation to manage the leased buildings. California Sens. Dianne Feinstein (D) and Barbara Boxer (D) have introduced companion bills.

NPCA told Congress that it was crucial to give the Park Service immediate authority to lease the Letterman complex, which costs $1.3 million a year to maintain. Legislators did so this fall but did not act on the broader proposals. "Congress took the right first step," said Crane, "but Rep. Pelosi's bill needs to be enacted as soon as possible in 1994."

Congress Advances Desert, Geyser Bills

Although Congress put off final decisions on many big environmental issues until 1994, it advanced some important pieces of legislation this year.

In September, legislation to protect the California desert cleared the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, considered the biggest obstacle to its passage, after nearly two decades of effort on the part of NPCA and other environmental groups.

The bill would create a new national park in the Mojave desert, expand Death Valley and Joshua Tree national monuments and redesignate them as national parks, and preserve 4 million acres of federal land in the desert as wilderness.

The committee rejected several weakening amendments, including one that would have allowed sport hunting in the proposed Mojave National Park. Such amendments are expected to be put forward again when the legislation reaches the floor of the Senate and the House of Representatives in 1994.

Another big fight is ahead next year over reform of the 1872 law that governs hard-rock mining.

Under the law, companies do not pay any royalties on gold, silver, and other metals they mine on Western public lands. They can take title to the lands for as little as $2.50 an acre.

WHIT BRONAUGH

The California desert, beautiful as well as harsh, may gain new protections next year.

Shortly before adjourning in November, the House passed a bill that would end the practice of patenting; require companies to pay an 8 percent royalty on minerals they extract from public lands; allow the Department of the Interior to deny mining permits for environmentally sensitive land; and set strict standards for restoration.

The Senate passed in May a much weaker bill, supported by the mining industry, that conservationists consider "sham reform." The differences between the two bills will be settled by a

NEWSUPDATE

▲ **Rainforest rapport.** The governor of American Samoa, a U.S. territory in the South Pacific, has approved an agreement providing for operation of the National Park of American Samoa. Congress in 1988 passed a bill establishing the park, which protects pristine rainforests, coral reefs, and beaches. Since land in Samoa is communally owned, the agreement was needed to allow Park Service management. Its approval means that NPCA efforts to establish the park have ended in success.

▲ **Not-so-sweet home.** The General Accounting Office has found 60 percent of housing for national park rangers to be in fair to poor condition. Despite efforts in recent years by the National Park Service, NPCA, and members of Congress, many rangers still live in leaky or rodent-infested houses and mobile homes.

▲ **Jurassic park.** Researchers at Dinosaur National Monument in Utah this fall reported discovering the skeleton of a new species of carnivorous dinosaur from the Jurassic period.

House-Senate conference committee in what is predicted to be a fierce fight.

After ten years of effort on the part of NPCA and others, an extensive land swap between the state of Utah and the federal government gained approval this fall. The bill trades 200,000 acres of state-owned land within Utah national parks, national forests, and Indian reservations for federal mineral holdings. In doing so, it ends a situation that frequently set Utah against the National Park Service and environmentalists, as the state attempted to develop its inholdings within national parks.

Legislation to establish the National Biological Survey passed the House of Representatives this fall and will be taken up by the Senate in 1994. The survey, a top priority for Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt, would combine existing information with new research to create an ecological map of the United States. According to Babbitt, the survey would allow environmental problems to be detected early. Conflicts between conservation and economic interests could then be avoided through better planning.

The House of Representatives passed a bill in November to protect the geysers, hot springs, and other geothermal features of Yellowstone National Park from drilling or pumping of groundwater near the park, which could alter their complex underground "plumbing."

Montana and the National Park Service reached a compact in 1993 that regulates drilling and pumping in zones north and west of the park. The bill, sponsored by Rep. Pat Williams (D-Mont.), would extend these protections to areas of Idaho and Wyoming that border the park.

The Old Faithful Protection Act would also prevent use of a geothermal well near the park's Mammoth Hot Springs drilled by the Church Universal and Triumphant, a religious group headquartered on the edge of Yellowstone. The bill would require the church to use surface waters on its property instead. Environmental documents on the church's complex have recently been completed, which may mean that beginning in March the state will allow to the church to pump from the well, under a permit issued last year.

That possibility gives additional urgency to passage of the bill. But it could be held up in the Senate, as it was last year, by a group of Western legislators who argue that not allowing use of the well is a "taking" of private property for which the church should be financially compensated.

✍ *To urge that the Old Faithful Protection Act be passed as soon as possible, write to J. Bennett Johnston, chair of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, 304 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510.*

LARRY ULRICH

Funds to add new lands to Saguaro National Monument were included in the 1994 budget.

Concessions Industry Moves to Block Reform

Reform of the national park concessions system, a top priority for NPCA, has been gaining increasing numbers of advocates in both parties.

But efforts to pass reform legislation have yet to overcome opposition from the concessioner lobby and its allies on the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, which must approve any such bill.

The most promising development came this year as Sens. Dale Bumpers (D-Ark.), author of a reform bill, Robert Bennett (R-Utah), and the committee chair, J. Bennett Johnston (D-La.), agreed to develop a proposal for committee consideration.

The proposal corrects aspects of the concessions system that are considered a bad financial deal for the national parks but also includes measures to help keep outfitters, river guides, and other small concessioners in business.

In 1992 private companies that provide food, lodging, and other visitor services in national parks reported gross receipts of $638 million but returned only 3.1 percent of that amount to the government in fees.

The Bumpers-Bennett-Johnston draft would significantly increase the fees paid by concessioners; return that revenue to the parks for critical needs; increase competition in bidding; end the preferential right of renewal, which allows concessioners to simply match the best bid for their contracts; and shorten the term of concessions contracts to ten years except for special situations. The bill would also reform possessory interest, the escalating financial interest concessioners gain in park facilities.

Similar legislation is expected to easily pass the House, where Reps. Jan Meyers (R-Kans.), Clifford Stearns (R-Fla.), and Mike Synar (D-Okla.) have

all introduced reform bills.

The concessions industry has been lobbying hard against reform. Its allies, led by Sen. Malcolm Wallop (R-Wyo.), ranking Republican on the committee, will try to cripple or defeat the compromise proposal when it comes up for consideration in February.

✍ *The votes of the following members of the Senate committee will be critical: Malcolm Wallop (Wyo.), Wendell Ford (Ky.), Jeff Bingaman (N.M.), Richard Shelby (Ala.), Ben Nighthorse Campbell (Colo.), Mark Hatfield (Ore.), Pete Domenici (N.M.), Frank Murkowski (Alaska), Don Nickles (Okla.), Larry Craig (Idaho), Arlen Specter (Pa.), and Trent Lott (Miss.). If either or both of your senators are listed, write to them at the U.S. Senate, Washington, DC 20510, asking them to vote for the reform bill.*

1994 Park Service Budget Released

Congress approved funding for the national parks this year that addresses some serious long-term problems.

The budget, which cleared both houses in November, "shows that, for the first time in years, Congress is heeding the repeated warnings that our parks are in trouble," said NPCA President Paul Pritchard.

The fiscal year 1994 budget boosts funds for basic National Park System operations—conservation, research, historic preservation, maintenance, and visitor services—by 9 percent, to $1.1 billion. In recent years, parks have had to close campgrounds, cut staff, curtail research, and reduce upkeep as funding lagged behind steady growth in numbers of visitors.

Since the budget increased by only 3.9 percent overall, the operations increase came mostly from cuts in other areas. Construction funding decreased by $28 million from last year, a change Pritchard called appropriate in a time of fiscal austerity.

The Park Service took a steep cut in land purchase funds, from $81 million last year to $59 million this year. There is $2 billion to $3 billion in land Congress has included within national parks on paper but has never provided the Park Service with the money to buy. Over time, these lands may be developed or become prohibitively expensive. Funds to preserve threatened lands were provided, however, for the Everglades, Saguaro National Monument in Arizona, Petroglyph National Monument in New Mexico, and Salt River Bay National Historical Park and Ecological Preserve in the U.S. Virgin Islands.

NPCA and Rep. John Lewis (D-Ga.) worked together to obtain funding to upgrade Martin Luther King, Jr., National Historic Site in Atlanta. The site receives more than 8,000 visitors on an average day but has only 35 parking spaces, inadequate exhibits on King's life and work, and no restrooms. The number of visitors is expected to surge to between 100,000 and 150,000 daily during the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta.

The budget also will allow initial planning for restoration of the Elwha River in Olympic National Park, Washington. NPCA has been urging removal of two dams on the river that block its once-magnificent runs of spawning salmon and trout.

Agreement Will Shield Denali from Pollution

Allowable power plant emissions near Denali National Park and Preserve in Alaska will be lowered significantly under a new agreement.

Plant owners, the state of Alaska, the Department of the Interior, and the Department of Energy arrived at the agreement in November. They set strict emission limits for an existing plant near

MARKUP

Key Park Legislation

Bill	Purpose	Status
Utah land exchange Public Law 103-93	Sets up a state-federal exchange for lands Utah owns within national parks, forests, and Indian reservations. In exchange, Utah receives federal mineral interests. NPCA supported.	The bill was signed into law by the president on October 1.
California Desert Protection Act S. 21	Establishes Mojave National Park, expands Death Valley and Joshua Tree national monuments, redesignates them as national parks, and designates 4 million acres of Bureau of Land Management wilderness. NPCA supports.	The Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee approved S. 21 on October 5. It still awaits votes in the full Senate and the House of Representatives.
Hard-rock mining reform H.R. 322 S. 775	NPCA supports the House bill, which provides for sweeping financial and environmental reform of the 1872 law governing hard-rock mining on public lands. It opposes S. 775, which is supported by the mining industry.	The House passed H.R. 322 on November 18; the Senate passed S. 775 in May. The differences between the two bills will be settled by a conference committee in 1994.
Concessions reform H.R. 1493 S. 208	Increases concessions fees and returns them to the park system; establishes competitive bidding for concessions contracts; reforms possessory interest. NPCA supports.	H.R. 1493 is before the House subcommittee on national parks. S. 208 is before the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee.
Old Faithful Protection Act H.R. 1137	Regulates geothermal drilling and pumping around Yellowstone to prevent damage to the park's geysers and hot springs. NPCA supports.	H.R. 1137 passed the House of Representatives on November 15. It is now before the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

NPCA is currently working on more than 60 bills.

the park that will mean little additional impact from a new plant the state has approved. NPCA had urged that such limits be set if plans for the new plant were to go forward.

Under the Bush Administration, the Department of Energy promised the state $94 million toward construction of a $200-million demonstration plant. Using new technologies, the Healy Clean Coal Project would generate less sulfur dioxide and nitrous oxide, which cause acid rain and reduce visibility, than standard coal-fired plants.

The site for the project, however, is within four miles of Denali National Park and Preserve. The Golden Valley Electrical Association, Inc., would operate the plant alongside an existing coal-fired plant on the site.

The Alaska Public Utilities Commission voted 2-1 in September 1992 to approve a contract for the plant. In May of that year, it had decided 3-2 that it could not consider the project's environmental effects in making its decision. This spring it issued a pollution permit for the two plants allowing emissions that would have greatly exceeded current levels.

This fall, Chip Dennerlein, NPCA Alaska regional director, met with representatives of the utility company and the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority. Dennerlein maintained that Denali's air quality must be protected. The new plant should be considered, he said, only if additional pollution controls were installed and if allowable emissions from the existing plant were significantly reduced.

The November agreement puts a pollution cap on the two plants that is only slightly higher than current emissions from the existing plant. In the long run, it should mean significantly lower emissions levels in the area than those predicted even if the Healy project were not built. The agreement also allows Denali to seek further reductions if air pollution within the park can be attributed to either plant.

"This demonstrates," Dennerlein said, "that when park resources and values are adequately protected, projects can go forward, but when they are not,

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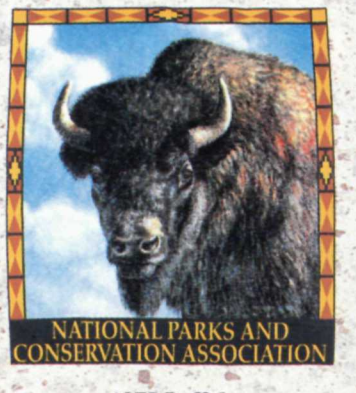

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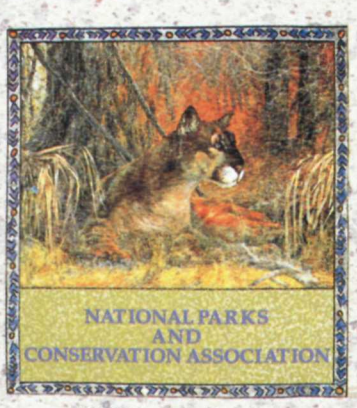

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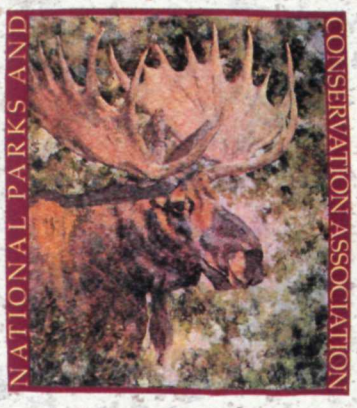

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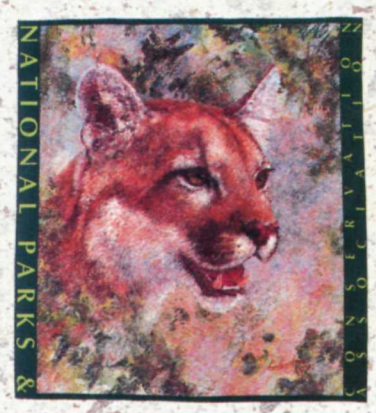

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GEORGE WUERTHNER

An old mining site near Yellowstone may be turned into an enormous new gold mine.

projects will not go forward."

"We are satisfied that we have in hand an agreement that protects park resources," said George Frampton, the Interior Department's assistant secretary for fish, wildlife, and parks.

According to Frampton, the Department of Energy will also re-examine the criteria it used in allowing a site to be selected for the Healy plant so close to a national park.

Opposition Builds To Proposed Gold Mine

A huge gold, silver, and copper mine proposed near Yellowstone National Park would pose serious environmental threats to the area, according to Sen. Max Baucus (D-Mont.) and others.

Evidence being gathered on the environmental impacts of the proposed New World Mine is fueling opposition to its construction on the part of NPCA and other groups, including qualified objection from Baucus.

The Montana Department of State Lands and the U.S. Forest Service are currently developing an environmental impact statement (EIS) on the mine, which is proposed by Crown Butte Resources, a subsidiary of Canada's Noranda Corporation. Several federal and state agencies must approve mining and water quality permits before Noranda can begin construction.

In an October 25 letter to Noranda Chief Executive Officer Alex Balogh, Baucus stated that while he recognizes that mining is an important part of Montana's economy, he "cannot think of an area more sensitive than that being proposed by the New World Mine."

In addition to its proximity to Yellowstone, the proposed mine is within the watershed of the Stillwater River, the Clarks Fork of the Yellowstone River, and Soda Butte Creek, which flows into the park.

Citing the ecologically sensitive nature of the area, Baucus wrote that the mine should not be approved unless certain precautions are taken. NPCA and other groups believe the mine presents unacceptable impacts and risks to the greater Yellowstone ecosystem and thus should not be constructed.

Although Montana has deemed Noranda's mine plan complete enough to begin the EIS process, the Park Service, the Environmental Protection Agency, NPCA, and other conservationists believe much more data must be collected and analyzed to adequately assess potential impacts. Baucus urged that the EIS, due in draft form by summer, consider the adverse effects of the mine on Yellowstone National Park, including park resources, wildlife, visitation, and operations.

Both Baucus and NPCA insist that the EIS consider foreseeable expansions of or amendments to Noranda's proposal. Although Noranda dropped initial plans to dig an open-pit mine and use cyanide to leach gold from mined ore, a future amendment to allow the use of cyanide on the site is likely.

As owner of the site, wrote Baucus, Noranda must remedy the site's existing water pollution problems and successfully reclaim abandoned historical mine sites in the area. Toxins draining from these sites have left streams sterile and stained orange. Research has shown that reclamation at the site's altitude of more than 10,000 feet would be expensive and difficult, if not impossible.

Of even greater concern is Noranda's current plan to store 5.5 million tons of tailings—acidic waste residues from the mining and milling process—in a 72-acre impoundment on land that drains into the Clarks Fork and surrounding streams. Leakages could severely degrade the water quality in these streams. Alternative locations for a tailings pond at the site present similar threats to streams flowing into Yellowstone or nearby wilderness areas.

If the waste impoundment should fail, Baucus wrote, "the impact to the greater Yellowstone ecosystem would be cataclysmic and the damage irreversible." Baucus said that Noranda should abandon its proposal to mine near Yellowstone unless it is willing to locate its tailing impoundment off-site.

Noranda has raised objections to doing so, saying that this would not allow the mine to be economically viable, even though ore deposits are estimated to be worth $500 million. Still, Baucus stressed the value of Yellowstone and that he is "not willing to gamble with a national treasure for short-term economic gain."

"Senator Baucus is right," said Terri Martin, NPCA's Rocky Mountain regional director. "The American people made a commitment to future generations and the world to protect Yellowstone when we designated it as a

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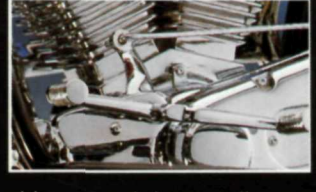

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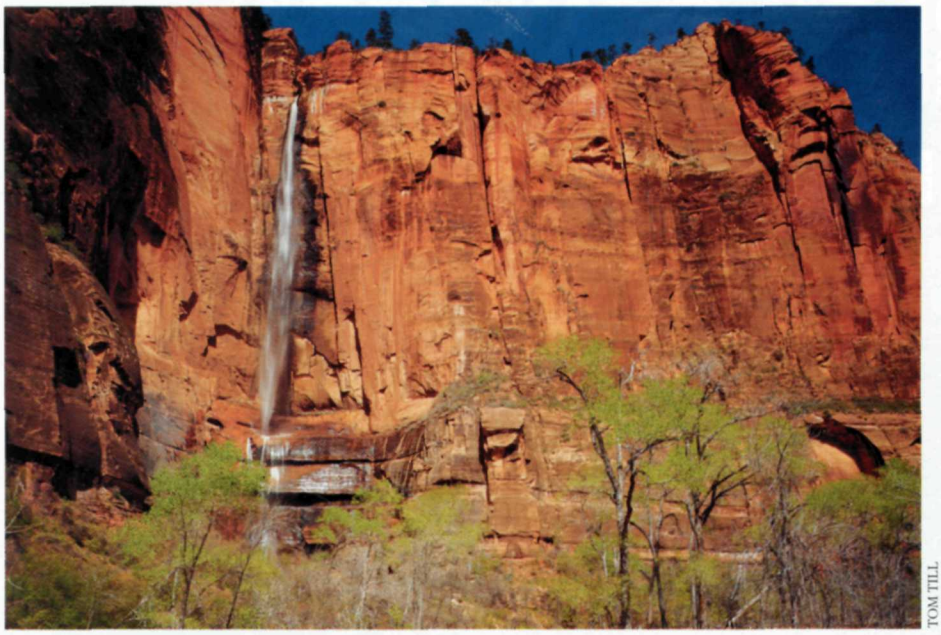

TOM TILL

The red-rock wilderness of Zion National Park in Utah now attracts so many visitors that congestion is a serious problem.

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national park and World Heritage site. When we weigh the unavoidable risks from the New World Mine against that commitment, there is no choice but to deny this mine."

—Kim A. O'Connell

Two Parks Address Traffic Congestion

With one busy season past and another one just ahead, gridlock is on the minds of many national parks watchers, including Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt.

This fall Babbitt suggested banning cars from Grand Canyon National Park, saying, "We simply can't continue to build parking lots."

Babbitt's announcement came as the Park Service released a preliminary set of alternatives for managing Grand Canyon. One of the four alternatives suggests eliminating cars almost entirely from the South Rim, the southern edge of the canyon and the most developed. Ninety percent of the visitors who come to Grand Canyon go to the South Rim.

NPCA Southwest Regional Director Dave Simon said Babbitt's announcement indicated he would back Park Service action to drastically reduce traffic along the congested South Rim.

"We are very supportive of pulling the cars back off the rim and pulling structures off the rim," Simon said. "We also need to be mindful of preserving some flexibility for park visitors."

In 1992, 4.5 million people visited Grand Canyon, and 1.2 million vehicles entered the park. A current shuttle transportation system operates only during peak times. The Park Service is now proposing a transit system to replace cars at Grand Canyon, along with bike and pedestrian trails. It is expected to refine the alternatives and release a formal draft plan sometime in 1994.

Overcrowding and gridlock are also concerns at Zion National Park in Utah, where park officials have proposed eliminating cars from Zion Canyon's scenic drive.

In 1992, more than 2.6 million people visited the park, about twice the number of ten years ago. On an average peak season day, about 1,700 automobiles enter the park. As a result, once-tranquil Zion Canyon is overrun with cars and people. Jammed parking lots force people to leave their cars along the roadside, creating a one-lane road on crowded days. Vegetation has been trampled, and on many front-country trails, masses of people have replaced solitude and quiet.

In an effort to alleviate the crowding, the Park Service is proposing to implement a mandatory shuttle bus system from March to October. Visitors would ride propane-powered open-air trams to view the canyon. The 60-seat buses would pick up visitors at a staging area in the park's Watchman campground, near Zion's south entrance, and carry them to the canyon, stopping at trailheads and other spots along the six-mile scenic drive. The estimated charge per rider for the shuttle bus is $1.50.

"Without a shuttle system, cars and people will continue to trample Zion's soils and vegetation and destroy its solitude," said NPCA Rocky Mountain Regional Director Terri Martin. "Zion Canyon should once again be a national park experience, rather than the gridlock traffic experience it has become."

In 1991 Congress passed the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency

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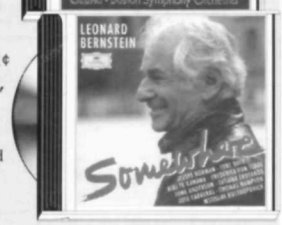

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Act, which included a requirement for study of alternative transportation systems in national park units. Denali, Yellowstone, and Yosemite national parks were specified in the study, but Zion and Grand Canyon have also received special attention from Park Service transportation specialists. The Park Service is expected to release its transportation study early this year.

✍ *To express support for the Zion plan, write to Zion National Park, Springdale, UT 84767.*

—Linda M. Rancourt

NPCA Names Winner Of 1993 Tilden Award

NPCA and the National Park Service named Mark Wagner, chief interpreter at Alaska's Katmai National Park and Preserve, the winner of the 1993 Freeman Tilden Award.

The award is given each year in recognition of creative and original public education efforts at parks. Wagner received the award at a ceremony following the National Association for Interpretation Workshop in November.

As the park's first permanent interpreter, Wagner created the Brown Bear Booster Program to educate visitors and reward appropriate and safe behavior around the bears that congregate in the area to feed on spawning salmon. Boosters earn award pins for following Wagner's "five tips" on bear etiquette.

The "five tips" sheet is only one of many pieces of interpretive literature planned and designed by Wagner, whose use of graphic design and the latest computer technology encourages retention of important information. For example, Wagner developed the "Compare-a-Bear" graphic, which gives visitors an easy way to gauge safe distances from bears—if the bear being watched appears larger than the graphic does when held at arm's length, the visitor is too close.

Wagner is also the designer and editor of *The Bear Facts*, a newspaper serving the park, published by NPS and the Alaska Natural History Association.

—Kim A. O'Connell

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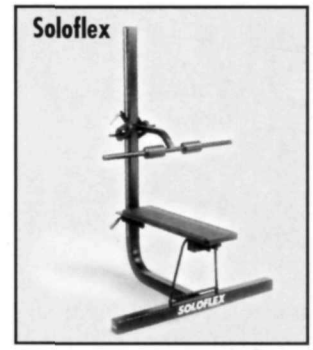

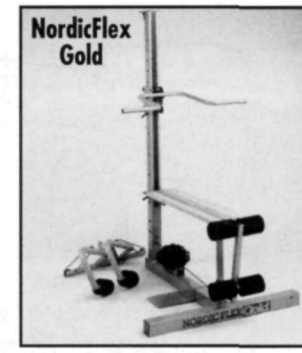

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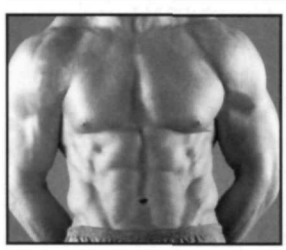

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REGIONAL REPORT

News Briefs from NPCA's Regional Offices

ALASKA

Chip Dennerlein, Regional Director

The Federal Aviation Administration is reconsidering two grants it issued to the state of Alaska this fall for planning airports inside Denali and Wrangell-St. Elias national parks and preserves. In November the FAA instructed the state to suspend work under the grants.

The action is a victory for NPCA and the National Park Service. Both had protested the grants, pointing out that the state does not have the authority to build airports within national parks and that the FAA does not have the authority to give the state funds toward doing so.

HEARTLAND

Lori Nelson, Regional Director

A protected 72-mile stretch of the Mississippi River, the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area, flows through Minneapolis-St. Paul and surrounding towns. The National Park Service is currently developing plans for managing the river. But NPCA and other groups are worried the area will not be adequately guarded from industrial pollution. There is concern over a Park Service proposal to "streamline" the issuance of pollution permits. NPCA is also urging the Park Service to dedicate at least one full-time staff member to preserving the river's water quality.

NORTHEAST

Bruce Craig, Regional Director

Independence National Historical Park in Philadelphia, where the Declaration of Independence and Constitution were signed and the Liberty Bell is on display, is working on a plan for its future. NPCA has urged the park to carefully weigh various development alternatives, including one proposal to construct a hotel on the third block of Independence Mall. It wants to see active public involvement in planning the park's future and urges members to make their voices heard.

For information on how you can participate, contact NPCA's Northeast regional office, 1776 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Washington, DC 20036.

◆

The National Park Trust (NPT), established by NPCA, recently helped protect historic areas at two national park units. Within Colonial National Historical Park, 16 acres of woodland along a parkway connecting two of America's oldest settlements, Jamestown and Williamsburg, Virginia, were to be cleared for housing development but will now be preserved.

NPT is assisting the Conservation Fund in purchasing the land, which will protect the scenic beauty and historic character of the parkway.

The National Park Trust is also aiding in a purchase at Women's Rights National Historical Park in New York State. A property adjoining the Elizabeth Cady Stanton house will be made available to the park as a visitor center and display area.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST

Dale Crane, Regional Director

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service released a plan in November to help the threatened grizzly bear recover in the Pacific Northwest. Between ten and 20 bears are believed to inhabit the North Cascades of Washington State and British Columbia, but their habitat is being eroded by logging and mining. (See "Two Countries, One Wilderness," page 26.) Poaching and hunting practices such as bear baiting are also considered a threat. NPCA is urging Fish and Wildlife to include stronger protections in its final version of the plan.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN

Terri Martin, Regional Director

Every year in the last decade, visitation to Canyonlands National Park in Utah has increased 14 percent. The National Park Service is accepting comments from the public on a draft plan meant to keep overcrowding from affecting the solitude and pristine environment of the park's backcountry.

NPCA believes the two most important steps the park can take are regulating the number of both day and overnight visitors to the backcountry and restricting certain visitor activities in sensitive areas.

To receive a copy of the plan or send your comments to the park, write to Superintendent Walt Dabney, Canyonlands National Park, 125 West 200 South, Moab, UT 84532. For more information, contact NPCA's Rocky Mountain office, P.O. Box 1563, Salt Lake City, UT 84110.

◆

Jackson Hole Airport in Wyoming is the only commercial airport in the country located within a national park. Over the years, it has been repeatedly expanded to accommodate growing numbers of planes. As the airport board updates plans for the airport, it is proposing to lengthen the runway and expand the terminal again.

NPCA, the Park Service, and local officials have pressed the board to consider alternatives that would reduce noise, overflights, and other disturbances within the park, while enhancing safety. The board added several new alternatives this fall, but its focus remains on extending the runway so that weight restrictions on existing flights can be lifted.

NPCA believes the airport should be phased out of Grand Teton if the airport board will not take meaningful steps to reduce impacts on the park.

SOUTHEAST

Don Barger, Regional Director

In November, parties negotiating a $685-million restoration plan for the Everglades received a second extension, to late December. The additional delay became necessary when Florida sugar growers rejected a draft agreement put forward by government officials.

The plan, originally due in October, is intended to end years of litigation over pollution of the Everglades and allow cleanup to begin. But NPCA and others said a draft version of the plan released this summer backed away from strict pollution-control requirements outlined in a 1991 court settlement.

◆

Officials in St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands, denied a permit this fall that would have allowed construction of a resort inside the boundaries of Salt River Bay National Historical Park and Ecological Preserve. A 1493 battle between Christopher Columbus' men and Carib natives of St. Croix took place on the proposed hotel site. While the land falls within its borders, the park has not had the funds to purchase it. Funds included in the 1994 federal budget may now make that possible. (See page 13.)

SOUTHWEST

Dave Simon, Regional Director

When Saguaro National Monument was established in 1933, it was separated by 15 miles of mountain and desert from the edge of Tucson. Today, the town and its suburbs have almost entirely encircled the park. In an attempt to preserve the best remaining natural areas around the park before they disappear, Sen. Dennis DeConcini (D-Ariz.) has introduced a bill to add more than 3,000 acres to the park's west unit. Rep. Jim Kolbe (R-Ariz.) is sponsoring similar legislation in the House. The two bills are supported by the entire Arizona delegation. The lands to be added include large stretches of the familiar trident-shaped saguaro cactus for which the park was named; spectacular scenery; and habitat for mountain lions, mule deer, desert tortoise, and Gila monsters.

Sharing the Wealth

The needs of the world's rural poor, who live surrounded by biological riches, must be included in plans for preservation.

By R. Michael Wright

"We travel together, passengers on a little spaceship, dependent on a vulnerable reserve of air and soil; all committed for our safety to its security and peace; preserved from annihilation only by the care, the work, and I will say, the love, we give our fragile craft. We cannot maintain it half fortunate, half miserable, half confident, half despairing, half slave to the ancient enemies of man, half free in the liberation of resources undreamed of until this day. No craft, no crew can travel safely with such vast contradictions. On their resolution depends the survival of us all."

—Adlai Stevenson, 1965

OUTSIDE MANY national parks, impoverished people seek land on which to grow crops or to graze their meager herds of goats. People desperate for firewood to cook meals or to stave off the night cold live next to forest reserves. In Africa, children struggling to survive with little or no food live side by side with vast herds of legally protected wildlife. Throughout the world, the face of poverty is one of growing despair, and, more often than not, it is the face of a woman farmer eking out a living for herself and her family in an ever more ecologically impoverished landscape.

The rural poor, who, ironically, live surrounded by biological wealth contained in protected areas, are trapped in a vicious downward spiral. To survive, they have no alternative but to overexploit whatever resources are available and to seek those "locked away" in nearby parks. Add rapid population growth and inequitable resource ownership to this equation and the situation is stark indeed. In this environment, it is impossible to separate the human needs of local populations from the ecological needs of forests, wildlife, and national parks. To paraphrase Stevenson, parks, species, and conservationists cannot survive for long amid such vast contradictions.

From ethical and practical perspectives, conservationists cannot be indifferent to the fate of our poor neighbors.

The international community's response to this dilemma is "sustainable development," defined as development that "meet(s) the needs and aspirations of the present without compromising the ability to meet those of the future." While this concept has been proclaimed conservation's message for the new millennium, sustainable development is in many ways an idea that was explored by Gifford Pinchot at the beginning of this century. And like John Muir's denunciation of Pinchot's unapologetic utilitarianism, sustainable development has drawn critics determined to debunk it. In the March 1993 issue of *Conservation Biology*, John Robinson asserts that sustainable development, at least as presently promoted, is a form of wishful thinking. After all, he argues, improvements in human prosperity have always come at the expense of biological diversity.

Of course, Robinson and his colleagues are right, but this perspective raises questions. What level of diversity loss can be justified by what improvements in the human condition, and who shall decide? Throughout the world, a series of ad hoc experiments seeks to answer these questions. Most of the projects are relatively new and modest in scale. They often lack a clear link between economic and protection goals, frequently do not have the necessary baseline data to allow careful evaluation, and commonly depend on the dedication of a small cadre of individuals. Yet, with all their shortcomings, these experiments can offer lessons, inspiration, and hope. And they can show us a way to the future.

One type of protected area allows people to live within its boundaries. Examples include the U.K.'s North York Moors National Park, Nepal's Annapurna Conservation Area, and Brazil's extractive reserves.

U.K. parks such as North York Moors were created with the understanding that people and land are inseparable, and, along with nature conservation, the creation of healthy rural economies is central to the parks' mission. Ecologically beneficial practices, such as maintenance of hedgerows by local farmers, are fostered through a system of financial incentives and reciprocal legal agreements. As fewer and fewer natural areas exist where parks can be established free of people, the U.K. system may be the model for es-

tablishing future protected areas. Created within an already populated, modified landscape, the U.K. system historically has been maligned by park purists. But people already have settled within the limits of nearly 86 percent of South America's national parks, and their forced relocation should be no more acceptable for national parks than for a World Bank development project. And, in fact, local people can be enlisted in the important job of protecting the land.

Few incidents so dramatically captured the struggle to preserve the rainforest ecosystem than the murder of Chico Mendes in the Brazilian Amazon. Mendes' efforts to organize the rubber trappers became a conservation movement. The trappers and Mendes moved to create an extractive reserve system to gain legal rights over the rubber trees. Cattle barons, however, wanted to clear the trees, a conflict that led to Mendes' tragic death.

The extractive reserve system seeks to provide economic return and maintain biodiversity by using non-timber forest products, such as the rubber tree sap. The extractive reserve idea of multiple-use protected areas has spread but, in each instance, depends on the exploitation of a complex and changing mix of resources. In Brazil the focus is on rubber, palm heart, acai palm, or Brazil nuts. In the Petén of Guatemala, the key resources are allspice and chicle, a binding substance used in gum, among other things. A wide range of products are taken from the forests of Kalimantan, Indonesia, most prominently rattan, and on Cameroon's Mount Oku, medicinal plants and honey are the primary resources. The economic and conservation results have been mixed, depending on a number of factors: resource potential, market demand and proximity, conditions of transportation and tenure, the impact of the harvest method on regeneration, and the potential of competing land uses. While they are not a panacea, extractive reserves are a necessary component of any conservation strategy in the tropics.

Another set of projects links improvements in the human condition in multiple-use buffer zones to conservation in a protected core area. Local people played key roles in these projects as well.

In 1986, conservationists Mingma Norbu Sherpa, Chandra Gurung, and Broughton Coburn spent six months visiting the 300 villages that ring the snowcapped peaks around the Annapurna Himal. The team wanted to establish protection for the area but also wanted to enlist in their efforts the support of the resident Gurungs, Magars, Thakalis, and the other diverse peoples. The result of this unprecedented local participation in design was a new Nepali approach to conservation. The approach not only protects the area's ecological integrity but also provides alternative energy sources, health and family planning services, improved water supply, and lodgeowner training, all funded by a charge to the 25,000 trekkers who come to Annapurna annually.

Projects that rely on wildlife are particularly prevalent in Africa. As conceived by Ackim Mwenya, Gilson Kaweche, and Dale Lewis under a Zambian program, safari hunting revenue that previously disappeared into the central treasury now constructs schools, builds clinics, and employs local game guards. An unlikely partnership has resulted among villages, traditional chiefs, political leaders, and government officials and has begun to have an effect on the poaching that has devastated elephants and other wildlife.

Are these diverse approaches a substitute for national parks? The answer is emphatically "no." National parks retain an important role in preservation, but they are also insufficient. Most of the globe's biological diversity remains, and will remain, outside of parks, because few parks encompass intact ecosystems and most remain susceptible to external threats. From ethical and practical perspectives, conservationists cannot be indifferent to the fate of our poor neighbors. Intensive agriculture and the restoration of wastelands, both of which can help meet human needs and reduce pressure on parks, are fundamental elements of an inclusive conservation mix.

DOUGLAS MACGREGOR

Multiple-use areas, whether they are Zambia's game-management areas, Brazil's extractive reserves, Nepal's conservation area, or the U.K. park system, even with their potentially diminished density and diversity of species, are as important as guards and fences in the conservation strategy for our ever more crowded planet. Ultimately the resolution to Stevenson's contradictions of wealth and want will emerge from a mosaic of land uses within which we can balance a complex set of rights and responsibilities between local communities and society at large.

R. Michael Wright is a senior fellow with the World Wildlife Fund.

Two Countries, One Wilderness

An alliance of environmentalists works to create an international park in the Cascades of Washington and British Columbia.

By Carmi Weingrod

THE NORTH CASCADES straddle 70 miles of the Washington-British Columbia border, encompassing some of the wildest places left in North America. Jagged peaks crowned with spires rise out of the valleys to guard lush meadows and forests of giant trees. Hundreds of massive glaciers hang over rock faces and sprawl across steep slopes, feeding icy streams and lakes cascading into waterfalls. In the winter, fierce storms moving inland off the Pacific Ocean bury this lovely craggy habitat in snow and render it inaccessible to all but the heartiest travelers.

Although natives of the Upper Skagit and Chelan valleys had hunted and fished in these mountains for centuries, it took a long time for white settlers to penetrate the rugged terrain. You need only look at a map to imagine the experiences of the early explorers who named Terror Creek, Mount Fury, Mount Despair, and Damnation Peak.

Even as settlements rose in the lower valleys of the North Cascades, the border that divided the range between Washington and British Columbia remained invisible—a mere line on a map. It climbed up and over ridges, bisected rivers, and split valleys. But as the settlements grew, each nation managed its side of the mountains differently, until the border became painfully obvious.

Activism and legislation protected the forests on one side better than on the other. The North Cascades National Park Complex, designated in 1968 in the United States, affords some protection for the range. As logging threatened forests near the park, additional lands were designated as wilderness areas in 1988. But protection has not been adequate on the Canadian side. Outside of a few small parks, the land has been intensively logged to nearly 4,500 feet in elevation just north of the U.S. border.

Although the 49th parallel now separates a thick forest from a bare one, the scar unifies rather than divides Americans and Canadians. By spoiling the previously undisturbed face of the North Cascades and altering the region's ecosystem, the Canadian clearcut has served to mobilize the people who would like to attain greater protection for the region.

CHARLES A. MAUZY

Many people are drawn each year to hike in the North Cascades and enjoy the spectacular mountain views.

Clearcutting has removed acres of trees on both Canadian and U.S. lands, such as (below) in Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest. Without trees to hold back the soil, silt clogs the streams important to salmon (top right). After a healthy salmon run, carcasses litter the rivers, providing food for a variety of animals, including grizzly bears (bottom right). Canadians do not have the same legal processes available to Americans for challenging forest management practices. Developing an international park in the North Cascades will help to protect this beautiful land that each spring is covered with wildflowers (opposite page).

ART WOLFE

BURNS PETERSEN

MICHAEL H. FRANCIS

sites in British Columbia, the Americans have decided, for the time being, not to increase the population south of the border.

The North Cascades ecosystem includes about 10 million acres of land that extends from the Columbia River in the east to Puget Sound in the west and from the lower Fraser River basin in the north to the Snoqualmie River in the south. Logging on both sides of the border, along with mining and grazing, dams, agriculture, and development, has degraded this ecosystem. Its health is best gauged by the condition of the wild salmon runs.

Wild salmon spawn in forest streams. After the eggs hatch and the fish mature, the salmon leave to feed in the ocean. They eventually return to the forest streams to continue the cycle. After a healthy salmon run, carcasses litter the rivers and gravel bars, providing food for eagles, bears, wolves, and other animals. Since the expansion of settlements in the region, the number of salmon has gradually declined. Salmon stock levels are critically low in some rivers and tributaries that originate in the North Cascades. A decline in salmon numbers means a shortage of carcasses in the upper river basins, forcing some animals to seek food elsewhere. Lack of proper habitat has placed both the grizzly and gray wolf on the endangered species list in the North Cascades.

The Endangered Species Act requires all federal agencies in the United States to participate in ecosystem restoration and enhancement. With time, the repair of streams in the North Cascades will increase healthy salmon runs and provide habitats that can sustain populations of grizzly bears and gray wolves. In Canada, however, where environmental legislation is inadequate, the ecosystem is at greater risk. Canada

LINDA K. MAUZY

has an endangered species list, but laws do not back it up, making grizzly recovery a moral issue rather than a legal one. Mining and logging have devastated the upper river basins, degrading salmon runs and animal habitats. Unfortunately, Canadians do not have access to the legal processes available to Americans for challenging forest management practices. An international park with specially designated zones for resource extraction, mandated by both nations, is perhaps the best way to maintain the North Cascades as a regional ecosystem.

"Developing this international park is not an end in itself," says Jake Masselink, assistant deputy minister of British Columbia's Ministry of Parks. "It's a means toward beginning cooperative stewardship in the region." To have a scenic wonder like the North Cascades so close to one of the fastest growing urban regions in the West is a rare gift of nature. As growth continues—and all indications show it will—the need for wilderness places will become greater and so will the impact on them. Perhaps one international park, with pooled resources and a plan for regional ecosystem maintenance, can withstand the impact better than individual national parks.

But beyond the need for ecosystem protection, another significant reason for an international park in the North Cascades has to do with the place itself. The North Cascades harbors a world of beauty, inspiration, and challenge—a place of true wilderness. In *The Sound of Mountain Water*, the late Wallace Stegner wrote: "We simply need that wild country available to us, even if we never do more than drive to its edge and look in."

Carmi Weingrod is a free-lance writer based in Seattle, Washington.

Ecotourism in the National Parks of Latin America

By Ruth Norris

A COUPLE OF DECADES AGO, if you were to win the lottery, or perhaps commit the perfect crime, you might think of escaping to a place like Manuel Antonio National Park. It's a fantasy tropical paradise: white-sand beach and blue-green waters, on the Pacific side of Costa Rica, shaded by lush tropical forest nearly reaching the water's edge. No traffic, no roads—for company, just the birds and the white-faced squirrel monkeys.

But today you don't have to be lucky or a conspirator. You can catch any one of the dozen or so daily international flights to San José, rent a car or hop on a bus and go to Manuel Antonio by highway. You'll still find the beach and the forest. The solitude, however, is long gone.

One of the most-visited protected areas in Central America, 1,700-acre Manuel Antonio receives nearly a thousand visitors a day during the peak of the high season. It is surrounded by a hotel "strip." Some 300 monkeys are still there, but their migration corridors have been disturbed, and like the bears of Yellowstone in years past, many have become garbage feeders.

Welcome to Costa Rica, whose parks are the crown jewels among developing-country protected areas. In the 1980s, this West-Virginia-sized country won international acclaim for setting aside a fifth of its national territory as

KEVIN SCHAFER

KEVIN SCHAFER

More than two-thirds of the international visitors to Costa Rica come to enjoy the country's national parks and other protected areas, such as Monteverde Biological Reserve (left), and to see wildlife, such as the keel-billed toucan (above).

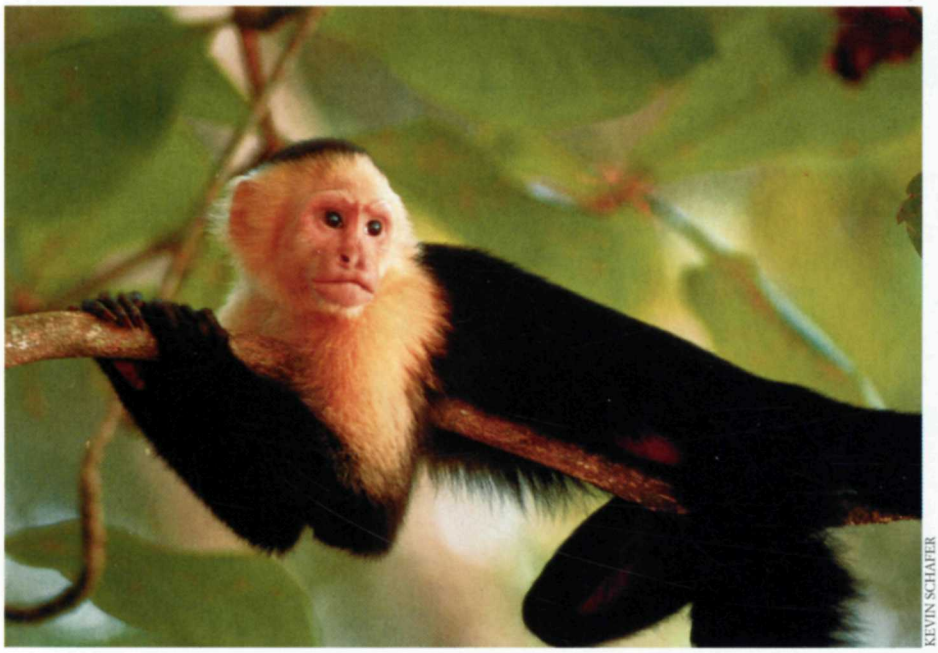
parks—and received more than half of all the U.S. public and private funding for international conservation. In the 1990s, Costa Rica is again a trend-setter, this time in the booming ecotourism industry.

The Costa Rica Tourism Institute, or ICT, and tour operators have aggressively promoted Costa Rica as a destination. ICT uses travel-industry shows, advertisements, and offices in Miami, Los Angeles, and other cities to entice potential visitors with visions of romance and adventure. "Picture graceful, tall mountains, their tips wreathed in clouds," its brochure invites. "Imagine lush green meadows with rushing rivers and arching waterfalls; conjure up a vision of a population whose smiles reveal their inner happiness and pride in their land." In case your imagination fails you, there are 16 pages of color photographs.

It works—and then some. In August of 1993, tourism surpassed bananas as the country's number-one industry. For the past three years, the number of visitors to Costa Rica has increased at a rate approaching 15 percent per year and should reach three-quarters of a million visitors annually in the next year or two, a million by decade's end. Tourism income has grown even faster, and now exceeds a million dollars a day.

More than two-thirds of the international tourists in Costa Rica say they came to enjoy the country's national parks. The parks are popular recreational destinations for local residents as well, as confirmed by park agency visitation figures. In 1992, 598,003 visitors were registered, nearly triple the visitation level in 1982.

For the parks, this surging interest is a mixed blessing. To be sure, the dollars from aid agencies and conservation



KEVIN SCHAFER

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White-faced capuchin monkeys and tree frogs are among the diverse wildlife species found in Costa Rican parks.

organizations continue to flow. But the visitors are leaving more than footprints. A recent study by the Inter-American Development Bank ranked growth in visitation, coupled with the park service's inability to manage visitors effectively, as one of the five most serious threats to Costa Rica's national park system.

"Many tourists, few animals," a writer grumbled in a major travel magazine, writing about a stroll on the trails of Manuel Antonio. A protected-areas specialist working at Corcovado National Park, on the relatively undeveloped Osa Peninsula, notes, "You can see physical damage to the reef from boat moorings and [from] being stepped on."

"In general, the higher the volume of tourists, the greater the potential for negative impacts," says Ray Ashton, author of a manual for ecotourism in Central America, going on to catalog the possible damage: soil compaction, trail erosion, clearing for campsites and other facilities, litter, contamination of surface water, and trampling and collection of plants.

And what about the wildlife? How frequently animals may be disturbed before their behavior changes—and what level of behavioral change represents a threat—are still open questions. Different species of wildlife have different levels of tolerance toward interactions with humans. Some thrive; others retreat and decline. Impacts may vary depending on the type of tourist activity and by season and location within the animals' territory. Sea turtle beaches, for example, are vulnerable primarily during the nesting season. Other animals may be particularly sensitive during resting or feeding. Wildlife may also be threatened when local people collect feathers, shells, and skins for handicrafts to sell to tourists, or overfish reefs to supply restaurants and lodges.

This is primarily theory, logical and reasonable but difficult to document. Ask one of the experts—the ornithologists, herpetologists, and other researchers who have visited Costa Rica's protected areas continuously over the past few decades—and the answer will be something like this, from Laurie Hunter, an ornithologist at The Nature Conservancy.

"Everyone talks about the environmental impact of tourism, but it's hard to document. You would have to have information, for example, on the breeding and nesting behavior of quetzals—which of course necessitates having data beforehand."

Quetzals, of course, are one of the most emblematic species, and a fair amount of behavioral data has been collected. But no one knows how many species the Costa Rican parks harbor. Scientists generally concur that some 215 species are of special concern, ranging from vulnerable to immediately endangered. Many of these depend on the parks for their survival. Even so, there are not sufficient data to effectively monitor danger signals or determine their causes.

To see the least subtle tourism impacts, one only has to step outside a park boundary and look around. Admirable as Costa Rica's park system is, land outside the parks is all but unprotected. The immediate result has been what Tirso Maldonado, author of a volume on national-park carrying capacity recently published by Fundación Neotrópica, calls a "chaos of construction" surrounding the most-visited parks.

In 1993, more than 3,000 new hotel rooms were constructed in Costa Rica, a great many of them immediately outside protected areas. The construction brings deforestation, erosion, improper disposal of sewage, and a host of other problems. One of the most luxurious of the new resorts razed a hilltop during construction, changed the course of a

river by taking out tons of sand, filled a swamp, violated health laws, and failed to get required permits for construction and dynamiting.

It's a classic vicious circle: more tourists bring more hotels, which bring more tourists. They come by land and by sea. One of the principal factors in the quintupling of visitors to Carara Biological Reserve over the past three years has been the cruise ships that have begun to dock nearby. Visitation is actually incompatible with the purposes of a biological reserve, as established by law—but the reserve's trails and scarlet macaws are an attraction.

IF CRUISE SHIPS HAVE BEEN A BANE to conservation in parts of Costa Rica, they are one of the critical elements in the success of another of the Latin American crown jewels. Sail a few thousand miles to the south, to the Galápagos Islands, and it's possible to find some guidance on how to keep visitation under control.

During nearly a quarter-century of tourism, this desert archipelago, home of rare and wonderful wildlife made legendary by Charles Darwin, has seen growth rates similar to Costa Rica's. But visitation has generally been well managed, and it is still possible to encounter a blue-footed booby nesting right on the trail. Despite the fact that the annual limit of visitors is regularly exceeded, strict supervision, together with limited development of land-based facilities, has kept impact to a minimum.

The tourism industry in Galápagos has always been water-borne and water-based. A typical visit begins with a 600-mile flight from the mainland to one of the archipelago's two airports. Passengers immediately pay a rather steep entry fee (the current value is about $40 for foreigners, less than $1 for Ecuadoreans), and transfer to a boat for a one- or two-week tour of the islands. All groups must be accompanied by interpretive guides licensed by the Galápagos Park Service, whose responsibility is to exercise direct control over visitor action in all areas of the park. Visitors are strictly restricted to official trails when they are on the islands. A small fleet of patrol boats also enforces regulations.

The Galápagos Islands are governed by a management plan—actually several distinct but related plans for the terrestrial and marine portions of the park—and a separate plan for tourism. The park's first management plan, approved in 1974, established a somewhat arbitrary limit of 12,000 visitors per year. As tourism increased, debate about management tended to focus—artificially, according to most experts—on *how many* tourists should be permitted, rather than on more complex aspects of carrying capacity.

In 1981, Ecuador's president appointed a high-level commission to propose guidelines for tourism management. The commission recommended freezing visitation at 25,000 per year until a tourism plan could be elaborated—again, a somewhat arbitrary limit, but based on the Galápagos Park Service's capacity for management and the approximate capacity for transportation available at that time. It was adopted as the official visitation ceiling when the master plan for Galápagos was revised in 1985.

Unfortunately, a decade passed before the tourism plan was adopted in 1991. Meanwhile, a second airport was constructed. The visitor ceiling was reached and exceeded, and economic problems caused a deterioration in the park service's management capacity. In the decade preceding adoption of the tourism plan, according to Fausto Cepeda, who serves on the Galápagos Permanent Commission, the number of concessioners offering lodging on the islands doubled, to 82, and the number of places available on touring boats increased from 664 to 1,400.

Still, despite the burgeoning tourism, wildlife has fared well. Galápagos management plans have established a system designating zones for tourism according to their accessibility, presence of wildlife, coastal scenery, and hiking opportunities. The tourist-use areas are categorized for either intensive use (groups up to 90 people), or extensive use by groups limited to 12. All groups must be accompanied by a licensed guide.

The main problems, as in Costa Rica, are concentration and crowding at the most popular sites. The most serious negative effect, says Cepeda, has been the direct and indirect impacts of the development of industries supporting tourism. "Planning was based on carrying capacity and management of tourist activity, and on the limits of the visitation sites in the park, without recognition of the other problems caused by economic activity."

R. E. BARBER

Photographing wildlife is a popular activity for visitors to the Galápagos.

KEVIN SCHAFER

R. E. BARBER

R. E. BARBER

Although tourism rates in the Galápagos Islands are growing as rapidly as those of Costa Rica, careful management and well-enforced restrictions have helped to keep visitation under control. All tour groups are accompanied by interpretive guides licensed by the Galápagos Park Service, which strictly supervises all visitor activity. Far left, tourists prepare to explore Fernandina Island. Above and left, visitors to the Galápagos encounter sea lions, land iguanas, and other wildlife at close range.

The new plan for tourism has taken measures to address these problems. There are more regulations on the granting of concessions. Tourist boats and ships must follow assigned itineraries and limit their tours to assigned areas of operation. By causing more dispersal of visitors and encouraging use of additional, less vulnerable sites, the plan will strengthen the Galápagos Park Service's management capacity.

CAN COSTA RICA implement similar measures to control its national park visitors? The tourism ministry, says Tirso Maldonado, has financed several studies of carrying capacity and is pressuring the park service to establish new visitation limits for the parks, many of which are exceeding current limits two or three times over. However, Maldonado warns, there is no "magic number," and focusing on ceilings may serve to obscure more important issues.

In fact, says Jim Barborak, a parks expert and longtime Costa Rica resident, visitation in Costa Rican parks is "so far below the levels reached in U.S. parks that it's laughable." Grand Canyon National Park, which is roughly the same size as Costa Rica's parks put together, receives 4.5 million visitors per year, while the Costa Rican parks receive just 600,000 annual visitors.

"What you're hearing is the aesthetic cries of people who loved Costa Rica in the old days," says Barborak's colleague David Carr, a second-generation sea-turtle expert who has devoted much of his life to conserving the nesting beaches of Tortuguero National Park on the Atlantic coast. "Those days are over. I'm not trying to save Tortuguero like it was in my childhood. We can save the park, the turtle beach—but I've abandoned any notion that we should preserve the quaint old ways."

In the mountains a few hours' drive from San José is the Monteverde Biological Reserve, a private cloud forest reserve where tourists flock to see resplendent quetzals and many other beautiful birds, plants, and butterflies. One portion of the reserve has trails suitable for hiking; another portion is all but inaccessible. The reserve takes in nearly a half-million dollars a year from its relatively high entry fee (about $10), fees for guide services, and gift shop. The guide program provides employment and training for local residents while also helping to keep visitors on the trails and otherwise in compliance with rules designed to keep disturbance to wildlife to a minimum.

The substantial income makes it possible to invest in trail maintenance, including reinforcement and hardening in wet or erosion-prone areas. Staff patrol the trails and carefully monitor the total number of visitors in the reserve, as well as the number on each trail at any given time. When a trail reaches its limit, new arrivals must choose another route or wait until earlier visitors exit. On busy days, lines may form as early as 11 a.m. Visitors, however, cheerfully accept both the high fee and the occasional wait, knowing that they will encounter wildlife rather than crowds, and that they can enjoy the cloud forest in relative comfort, safety, and quiet.

The national parks may not be able to adopt all of these measures. By law, they have an entry fee of less than $2, and there is a chronic shortage of staff, due in part to civil-service cutbacks imposed by economic restructuring. Although the Costa Rican park staff are generally praised for their level of training and esprit de corps, none are specifically trained in visitor management, and few have the time to spend assisting visitors, directing them onto appropriate trails, and explaining or enforcing rules of conduct. Most of the parks do have trail systems, but few if any are designed to concentrate visitors in the less fragile scenic areas, leaving sensitive ecosystems undisturbed.

Proposals to increase staffing and programs, even if financed by visitor fees, pose problems. But private organizations have a long history of hiring personnel to work in the parks and managing programs of assistance. Visitor management—training, tools, and staff—is a promising area for private assistance.

If it is no longer possible to pass a week in perfect solitude at Tortuguero or Manuel Antonio, neither is it very likely that thundering herds of tourists will ultimately despoil the Costa Rican parks. Eventually, word of mouth about crowded conditions in Costa Rica and the growing promotion of equally beautiful parks in Guatemala, Honduras, and Panama are likely to cause the international visitors to disperse. And there is every reason to believe that Costa Rica, with its outstanding conservation record and its special access to international funding and support, will again take the lead in ensuring both good experiences for visitors and conservation of parks and their wildlife.

Ruth Norris is a Washington, D.C.-based free-lance writer specializing in international conservation issues.

A Future for the Past

Saving the world's cultural resources from decay and loss will require a cooperative effort among scientists, politicians, and the public.

By Hind Sadek

"Man fears time and time fears the pyramids," has, in our own time, become an obsolete statement. Pyramids, temples, and tombs are joining the list of extinct species, along with ancient sculptures, paintings, paper, textiles, glass, and ceramics. Their degradation over the centuries and millennia is due to both natural and anthropogenic phenomena. Both nature and man have caused catastrophic destruction, as well as incremental damage.

Cataclysmic events such as earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, floods, and fires are unexpected and often disastrous. Pompeii, even after its replication by computers, will live forever in our memory as the victim of Mt. Vesuvius. As recently as 1982, the eruption of El Chichon in Mexico deposited a layer of highly abrasive ash on a number of Mayan sites.

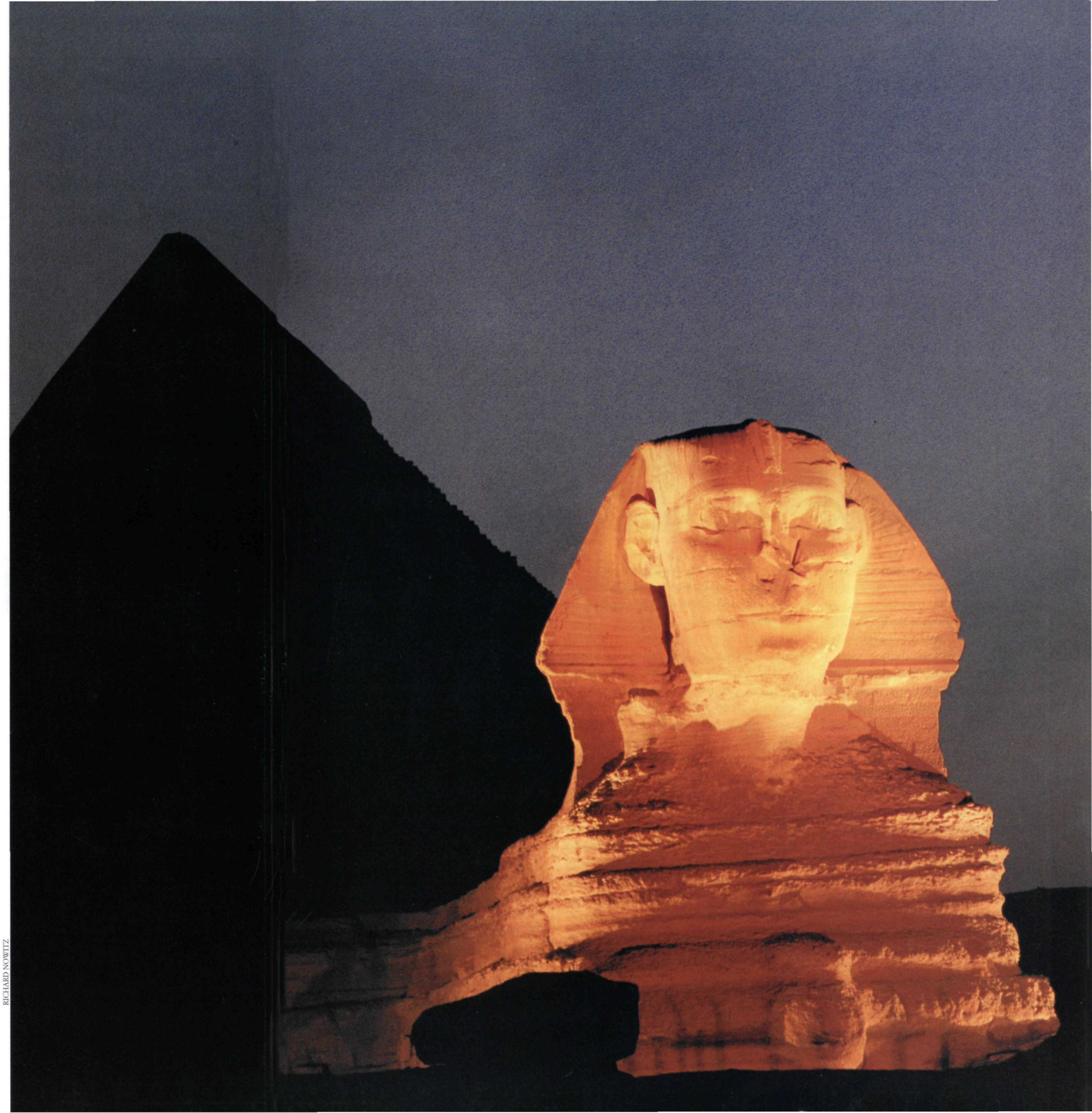
But natural processes of destruction by the elements can also be slow, progressing by minute increments, scarcely perceptible from year to year. In the case of stone decay, the major contributor, carbon dioxide, has always been present in the atmosphere, as in pure rainwater, which is naturally acidic and will convert limestone (calcium carbonate) to soluble calcium bicarbonate.

The presence of salts in stone is another serious cause of mechanical and chemical pressures. Rising by capillary action, ground water and salt crystallize below the surface, causing tensile stresses and blistering, which often result in breakage of the material.

Natural concentrations of atmospheric ozone also erode stone and cause the fading of pigments used in works of art. In the enclosed spaces of caves, tombs, or museums, preservation requires adequate ventilation systems to reduce ozone exposure to safer levels.

While natural deterioration occurs in all environments and under different atmospheric, climatic, and geophysical conditions, the modes of decay vary regionally, depending on site-specific, intrinsic, and extrinsic factors.

Human-induced impacts have also been catastrophic and insidious, willful and accidental. The bombing of Dresden's three churches, Saxon Castle, and Zwinger Museum in 1945 was deliberate, the burning of the Library of Alexandria accidental. Caesar meant only to destroy Pharaoh's fleet, not torch the famous library. But the winds carried



RICHARD NOWITZ

Thousands of visitors flock to Egypt each year to see the Sphinx and pyramids. This "mass tourism" has proved lethal to cultural resources in Egypt and elsewhere.

A Paris train station, once slated for demolition, was instead transformed into a beautiful and well-visited art museum, the Musee d'Orsay.

the flames inland, causing the irreplaceable loss of one of humanity's most precious legacies.

Less dramatic, but equally destructive to Alexandria and all modern cities today, is the relentless, daily pollution of atmosphere, earth, and water. Concentrations of carbon dioxide, sulphur dioxide and trioxide are directly related to the closeness of industrial zones and the high concentration of sulfur in crude oil used as fuel in industrial and domestic heating. To these are added concentrations of nitrous oxides released by automotive exhausts. The past half-century has witnessed a dramatic increase in cultural resource degradation—an acceleration which is rightly perceived as the result of human progress and achievement in industry and technology. Their corrosive impact on cultural resources is a worldwide phenomenon that requires a worldwide response.

Throughout the history of human progress and achievement, the attitude has been that the use, misuse, or abuse or the world's resources, natural and cultural, was man's prerogative. And, if quarrying did not conflict with existing ideology or religious belief, then why not? Why not indeed? Did it matter if the casings of the pyramids—the shining white limestone that covered them and made them glisten as far as 15 kilometers away and that inspired the Greeks to name them—were ravaged 4,000 years later to erect mausoleums and tombs for the Mamelukes, the new conquerors of the pyramids? It did not matter to them then. It matters to us now.

NEARLY 200 YEARS AGO, humanity began to take a different view of "antiquity." A beginning was made in the recognition of cultural achievement and a cultural heritage; a beginning not always launched by the national heirs of such heritage. The discovery of "Ancient Egypt" was made, not by Egyptians, but by the 164 scientists, mathematicians, naturalists, engineers, architects, antiquarians, epigraphers of the "Commission des Sciences et des Arts," enlisted by General Bonaparte for his momentous expedition to Egypt in 1789. Their reports and 900 engraved plates, published in *Description de l'Egypte*, offer a perception of temples and tombs that no longer exist: the paintings are gone, and today's relics are the bleak, greyish, crumbling walls of what was once vibrant with life and brilliant colors.

Two converging movements of concern for nature and culture led, in 1831, to the appointment of Prosper Merimé as inspector for historic monuments in France and to the establishment, in 1872, of Yellowstone National Park. International response to these concerns materialized, a century later, with the signing and ratification of the Montreal

Protocol and the World Heritage Convention.

Response had already been initiated by UNESCO in the rescue of Abu Simbel and Philae temples, with contributions from some 50 countries and from other national and international organizations. Success of this campaign was followed by the rescue of Venice after the flood of 1966 and of Mohenjo Daro in Pakistan and Borobudur in Indonesia. The concept of *shared responsibility* among nations was born.

But, in order to translate conservation into an effective and permanent program, the input of scientific research had to be enlisted. In 1955, no systematic study of atmospheric corrosion of stone was known, and as late as 1980, scientists were admitting that they did not know much about "the complicated mechanisms of decay and [the] precise role of pollutants." Nor were scientists in agreement about the significance of vehicular pollution in the cause of stone decay. Thus, existing scientific expertise and technology lacked the means to effectively and permanently treat degradation of cultural materials.

The immediate need now was to create the ability to address the issue of conservation accurately and to avoid well-meaning but faulty restoration, such as stone injections with epoxy resins and metal intrusions that inevitably fractured the very monuments they were meant to protect.

Venice's woes and the Acropolis dilemma galvanized Europe's scientific community and provided two forums for assessments of Europe's and the world's cultural heritage. The Athens Symposium in 1988 and Bologna Conference in 1989 focused on preservation by including studies ranging from "soil and rock mechanics, engineering, geology, and geomorphology, to atmospheric deposition, environment and microclimate, mural paintings and the management of risks to cultural property."

This important multidisciplinary effort was the first step, and one that must be taken again and again, in the examination, analysis, testing, and monitoring of cultural resources based on the development of new technologies for conservation—technologies not initiated for industrial needs but for the prevention of stone erosion, loss of pigment, brittleness of paper manuscripts, glass, and other identified cultural resources. With "Eco-Archaeometry," a new approach launched by professor George Burns, relevant disciplines were drawn together on an equal footing into a complementary effort to identify and quantify physico-chemical pressures that were causing the deterioration of cultural elements.

But implementation of scientific recommendations needs approval from decision makers, and conservation programs cannot proceed without national legislation. Surprisingly, the extent of degradation and the many tragic losses of priceless cultural treasures had not been appreciated, in either developed or developing nations, until the late 1960s.

After World War II and throughout the 1950s and '60s, an explosion of industry and commercial enterprises led to a flurry of construction. In addition, a massive influx of people into cities resulted in more destruction for the erection of residential buildings. Victims of such hasty construction were many exquisite examples of early 20th century Art Nouveau and Deco. The demolition of the Hotel Ruhl in Nice, described as "equal to the loss of Paris' Eiffel Tower," and that of the extraordinary brick-metal-glass structure erected in 1906 by Guitton on the left bank of the Seine, were two of the many irreplaceable losses of modern art and architecture.

In France, response came from the public sector with the adoption of the *Patrimoine National.* A name derived from the Roman "patrimonium" which, 2,000 years ago, ensured the legitimacy of familial inheritance, the French *patrimoine* was extended to encompass *national* inheritance. Questions arose regarding extent and legitimacy. Does protection of structure dictate present function? Must an abandoned castle remain empty, or can it serve another needed function that would help maintain it?

Positive response ensured the survival of the Gare d'Orsay, the Paris train station that was slated for destruction but instead was transformed into the Musee d'Orsay, a beautiful and well-visited museum which today houses the Impressionist School of Art. In Washington, D.C., the opening of shops and restaurants at Union Station no doubt helps to maintain the structure and its original function as a transportation facility. During the celebration of the tenth anniversary of "Doors Open" in September 1993, 10,000 sites of France's Patrimony were opened to an expected 5 million visitors. And here again, questions continue to address the inclusion of industrial and farming patrimonies and those of literature, landscapes, languages, and traditions—concepts so far difficult to translate in terms of public and private rights.

WITH PROSPERITY AND technological achievements came another unexpected form of destruction. Rapid and affordable travel combined with an expanded and inspired humanity, eager to visit, see, and touch remnants of the past—an enthusiasm in the form of *mass tourism*, which was to prove lethal to culture and art. Daily intrusions of thousands of visitors, accompanied by an increase in humidity and temperature variations in caves and tombs, had devastating effects.

In the state of Chiapas, Mexico, the "Temple of the Paintings," Bonampak, was, until its discovery in 1946, safe from environmental degradation. An exquisite example of classic Mayan art, it soon experienced problems of fungal growths and salt crystallizations on the paintings. Control of humidity and removal of carbonate deposits and the color integration of the paintings by *in situ* conservation succeeded in stabilizing both indoor and outdoor conditions and helped save the temple.

In France's Valley of the Vezere, the Upper Paleolithic cave Lascaux had preserved the artistic achievements of Cro-Magnon for 20,000 years until its discovery in the 1940s. International renown resulted in more than 100,000 visitors a year. The paintings began to

ROBERT FRIED

ALLAN A. PHILIBA

A stone carving at Chichen Itza, Mexico, shows evidence of "stone cancer," or erosion—a problem at many cultural sites.

show signs of deterioration and of microscopic fungal growths. André Malraux, France's minister of culture, responded by closing the cave in 1964. A replica was planned and, despite cynicism on the part of the public and the government, when opened to tourism in 1982, the replica was an unexpected success. Today, outside Paris, "Lascaux 2" is the second most visited monument in France.

In addition to restoration, replication, documentation, and monitoring, national legislation and proper management of cultural sites are prerequisite to the "sustainability" of the tourist industry and to the survival of both the national cultural heritage and the national economy.

In 1989 at the international conference on climate change held in Cairo, Egypt, NPCA President Paul Pritchard suggested that nations consider establishing world cultural parks to "safeguard priceless elements of mankind's cultural heritage; historically significant buildings and other antiquities which are being damaged by atmospheric pollution." It is time to implement such resolution and to draw outlines defining the legal and economic guidelines aimed at the protection of world cultural parks.

The creation of a Ph.D. degree in conservation, encompassing all relevant disciplines, is another priority. With an acknowledged profession, conservation doctors, like medical doctors, will be empowered to make early detections that will provide their patients—hominid or lithic—with better chances of survival. Today, conservation must take precedence over excavation. As an archaeologist, I must deplore complaints such as, "research is curtailed for restoration." If our interest is in the discovery and study of our ancient past, then the preservation of that past must be uppermost on our agendas.

Public awareness, through the print media, television, and film, can also serve the cause of world heritage conservation. Public awareness and public outcry against DDT and later against CFCs helped save the peregrine falcon and, as reported in the *Washington Post*, the reduction of CFCs is "allowing the stratospheric ozone level to heal itself." NOAA's James Elkins gives the following credit: "This is all driven by U.S. public opinion…a beautiful case study, where science, the law, industry, and the public all worked together."

Finally, I wish to suggest that, like debt-for-nature exchanges, the industrialized world consider debt-for-culture exchanges. In the debt-ridden nations of the developing world, response to human health, education, and shelter are distinct priorities over the need to respond to the depletion of many of the world's priceless legacies. A debt-for-culture exchange between developed and developing nations would provide assistance by transferring funds and technology to debtor nations, to be used for the support of cultural conservation programs. The host country contributes by converting debts to local currency, which is used to support programs of restoration, documentation, and monitoring, as well as to support agreed-upon projects. The creation of endowment funds would ensure continued protection and monitoring, and the cooperation in training and leadership of the host country would be a part of the exchange of debt for conservation.

In 1920, American Egyptologist James Henry Breasted advised: "The supreme obligation of the present generation is to make a comprehensive effort to save for posterity the enormous body of ancient records still surviving in Egypt." The same is true of records surviving worldwide. Under an accelerated deadline imposed by pollution of air, earth, and water, and with natural and cultural resources under enormous pressures from an ever-growing population, we have a long way to go to reach this goal. But, with cooperation and a true sense of shared responsibility, I dare to hope that there is indeed a future for our common past.

Dr. Hind Sadek is president of ECO-PAST, Environment and Our Common Past, an organization created to address the crisis of worldwide degradation and depletion of cultural resources. She has a Ph.D. in anthropology from Harvard University, specializing in prehistoric archaeology.

75th Anniversary: A Retrospective

In Defense of Standards

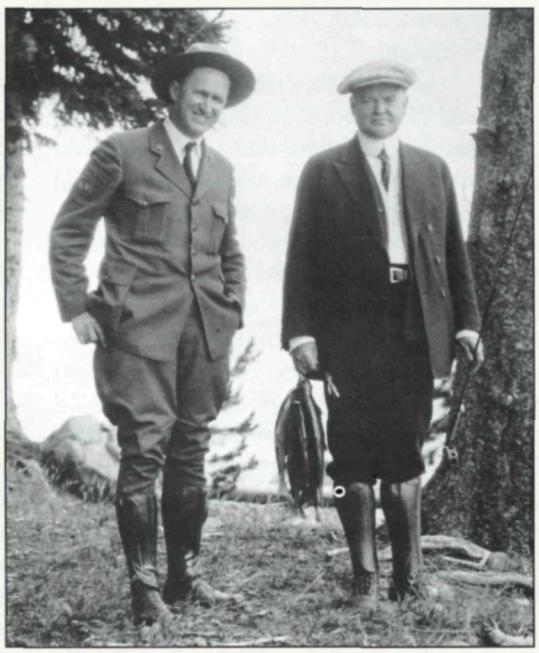
Since its outset, NPCA has been concerned with upholding a high level of quality for the National Park System.

By John Miles

THROUGHOUT ITS 75 YEARS, the National Parks and Conservation Association has been the flag-bearer in the struggle to maintain high standards for national parks. Defending these standards has, at various times, been its principal mission. At its founding in 1919, the association committed itself to developing a "complete and rational system" of national parks, which would contain the full range of American flora, fauna, and scenery. Yet, the system would be confined to areas "so extraordinary that they shall make the name national park an American trademark...."

The National Parks Association (renamed NPCA in 1970) began its defense in 1922 shortly after President Warren G. Harding's appointment of Albert Fall as Secretary of the Interior. A former senator and New Mexico rancher, Fall proposed a new national park in his home state to be called All-Year National Park. It would include the Mescalero Indian Reservation and, coincidentally, lie close to Secretary Fall's ranch. The association opposed the proposal as a self-serving pork-barrel project far below the standard of extraordinary significance.

The June 1922 *National Parks Bulletin* described the proposed park as "a number of little wooded spots, miles apart in the valley bottoms in the Indian reservation, plus a bit of badlands 40 miles away, plus a sample of gypsum desert 38 miles away, plus a ...reservoir 90 miles away, all these across deserts of heavy sand." Fall engineered passage of his park bill through the Senate, and the association and its allies mounted a defense, ultimately killing the proposal in the House.



Yellowstone Superintendent Horace Albright (left) accompanies President Herbert Hoover on a fishing expedition.

Early in the system's history, criteria for a national park were vague, a situation that made proposals like Fall's possible and made it evident that a more specific definition was needed. NPA's Robert Sterling Yard (who also worked for the National Park Service (NPS)) described how Park Service Director Stephen Mather and his staff puzzled over the matter as they created the National Park System.

"At the very beginning arose among us the question: What are National Parks anyway? Everyone knew generally, and no one knew specifically. [Yellowstone Superintendent and later Park Service Director Horace] Albright, the lawyer, searched the books and records in vain for a definition. Mather and I asked officials, members of Congress, park-makers in the West, seers generally wherever found. A dozen offered definitions differed radically."

They decided "the parks themselves must furnish the definition." Interior Secretary Franklin Lane's famous 1918 national parks policy letter (crafted by Albright with help from Yard and others) asserted that park areas should be unique to "be of national interest and importance." (A precise definition of "national interest" and criteria to judge "importance" were still lacking.)

NPA found itself at odds with the Park Service when the association opposed plans to include timberlands in Olympic National Park (right) and a reservoir in Grand Teton National Park (far right).

And this standard for national parks also was tested. Some members of Congress believed establishing a park was an easy way to provide an economic boost for their regions, and park proposals proliferated in the late 1920s. NPA fought an unquestionably inferior Ouchita National Park proposed in Arkansas, an area with few outstanding qualities. Twelve other areas, most of little national significance, were proposed for park status in 1927, and a Wisconsin congressman introduced a bill to create a national park or forest in every state. NPA and its allies mounted what Yard called a "campaign of righteousness" against these proposals.

In 1923 the Camp Fire Club of America, a group dedicated to conservation and enjoyment of the outdoors, drafted a statement on national park standards that was endorsed by many organizations, including NPA. William B. Greeley, who chaired the Committee on Conservation of the Camp Fire Club, was an NPA trustee. At his urging, in 1926 NPA adopted the club's declaration on standards and used it as the foundation of its position for the next 30 years. The three-page list included very specific criteria for parks. NPA committees revised the statement over the years and issued new "declarations of policy" on standards in 1945 and 1956.

In the mid-1920s, NPA faced what was to become a recurring dilemma. The proposed Shenandoah National Park offered the first test. The association favored a park in the southern Appalachians but had reservations about the Shenandoah area. NPA wrestled with the question of whether the Shenandoah—long settled and highly modified by generations of human activity—met the criteria of an extraordinary and nationally significant natural area. Internal arguments raged for years, and because the proposal enjoyed strong support among national park advocates, the association ultimately took no strong public stand.

The motto for NPA during the 1930s might have been: Save only the greatest and most sublime scenic and primeval landscapes for the highest educational and inspirational purposes. The National Park System should be a pure expression of conservation. National parks should be museum pieces; and just as a rare, cultural artifact is given unequivocal protection from alteration and commercial exploitation, so should a national park. Adhering to this high cause placed the association at odds with those intent on exploiting parkland for profit as well as those who believed in national parks but not in the pure way embraced by NPA.

NPA took a much criticized public position in opposing proposals for Olympic National Park in Washington and Kings Canyon National Park in California, along with a plan to enlarge Grand Teton National Park in Wyoming. The association sided with the National Park Service in supporting an Olympic park smaller than one advocated by most of the conservation community. The larger park proposed by Rosalie Edge's Emergency Conservation Committee and others would, NPA believed, compromise standards by including areas that would ultimately be logged. The association believed a smaller, defensible park made more sense, since it would be less vulnerable to the timber industry. The larger park was created, and Edge, Willard Van Name, and other Olympic Park advocates branded NPA "stooges" of the timber industry.

The issue for NPA in the battle over Kings Canyon was whether it could support an inferior park proposal. The Sierra Club led the effort to approve a bill that established a large Kings Canyon National Park, excluding Tehipite Valley and Kings Canyon and setting them aside as reservoir sites. NPA Executive Secretary James Foote, testifying against the park bill, said: "Mr. Mather might have had his Kings Canyon park some years ago had he been willing to compromise and accept a park that failed to include...an unspoiled Tehipite Valley and Kings Canyon." The bill proposed that the Park Service administer for recreation the reservoirs and surrounding land above the high water mark. The effect of this would be "not only to include reservoirs for irrigation and power within the park, contrary to accepted national park standards, but also...to permit the original condition of these valleys to be ultimately altered."

NPA could not support a park containing reservoirs and refused to back down. Kings Canyon National Park advocates, including the Sierra Club,

Rosalie Edge, and Interior Secretary Harold Ickes, were furious with NPA. The bill was approved in 1940, the dams were not built, and the Tehipite and Kings Canyon areas became part of the park.

At Grand Teton, NPA maintained that the sage flats and reservoirs in Jackson Hole were unsuitable for addition to the park. Horace Albright, John D. Rockefeller, Jr., and the National Park Service among others worked for years to expand the park and acquire private land at the western end of the Teton Mountains. Jackson Lake—enlarged by a dam for irrigation—was included in the proposed expansion. Again NPA could not accept inclusion of a reservoir in the National Park System. The association clashed sharply with National Park Service Director Arno Cammerer and former director Albright over this issue. In opposing the Grand Teton expansion, NPA found itself with strange bedfellows—ranchers, irrigationists, and developers. Ultimately, however, convinced by the eloquence of NPA trustee Olaus Murie, the association revised its position to support the expansion, and it was achieved in 1950.

NPA was criticized as too "purist" in its defense of standards. While sometimes NPA's approach might alienate friends and allies, the association believed it had to be uncompromising. Fuming over NPA opposition to the Grand Teton expansion, Albright said: "It is a pity that conservation is always being thwarted by its friends." Robert Sterling Yard set the association on this path and sharply felt the criticism he received. In 1931 he wrote in defense of his approach: "Our method of conflict is unwaveringly impersonal. We fight for a principle, never against a foe."

The fight is ongoing. In 1988 the association contributed extensively to the debate with its *National Park System Plan*. In this document, the association emphasized new goals and challenges for the National Park System, including what role national parks must play in environmental protection. Restricting activities on land surrounding park units, a politically sensitive issue, has become essential and raised new questions about the nature and purpose of national parks.

The association also still finds itself battling "park pork," because creating national parks continues to be perceived as an easy way to boost the economics of a region. In fact, economics was the key reason for creating Steamtown National Historic Site in Scranton, Pennsylvania, a project NPCA vigorously opposed. Steamtown was established to interpret the story of early 20th century railroading, but the historic integrity of this expensive park is doubtful. Several historians described Steamtown in *The New York Times* as a "second-rate collection of trains on a third-rate site." Even so, the proposal was approved.

As use of the system grows and threats to parks multiply, the challenge to maintain the system's integrity intensifies. NPCA no longer demands strict adherence to its original goals and standards. Instead, the association embraces an expanded mission, which extends to the cultural as well as natural heritage of the United States. NPCA's standard requires new units to be nationally significant and representative of important components of American history. The association continues to examine what should be included in the National Park System and how sites should be managed for the highest values and most lasting protection.

NPCA remains vigilant, acting as a watchdog for the park system, serving to remind the National Park Service of its mission to conserve and "leave [the parks] unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations."

John Miles teaches environmental studies at Western Washington University and is writing a book about NPCA. This is the second of four articles examining NPCA's history in honor of its 75th year.

TAKE PART FOR PARKS

NPCA, corporate sponsors, nonprofit groups, and concerned individuals are teaming up again to support national parks.

As our nation's parks confront the problems of shrinking budgets and staff, skyrocketing visitation, and the threat of adverse land-use practices, NPCA is building partnerships with business leaders, national and local nonprofit groups, and individual community activists to forge innovative solutions. March for Parks, NPCA's annual fund-raising walk event, is one fun and effective way to take steps to address park issues.

For example, a Hawaiian citizen's group, called Kahua Na'au A'o, joined with the Kona Civic Club, NPCA and its corporate partners, and the National Park Service (NPS) to organize a March for Parks fund-raising walk for Pu'uhonua O Honaunau National Historic Park, located on the Big Island. The walk heightened awareness and raised funds for trail restoration, cultural demonstrations, park library materials, and the upgrading of a native garden on this sacred Hawaiian ground.

Scheduled for the weekend of April 22–24, 1994, March for Parks celebrates five years of developing local park-community partnerships. NPCA coordinates the national publicity and provides free step-by-step organizing materials to march organizers—called March Partners—but it is up to the local organizers to develop the fund-raising program in conjunction with the park. One hundred percent of the money raised stays with the selected park. As March for Parks Program Manager Ellen Wilson states, "The march allows community and business leaders to take an active role in protecting their local parks by empowering them with the knowledge and tools necessary to make a difference."

NPCA is increasing its national partnerships as NPS, Earth Day USA, the National Association of State Park Directors, and the American Volkssport Association are all participating in the event. Bass and Company, Foghorn Press, and Faultless Starch/Bon Ami have joined the list of corporate partners that will allow NPCA to host the largest and most visible national Earth Day walk for parks to date.

But March for Parks will always have the greatest effect at the local level. As U.S. Sen. Daniel K. Akaka (D-Hawaii) remarked in his official greeting to the Hawaiian marchers last year, "Here in Hawaii, March for Parks should truly be a celebration for this community as we are reminded of the precious resources of these islands that distinguish us so well from all the other states of the Union...the spirit of volunteerism here today reflects brightly the heart of this community."

March for Parks projects are as diverse as the March Partners and the communities in which they are held. Upcoming projects for 1994 range from developing interpretive signs for trails at Joshua Tree National Monument in California to raising funds for injured bird care in a Florida state park.

If you are interested in holding a March for Parks in your community or would like more information about the program, contact Ellen Wilson, March for Parks program manager, at 1-800-NAT-PARK (ext. 222). Look for 1994 March for Parks merchandise, including T-shirts, hats, pins, and other items, advertised in the next issue of *National Parks*. Show your support for our parks by participating in March for Parks 1994.

Help stop a different kind of child abuse.

Kevin Carter

This abuse is merciless. It preys on innocent, fragile lives and brutalizes them with utter poverty...with constant hunger...with relentless diseases...with no hope for even a basic education.

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But you can help. You can ease the pain. Become a Save the Children sponsor and help stop the horrible abuse that poverty inflicts on children.

Your monthly gift of just $20 to Save the Children will be combined with the gifts of other caring sponsors to benefit an entire community of children. Instead of direct hand-outs, your gifts will help establish community self-help programs, enabling your girl or boy to receive the food, medical care and education he or she so urgently needs.

Please call or mail the coupon below today and say you'll become a Save the Children sponsor. Only 65¢ a day from you will help rescue a girl or boy from the most horrible kind of child abuse – and replace it with vitality and hope.

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I prefer to sponsor a ☐ boy ☐ girl ☐ either in the area I've checked below.
Please send my child's photo and personal history.

☐ *Where the need is greatest*

NT 12/23/3

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☐ American Indian	☐ Himalayas	☐ South America
☐ Asia	☐ Central America	☐ United States

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City_____ State_____ Zip_____

☐ Instead of becoming a sponsor at this time, I am enclosing a contribution of $_____.
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Established 1932. The original child sponsorship agency. YOUR SPONSORSHIP CONTRIBUTIONS ARE U.S. INCOME TAX DEDUCTIBLE. We are indeed proud of our use of funds. Our annual report and audit statement are available upon request. ©1992 Save the Children Federation, Inc.

Save the Children.
50 Wilton Road, Westport, CT 06880

Getting Too Many Conservation Mailings?

Occasionally, on a limited and selective basis, NPCA makes its membership list available to other organizations whose goals and programs might interest you.

If you prefer not to be included with the names we make available, let us know and we will remove your name from the list.

Just attach a current label from *National Parks* magazine and send it to us at the address below.

We'd like to assist you with your membership concerns!

☐ I missed an issue of *National Parks* magazine (please specify)

☐ I am receiving duplicate mailings (please include both mailing labels)

☐ I changed my name or address (please indicate your change below)

☐ Please do not exchange my name

Identification number

Name

Address

City, State, & Zip

If your membership concern is not addressed above, please write or call us at 1-800-NAT-PARK. Attach the mailing label from the latest issue and mail to:

(Place label here)

Membership Department
NPCA
1776 Massachusetts Ave., N.W.
Washington, DC 20036

NOTICES

75th Anniversary Conference

On the occasion of its 75th anniversary, NPCA will hold a conference on "Citizens Protecting America's Parks," May 18–21 in San Francisco, California. As the volume of threats facing national parks increases, so does the level of citizen involvement in park preservation programs. Coinciding with this increase is the need for these groups to coordinate and strengthen their efforts, a need NPCA will address at the conference.

Representatives from NPCA's Park Activist Network, official "friends of" groups, park advocacy groups, and the National Park Service are expected to attend the conference. With an emphasis on advocacy, service projects, and fund raising, panel discussions will be conducted that are designed to teach participants how to become more efficient and effective in protecting our parks.

For some NPCA trustees and friends, the conference will be the culmination of a train tour that will begin May 9 in Chicago and wind through the Southwest, ending in San Francisco. Tours of Grand Canyon National Park, Wupatki National Monument, Joshua Tree National Monument, and the proposed Mojave National Park site are tentatively scheduled.

At an awards ceremony and dinner on May 19, NPCA's actual anniversary, the Marjory Stoneman Douglas award will be given honoring an individual whose preservation efforts result in the protection of an existing or proposed national park unit.

NPCA plans to give a presentation at the conference on problems facing parks, but needs your help to do so. If you have photos or, even better, videos depicting park problems, NPCA would like to see them for use in the presentation. Problems include overcrowding; lack of maintenance and repair of trails, campgrounds, and facilities; and the impact of pollution on wildlife, air and water quality, and visibility. Send any photos or videos to Tom St. Hilaire, grassroots director, at NPCA, 1776 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Washington, DC 20036.

Grassroots Gratitude

NPCA would like to thank all the park activists who responded to the alerts generated by NPCA's concessions reform campaign, especially those in Pennsylvania, Colorado, Alabama, Tennessee, and Kentucky.

Currently, many incumbent park concessioners run multi-million-dollar businesses but pay only an average of 2.8 percent of their gross revenues to the federal government. These relatively meager fees then go to the U.S. Treasury, not the National Park Service, leaving parks without the resources necessary to address the backlog of problems that face the parks and their rangers. Concessioners are also given a perpetual right to renew contracts without competitive bidding, monopolizing park business.

Your letters and calls could swing the vote in favor of national parks in what appears to be a close battle in Congress.

Renew America

Last October, NPCA was a sponsor of Renew America's third annual Environmental Leadership Conference, held in Washington, D.C. NPCA is one of 30 environmental organizations that make up the National Environmental Awards Council of Renew America, a nonprofit organization dedicated to spotlighting special achievements in environmental protection.

The conference gave environmental activists and policymakers a forum to discuss issues and develop strategies for successful environmental programs that bolster a healthy economy. In November, Renew America released *An Agenda for the 21st Century*, a report

that synthesized findings and conclusions reached at the conference. Representing NPCA at the event were Paul Pritchard, president, and Tom St. Hilaire, grassroots director.

Earth Share

One of the most effective ways that nonprofit organizations raise funds is through employee payroll donations. In these campaigns, all donations are voluntary and deducted from employee paychecks throughout the year. The campaigns, also known as workplace giving, were pioneered by the United Way of America.

Workplace giving has become a very important source of funding for environmental organizations. In 1992 alone, more than $6 million was raised through workplace giving to benefit environmental groups.

To promote and conduct workplace giving campaigns for environmental causes, NPCA helped to establish Earth Share in 1988. Today, comprising 39 environmental member organizations, Earth Share conducts workplace giving campaigns in corporations such as J.P. Morgan & Company, The New York Times Company, Nissan Motor Company, Waste Management, and Time-Warner.

Last year, NPCA's portion of Earth Share donations came to more than $300,000. For more information on Earth Share and how you can organize a workplace giving campaign, contact Tom Peters at 1-800-NAT-PARK.

Maintaining a Balance

The booming popularity of rock climbing in national parks and other public lands has led to the degradation of rock faces and vegetation and conflicts between climbers and other park visitors. In an effort to reduce these impacts, the National Park Service and other land management agencies are developing climbing regulations. In November, NPCA conducted a one-day workshop in Boulder, Colorado, that allowed persons with varying perspectives, including NPS officials, climbers, and conservationists, to exchange ideas and concerns about this issue.

Happy Trails

Thanks to the partnership between NPCA and Matrix Essentials, $30,000 has been raised to fund trail restoration projects at Grand Canyon, Everglades, and Redwood national parks. Matrix, a manufacturer of skin- and hair-care products, has worked with NPCA to raise funds for projects at these parks in the past, along with a recent effort to maintain the historic roads at Acadia National Park.

Good Credit

Now the benefits of owning and using an NPCA MasterCard are even greater. As a result of a new agreement with the Bank of Baltimore, the NPCA credit card is currently available at no annual fee *ever* and a low 13.9 annual percentage rate. A Visa gold card will be available in April 1994. There are still three card designs to choose from. With each, a percentage of every month's purchase will go to NPCA for preservation programs, all at no extra cost to the cardholder. NPCA hopes use of the card will generate more than $800,000 over the next five years for these programs. For an application, call the Bank of Baltimore at 1-800-252-9002.

"See the World, Save the Parks"

Created in conjunction with Casey Travel, the NPCA Member Travel Program allows members to receive a rebate on all travel purchases while helping NPCA protect parks and endangered species. Whether you are booking reservations for airlines, cruises, cars, or hotels, you will receive the lowest available price and a 5 percent rebate that you may keep or donate to NPCA to support park projects. Throughout the year, Casey Travel and NPCA will offer members even greater discounts and other special travel deals. To make reservations or for more information, call 1-800-825-NPCA.

For a Very Important Date

Keep track of important dates and appointments with NPCA's 1994 wall and engagement calendars featuring the work of Adam Jones, a prominent nature photographer. The wall calendar, priced at $9.99, includes beautiful scenic views of several national parks, with brief descriptions of each park and the strides NPCA has taken to address threats to them. The engagement calendar, which has a year-at-a-glance feature and sections for phone numbers, birthdays, and other special dates, is priced at $10.99. A portion of the proceeds from calendar sales goes to NPCA's efforts to protect national parks. The calendars are available only in stores, not through NPCA, so contact the distributor, the Landmark General Corporation, at 1-800-365-9329 for the store nearest you.

Free for All

Starting in the March/April issue, information about the products and services advertised in *National Parks* will be at your fingertips. Circle the items that interest you on our new readership card, send it in, and more information will be sent to you promptly.

Making Believe About The World Population Crisis

World population, now 5.5 billion, is growing by about 90 million every year, and is projected to reach 12-14 billion in the next century. Nevertheless...

We keep on **MAKING BELIEVE** that a world population of that size (or even our present size) would be sustainable for the long term.

We keep on **MAKING BELIEVE** that our already overstressed ecosystem could provide an adequate standard of living for such numbers.

We keep on **MAKING BELIEVE** that family planning alone, or education, or economic development, or all of these together, are capable of halting world population growth before it reaches catastrophic levels.

But ... **if** we keep on **MAKING BELIEVE**, and keep on **pretending** that these preposterous propositions are true, we are going to wind up where we are now headed: in a world of 14 billion impoverished people. Such a world would be a place where none of us would care to live, a world of almost universal poverty, with an ecosystem in ruins.

Negative Population Growth, Inc. (NPG) believes that the optimum size for world population is not more than two billion, and that a substantially larger population would simply not be sustainable indefinitely. (World population was two billion about 60 years ago.)

In our view, only if world population is reduced to that size can we hope to create a world economy that would be sustainable indefinitely, with an adequate standard of living for all, in a healthy environment. So many people profess to believe otherwise because they do not see how world population could possibly be reduced to an optimum size.

The conventional wisdom sees no way that world population can be halted short of 12-14 billion, and accepts that growth as inevitable. Rather than face up to the grim reality that such massive growth would bring on an economic and ecological catastrophe, conventional thinkers prefer to **MAKE BELIEVE** that all will be well.

But the truth is that sustainable development for a world of 12-14 billion people, is simply an **impossible dream**.

Toward An Optimum World Population

Further population growth on the gigantic scale now projected is **not inevitable**. If we could only summon the will, we could start **now** on the path toward a sustainable world population of not more than two billion.

To reduce world population size, we need a negative rate of population growth. For that, we need a below replacement level of fertility, which a considerable number of developed countries have already achieved.

If almost no parent on earth had more than two children the world's total fertility rate (average number of children per woman) would fall well below the replacement level (roughly 2.1). That is because many women choose voluntarily to have no children at all, or only one child.

A below replacement fertility rate will be tremendously difficult to achieve in the developing countries, where 90 percent of future population growth is projected to occur, and where couples typically want from three to six children. In 1992 the average fertility rate in these countries was 3.8.

In developing countries, there must be programs of real population control geared to family limitation (no more than two children) rather than to family planning alone. Family planning must be supplemented by non-coercive incentives to encourage the two-child **maximum** family.

In 1992 the world's total fertility rate was 3.3. According to the most recent United Nations projections, if present fertility and mortality rates continue, world population would grow to 109 billion in 2100 and 694 billion in 2150!!

By contrast, with a below replacement level fertility of 1.7, or about half the 1992 level, the United Nations projects that world population would peak at 7.8 billion in 2050, but then fall to 4.3 billion 100 years later. If we could only follow that path, the world would be well on its way to an optimum population of not more than two billion.

How We Can Help

The United States now devotes only about two percent of its foreign aid budget to international population programs. NPG advocates that we spend at least 50 percent of that budget, or about $8 billion a year, to help finance programs of real population control in Third World nations.

Furthermore, we should encourage Third World countries to recognize that a replacement level fertility rate is a totally inadequate goal. That is because, even after replacement fertility is reached in those countries, the momentum of past growth would still cause their populations to almost double.

Let's Stop Making Believe

If we could only turn from **MAKING BELIEVE** to realistic analysis as a basis for action, **the world could achieve a negative rate of population growth that would set us on the path to an optimum world population of not over two billion.**

The fate of the world, and of all future generations, hangs on our success in achieving that goal.

We need your support. We are a nonprofit, public interest organization established in 1972. Contributions to NPG are tax deductible to the extent the law allows. To become a member, please send us your check today.

YES! I want to become a member of NPG, and help you work toward a smaller U.S. and world population. I am enclosing my check for annual membership dues.

____$30 ____$50 ____$100 ____Other

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Mail to: Negative Population Growth, Inc.
210 The Plaza, P.O. Box 1206, Teaneck, NJ 07666

NP-3

Cascadia Wild

GRAY WOLVES and grizzly bears still roam the forests of the North Cascades, but it is hard to gauge how many of them there are or for how much longer these animals will wander the mountain range straddling Washington and British Columbia.

In fact, their presence could elicit a false sense that all is well with this vast expanse of wildlands, an impression that could lead to tragic consequences. "That both [animals] still exist here is evidence that the [Greater North Cascades Ecosystem] retains enough of its space and wildness to qualify it as one of the last and truest wilderness ecosystems in the lower 48 states. That both maintain but a precarious foothold..., however, is evidence that this ecosystem's wildness is slipping away...."

Cascadia Wild: Protecting an International Ecosystem, edited by Mitch Friedman and Paul Lindholdt, suggests that through logging, mining, grazing, damming, and overfishing we are destroying the ecosystem and instead "creating disconnected, dysfunctional eco-museums." Ten essays—packaged as chapters—detail the effects these industries have had on the forests, fields, and rivers that support the region's animals, plants, and human beings. The message is clear: if we ruin this wilderness, we may ruin ourselves.

The history of the exploitation of the Greater North Cascades Ecosystem's natural resources is a long one, but it has been partly mitigated by efforts at protection. Even so, species and ecological processes remain insufficiently protected to maintain the area.

The essays describe the natural and human history, ecological and cultural condition, and prospects for conservation within this Pacific Northwest ecosystem. The region includes national forests, the North Cascades National Park Complex, and public lands in British Columbia. In the book's introduction, Mitch Friedman writes, "Since our future is maintaining and restoring Earth, protecting Cascadia is a small but important step toward establishing our new roles...."

Many now see the value of viewing the Greater North Cascades region as an ecosystem. Efforts thus far to protect the region have been inadequate. The book suggests that this important area needs bold conservation initiatives. "If a park is too small to support viable populations of native species, it must be enlarged or linked to other resources."

The book offers a blueprint for restoring the Greater North Cascades Ecosystem. One of the actions called for is the establishment of a large Cascades International Park. (See page 26.)

If this were to happen, the writers believe, the ecosystem could be better protected, and actions on the British Columbia side that are affecting lands in the United States could be either stopped or better regulated.

"The Pacific Northwest may present an exception to history's rule, or even a turning point in the human relationship with our environment....To save the Greater North Cascades Ecosystem will require more than good intentions. It will require action."

Cascadia Wild: Protecting an International Ecosystem; paperback, $19.95, Frontier Publishing, Seaside, Oregon. Co-published by the Greater Ecosystem Alliance, Bellingham, WA 98227.

—*Linda M. Rancourt*

EcoOpportunities

Products/Services

Resorts

On the Northern Border

PARK PURSUIT tests your knowledge of the history and the natural resources represented within the National Park System. Clues can be found in past issues of the magazine, in books, or in literature about the parks.

The January/February quiz focuses on international parks in the United States, and information has been provided to aid you in identifying the sites depicted. Two of the chosen sites commemorate events with international importance, and the third pays homage to international peace.

The United States has enjoyed predominately peaceful relations with both of its neighbors. Although the United States fought a brief territorial war with Mexico, quarrels with Canada have never escalated into military action. A garden commemorates this relationship with our northern neighbor. Another site uses the scene of a battle to draw attention to the value of arbitration and negotiation for winning peaceful relations, and the third marks the site of a French settlement.

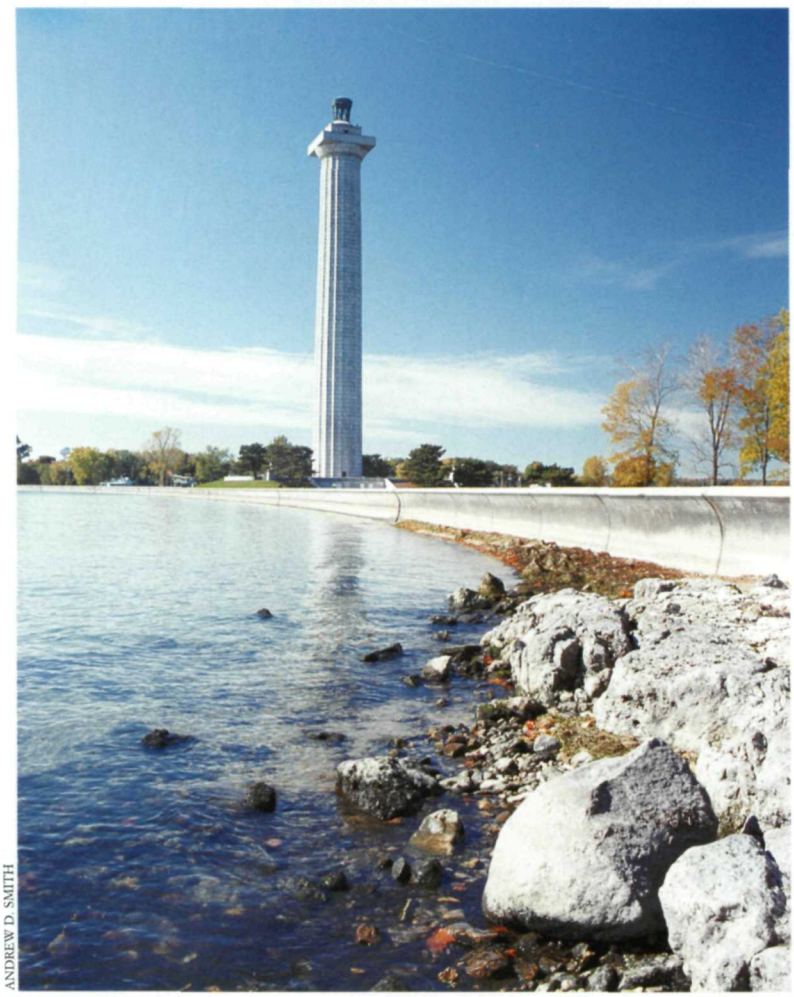
While these international parks have a valuable purpose, their scope and size are limited. These sites were not created in concert with another country. Within a few years, current negotiations between Canada and the United States may produce an international park, one recognizing that ecosystems have no boundaries. Within the next decade, the National Park System may include several more international parks established on the borders with Canada and Mexico. Extending protection across international borders is just another tool in preservation.

If you are unable to wait until the next issue for the answers to the quiz, call our 900 number from a touch-tone phone (see page 8). Answers to the November/December quiz are: 1. North Cascades National Park in Washington; 2. Great Falls Park in Virginia; and 3. Bridalveil Fall at Yosemite National Park in California.

1. Peaceful relations between Canada and the United States are commemorated here. North Dakota holds the 888-acre U.S. portion of the park. A nonprofit organization administers the park, which is considered an affiliate site of the National Park System. What park site is this?

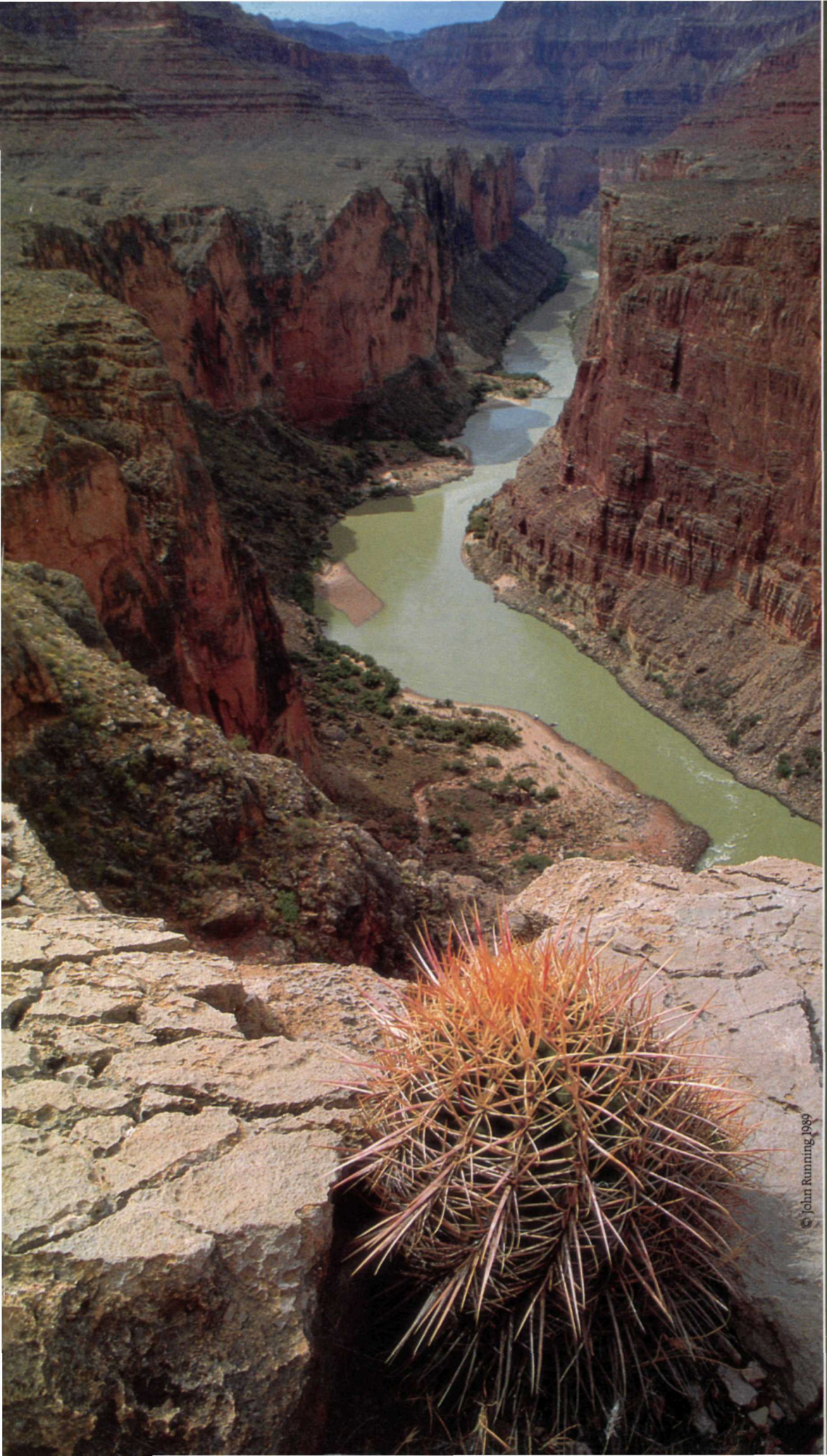
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

2. A French settlement of 1604 was attempted here and led to the founding of New France. This site is in the Saint Croix River on the Canadian border. What national park site is this?



ANDREW D. SMITH

3. Commodore Oliver H. Perry won the greatest naval battle of the War of 1812 on Lake Erie. This memorial—the world's most massive Doric column—was built "to inculcate the lessons of international peace by arbitration and disarmament." It was designed by Joseph Freedlander. What national park site is this?



The wild places are where we began.

When they end, so do we.

David Brower

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