

Commentary

NPCA Initiatives

Turkey Run Farm and Bandelier National Monument. Other than both being in the National Park System, what could they possibly have in common? The answer, quite simply, is an urgent need for funding. With the budget cuts of the new administration and its call for private initiatives rather than public dollars to accomplish objectives, NPCA, as a private nongovernmental group, is providing leadership where we feel the National Park Service's need is urgent and the public funding will not be forthcoming.

Turkey Run Farm Park-part of the George Washington Memorial Parkway in Virginia not far from Washington, D.C.-is a working replica of an eighteenth century Colonial farm that has provided unique opportunities for visitors to observe the rugged lifestyle of poor colonial farmers. More than 110 schools participate in the interpretive program at Turkey Run Farm, which also provides camping at the Family Environment Living Center. Because of budget cuts, the National Park Service found that it could no longer continue its program there and planned to close the farm. NPCA, working with Congressman Frank R. Wolf (R-Va., formerly an Interior Department employee), the National Park Service, and interested business and community leaders, formed the Friends of Turkey Run Farm to raise the funds necessary to keep the park open and to work for a long-term solution for maintaining the program.

Bandelier National Monument in New Mexico covers more than forty-six square miles of canyon country that contains cliff ruins and open pueblo ruins of late prehistoric period. During the 1930s the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) built beautiful cabins and the visitor center with thick stone walls and vigas in the typical pueblo architectural style. When NPCA's Southwest representatives, Russ and Pam Butcher, were there recently, they were distressed by the structural deterioration of the buildings they observed. No funds for restoring the buildings have been appropriated; and with the even greater budget cuts announced this year, no funds will be forthcoming. NPCA has offered its assistance in raising the necessary funds to restore these CCC buildings by establishing a Threatened Park Facility Fund.

Preserving our natural and historic heritage through our national parks is NPCA's basic mission, and anything that we might be able to do to assist in this goal, we will do. The primary responsibility for the maintenance and operation of our national parks lies with the federal government and is funded from public dollars; however, in extremely urgent cases, NPCA can take the initiative and work for solutions to these park problems. Turkey Run Farm and Bandelier National Monument are just two of the ways in which NPCA has demonstrated how the private sector can work with the federal governmentand for the citizens who enjoy and learn from our national parks.

—Paul C. Pritchard Executive Director

Editor's Note

Continued rising costs affect all of us personally these days, and organizational budgets are no less affected than are our family budgets. For example, the U.S. Postal Service is increasing magazine mailing rates *twice* this year—5 percent in March, and another 18 percent in July. During the past year NPCA has been studying ways to combat rising costs but still provide improved service to members.

In January the magazine went to a slightly smaller trim size in order to save money on paper, but at the same time we started using more color photos. Now, beginning in July, you will receive an expanded, improved magazine bimonthly. The expanded magazine will come to vou as combined issues-July/August, September/October, November/December. What we save on postage and other costs will be used on such improvements as more pages with more articles, more photographs, and even more color in each issue. We are counting on all our members to help us make this new effort successful.

We also urge members who want to be more involved in protecting our national parks to join NPCA's CONTACT program (p. 29). As a CONTACT you will receive NPCAlerts intermittently from your Washington staff on a variety of national parklands issues as the need arises. These alerts urge specific ways in which you can become involved—from letterwriting to testifying at hearings.

Above all, we urge you to send us your comments—constructive criticism as well as encouragement. We listen.—*EHC*





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The magazine of the National Parks & Conservation Association

Commentary

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COVERS Humpback whales, by James W. Greenough

Remarkable photographs from Southeast Alaska show humpback whales "lunge-feeding" in winter, when, it was thought, they usually have departed for warmer waters (pages 20–21). Conservationists are concerned about the decline of whales in Glacier Bay National Park (page 22).

National Parks & Conservation Association—established in 1919 by Robert Sterling Yard with the support of Stephen Mather, the first Director of the National Park Service—is an independent, private, nonprofit, public service organization, educational and scientific in character. Its responsibilities relate primarily to protecting, promoting, and enlarging the National Park System, in which it endeavors to cooperate with the National Park Service while functioning as a constructive critic. Life memberships are \$750 Annual membership dues, which include a \$7 subscription to National Parks, are \$150 Sustaining, \$75 Supporting, \$30 Contributing, \$22 Cooperating, and \$15 Associate. Student memberships are \$10 Single copies are \$2. Contributions and bequests are needed to carry on our work Dues in excess of \$7 and contributions are deductible from federal taxable income, and gifts and bequests are deductible from federal taxable income, and gifts and bequests are deductible from subscriptions or changes of address, and postmaster notices or undeliverable copies to National Parks & Conservation Association, 1701 Eighteenth Street, NW, Washington, DC 20009 When changing address, please allow six weeks's advance notice and send the address label from your latest issue along with new address. Adventising rates are available on request from headquarters National Parks is published monthly. Contributed manuscripts and photographs are welcome. They should be addressed to the Editor at Association headquarters and should be accompanied by a stamped, selfaddressed envelope. No responsibility can be assumed for unsolicited material. Articles are published for educational purposes and do not necessarily reflect the views of this Association. Title registered U.S. Patent Offree, Copyright e 1981 by National Parks & Conservation Association. Printed in the United States. Secondrelass postage paid at Washington, D.C., and at other offrees.

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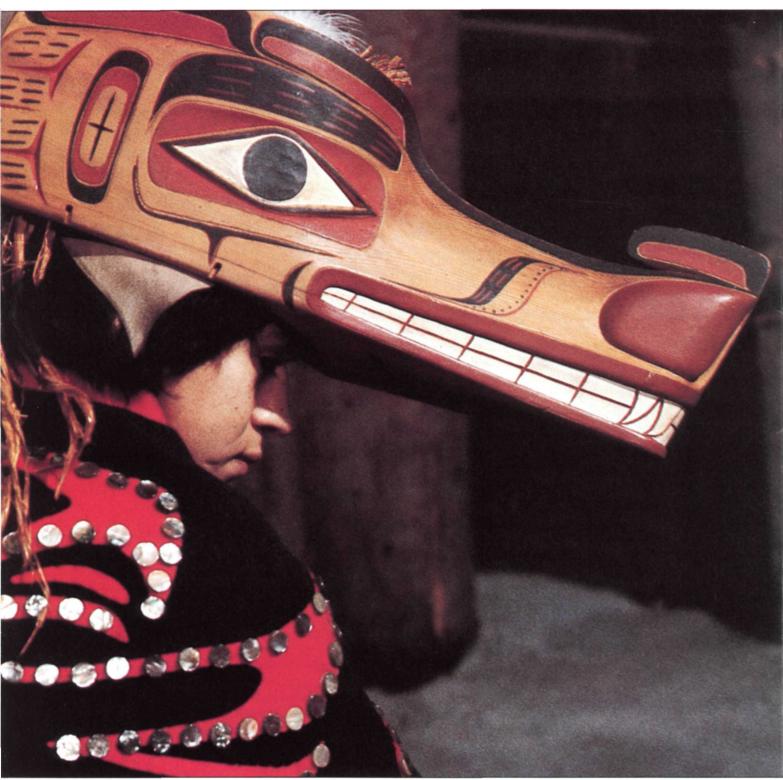
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Photos by Ruth and Louis Kirk

A young Makah dancer, Jeff Hottowe, descendant of the people of Osett, displays a traditional wolf headdress and cloak. The wolf motif is one of many animal designs that were found carved and woven into the artifacts from Cape Alava, part of the rich symbolism that expressed the people's close relationship with nature. Sudden mudslides on Washington's coast sealed a time capsule of rich Northwestern Indian culture at . . .

OLYMPIC'S POMPEII

Earl Clark

ver the past decade Washington State University archeologists working on a remote Pacific beach have unearthed a wealth of Indian artifacts unmatched in these United States. Until recently, the only way to view these remarkable discoveries was to hike four miles through the wilderness to the excavations on the roadless beach. But with opening of the Makah Cultural and Research Center at Neah Bay, about a dozen miles north, the best of these finds now are artfully displayed to portray how coastal Indians lived a thousand years ago.

Virtually all the artifacts displayed in the new facility were unearthed at Cape Alava, westernmost point of the contiguous forty-eight states, part of the coastal strip added to Olympic National Park by President Truman in 1953. To the Makah Indians it was Osett (or Hosett), one of five tribal villages close to Cape Flattery, where the Strait of Juan de Fuca meets the Pacific. For at least two thousand years the Makahs lived the good life on this rocky beach. Behind them the towering coniferous forest generated a limitless supply of logs, bark, roots, herbs, berries, and, of course, game. But more important to their way of life was the sea, for the beach yielded clams and mussels, while from the water came halibut. salmon, seals, sea lions, sea otters-and above all, whales. Even into this century the Makahs were renowned among Northwest tribes as fearless hunters of the world's largest mammals.

But there was a problem with this seemingly idyllic spot, for centuries one of the most populous Indian settlements on the Pacific Northwest coast. For the land sloped sharply up from the beach to a forested plateau; and, as is true of most of the Pacific Northwest's coastal bluffs, beneath the thin cover of soil was a mantle of clay. Saturated by drenching winter rains, perhaps triggered by one of the earthquakes that still periodically rumble through the region, a great mass of sodden blue clay broke loose about eight hundred years ago and came oozing down over an area where there is some evidence of human culture.

Time passed. Lush vegetation covered the slide, but the people returned to that compelling spot. Centuries went by. Then came another catastrophic slide, again burying all evidence of human habitation; and yet again those people rebuilt their village above the area occupied by their ancestors. But recurring landslides demolished each reconstruction, a major slide occurring about four hundred and fifty years ago, before the incursion of European settlers.

The Makahs could rebuild over the mudslides, but they could not stem the influx of hunters and trappers, then homesteaders, and finally loggers. Whites had named the village Ozette and in 1893 set aside some seven hundred acres surrounding it as the Ozette Indian Reservation, although these natives were members of the Makah tribe whose headquarters village was now called Neah Bay. Around the turn of the century, the Bureau of Indian Affairs ordered the "Ozettes" to send their children to school at Neah Bay. That sealed the village's doom, and the site of a settlement that had thrived from before the birth of Christ until the twentieth century gradually reverted to wilderness, though the Makah tribe retained title to the land.

Then one winter day in 1970 some alert beachcombers spotted what seemed to be unusual timbers protruding from a low bank behind the heaps of jumbled driftwood, exposed by winter storms. Word of their discovery got back to then-head of the Makah tribal council, Edward E. Claplanhoo, who contacted the anthropologists at Washington State University who several years earlier had excavated a 200-foot-long trench nearby. This previous dig had exposed shell and whalebone fragments that showed evidence of a two thousand-year-old culture capable of the difficult, cooperative venture of hunting whale and sea lion in ocean-going boats.



The dig at Cape Alava unearthed a wealth and variety of artifacts unprecedented in the United States. The mudslides that had periodically covered the settlements there had also preserved tools made of wood and fibers that ordinarily would have disintegrated centuries ago. Fishing and hunting gear, and stylized motifs carved into these

But this new discovery brought Dr. Richard D. Daugherty, who had directed the earlier excavations, out to the beach in April 1970; and what he found excited him. He and two associates began a careful probe; and the more they uncovered, the more their excitement grew. For they realized that they had found the framing of a very old longhouse, and this initial digging revealed not only its timbers but the first of what was to become an unprecedented flood of artifacts.

"A house like this, with virtually everything still in it, has never been found before," Dr. Daugherty exulted to the press in announcing the discovery.

The mudslides at Osett sealed the village in a time capsule of clay that preserved the longhouse's contents as securely as the hot ashes of Mount Vesuvius had preserved the ancient city of Pompeii in A.D. 79. So abrupt was the devastation at Osett that archeologists found wooden bowls still smelling of seal oil and baskets with red ochre paint still mixed and ready to apply.

"This is reputed to be the richest Indian archeological find in the United States, and one of the ten most significant archeology projects in the world," said Washington's Senator Henry M. Jackson in announcing a 1979 grant for the excavations—and the facts would seem to bear him out. When the crews resumed work last summer, a decade of digging had yielded an astonishing 55,000 artifacts, of which 40,000 were house parts, as well as more than 105,000 shell pieces, about 20,000 bone pieces, and literally tons of whalebone that was used as riprap.

What makes the Cape Alava finding unique is that these hats. blankets, mats, ropes, fishing gear, and art objects largely used highly perishable material such as grasses, bark, and roots. As long as they were encased in their clay seal, they remained intact through the centuries; but they would crumble away rapidly if exposed to the atmosphere by ordinary methods of excavation. To prevent this, Dr. Daugherty initiated a system of pumping water up from the sea, using ordinary garden hoses with a trigger release to flush the clay away from the artifacts.

As articles were unearthed, they were rushed into a preservative solution of polyethylene glycol, a method also used in Sweden to protect the Viking ship *Vasa* after it was recovered from the sea bottom. The waxy solution filled the pores of the material, in effect replacing the moisture that was sealed into it by the clay.

As the amazing variety and high quality of the Cape Alava finds became apparent, Dr. Daugherty and the Makahs began planning a museum at Neah Bay to house the discoveries. For what was being unearthed was the Makahs' own culture, and archeologists and tribal elders alike felt strongly that the artifacts of that culture should be kept under tribal control, not shipped off to gather dust in some distant white man's museum. With a grant from the Economic Development Administration, construction got underway in January 1977, and the Makah Cultural and Research Center opened June 3, 1979.

"We don't regard this as just a museum for tourists," says Center Director Greig Arnold, a 30-year-old Makah who received his degree in anthropology from the University of Washington. "Of course tourists are welcome, and we need them to make it operate. But primarily this is for the Makah people, a place to preserve our heritage." Classes teaching the Makah language got underway the first week the Center opened, and Arnold envisions it as a major development enhancing the Makah's strong sense of dignity and pride in their remarkable ancestry.

The Center is open from 11 am to 6 pm daily, and in its first year attracted about 100,000 visitors. The first sight to greet them is, appropriately enough, a pair of whaling canoes carefully replicated by young Makah carvers, backed by a huge

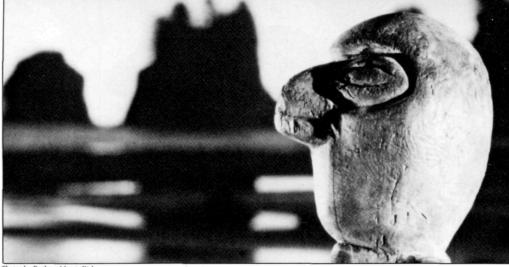


tools, indicate that the culture had developed a specialized sea-faring technology two thousand years ago. Descendants of that culture used similar techniques to hunt whales until the early twentieth century.

photomural depicting a turn-of-thecentury whale hunt. Nearby displays show Ozette artifacts associated with whaling: wooden paddles, sealskin floats, harpoon blades of mussel shell with barbs made from elk antlers, rope fashioned from twisted cedar boughs, baskets of cedar bark in which the rope was coiled, and woven whaler's hats.

Dominating the center of the museum is a full-size longhouse constructed to replicate those at Cape Alava-about 60 by 35 feet. That longhouse had six separate living areas, each with its own firepit. and each stocked with artifacts that revealed the status of its occupants. Thus the whaler's corner betokened his wealth, with harpoons, a wall screen, and benches and tables inlaid with shells. Bows and arrows in another room indicated a hunter lived there. In still another lived a woodworker, as evidenced by wood chips, bone tools, and goods in various stages of manufacture. A doorway in this longhouse looks out to a brightly lighted seascape, just as the Ancient Makahs looked upon the same view that enthralls visitors at Cape Alava today.

More than a thousand hats, mats, baskets, and blankets have come from Osett, mostly woven from cedar bark; and the best preserved of these are displayed at Neah Bay. The Makahs' artistic creativity is evidenced by such displays as a decorative wooden sword used for weaving; an owl head carved on a



hotos by Ruth and Louis Kirk

club; and all manner of decorative boxes, combs, toys, and bowls, befitting a people who enjoyed a bountiful environment and had the leisure to handcraft things for beauty's sake.

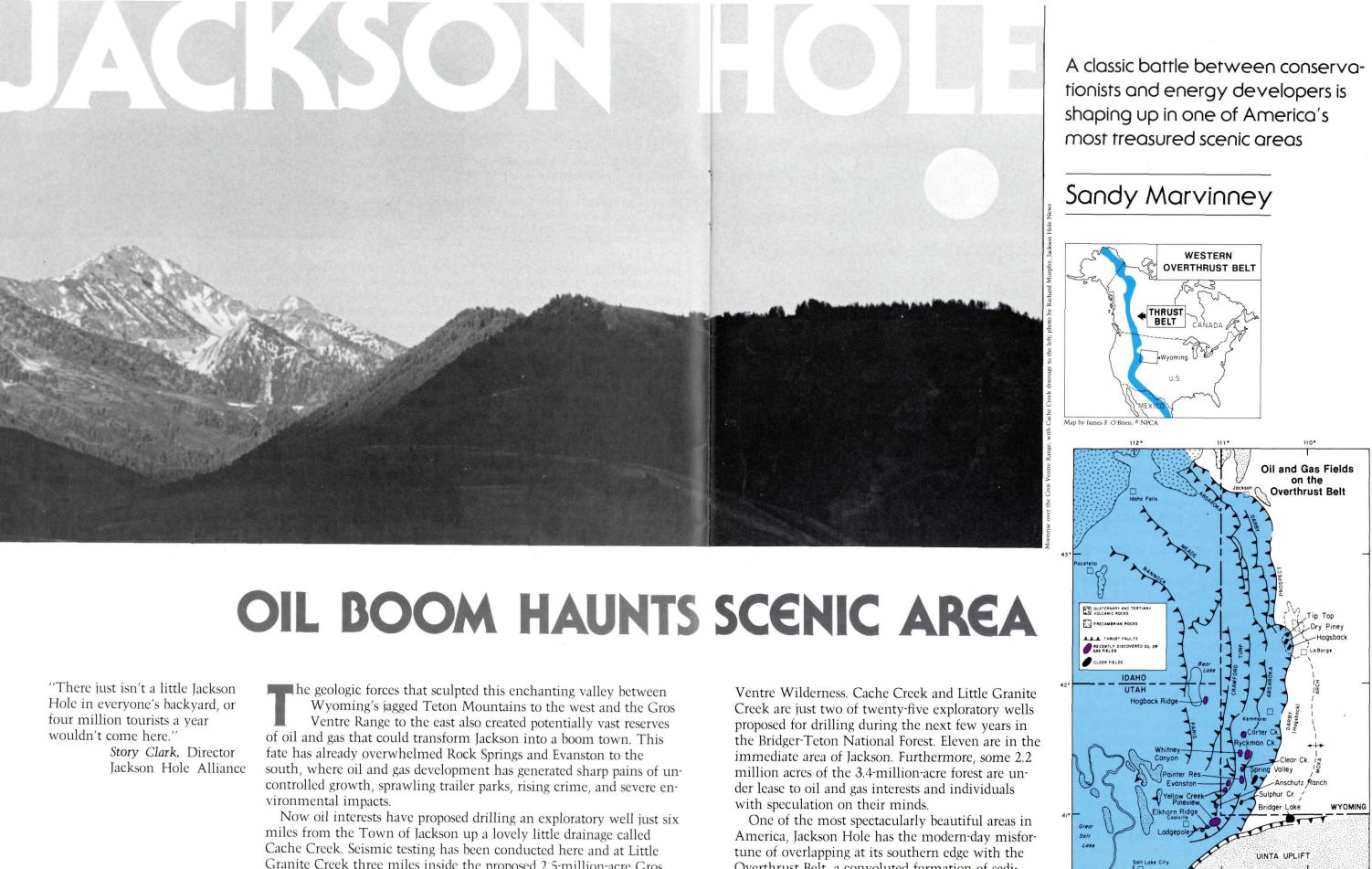
The painstaking work resulted in the excavation of two longhouses. Beneath them is still more evidence of human culture, about 800 years old. Radio carbon dating shows that human culture on this spot dates back at least two thousand years.

Excavation was done largely in the summer months, with fifteen to twenty people in the resident crew, supplemented by an influx of archeology students from all over the nation and abroad each summer, tripling or even quadrupling the live-in staff. Winter was given over to paperwork and cataloguing the summer's finds. About once a week a Marine Corps Reserve helicopter brought in supplies and took the week's discoveries back to the Neah Bay lab. Aside from this airlift, the only way to get there was to walk.

No matter—more than ten thousand visitors hiked four miles out to the dig last summer. Because of soggy soils, slick footing conditions, and in order to control erosion, the National Park Service has spiked down rough planks over log-stringers, creating a virtual boardwalk through the forest. The excavation will be officially closed on June 13, Ozette Day, which the Makahs have set aside as a day of rededication of the ancestral site. The dig will be covered over with moist earth to protect it for possible future study. But visitors still will be welcome at the site of the dig, where natives will provide interpretive programs in cooperation with Olympic National Park.

When those first timbers were discovered protruding from a bank eleven years ago, no one dreamed that they would lead to the most complete, perfectly preserved find of Indian artifacts yet discovered. But at least now the technology and culture of these affluent Northwest Coast Indians that continued greatly unchanged for more than two thousand years have been preserved for future generations in the beautiful and functional Makah Cultural and Research Center at Neah Bay.

A free-lance writer living in Port Angeles, not far from Neah Bay, Earl Clark wrote of "Washington's Wilderness Beach" for National Parks & Conservation Magazine (now National Parks) in February 1979. His articles also have appeared in American Heritage, Pacific Discovery, and American West.



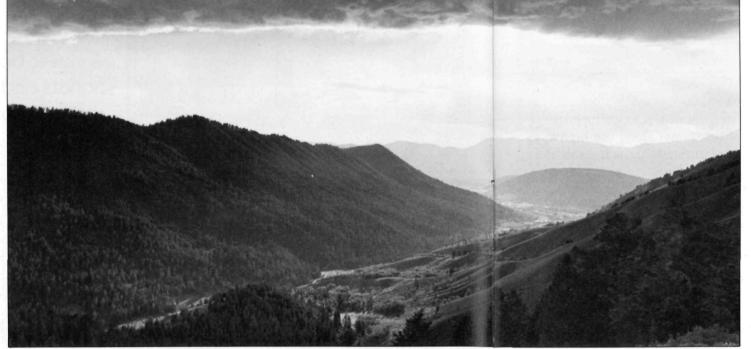
Granite Creek three miles inside the proposed 2.5-million-acre Gros

Overthrust Belt, a convoluted formation of sedi-

NATIONAL PARKS 🗆 JUNE 1981

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Drilling in the Cache Creek drainage and elsewhere near Jackson Hole would mean-at the leastdisturbances of sites such as this drilling pad in the Snake River Range. Full-field development would have a major impact on wildlife and would profoundly change the character of the beautiful valley treasured by so many people all over the country.



oking down Cache Creek, by Angus

mentary rock that runs along the Rocky Mountains from northern Alaska to Mexico. Oil experts claim the belt's pockets of oil and natural gas will be richer and more productive than any other reserves in the continental United States, and the industry is reportedly confident a boom is inevitable.

At stake is the integrity of the largest and most intact ecosystem in the lower forty-eight states. Nearly 18 million acres of federal land encompass two national parks—Yellowstone and Grand Teton—three national wildlife refuges, six national forests, and twelve existing or proposed wilderness areas.

he spectre of oil and gas rigs rising from the forested slopes above Jackson Hole has spurred area residents to take action. In 1979 the Jackson Hole Alliance, a local citizen's group concerned with responsible planning for the region, led a public campaign to postpone drilling and push for a thorough study of its impacts. This move won the support of the Town of Jackson, the Teton County Commissioners, and a majority of valley residents who fondly regard Cache Creek as their own backyard park off the beaten tourist track.

In a state where 65 percent of public revenue comes from taxes on coal, oil, and natural gas, Jackson is the first town to hold a stop sign up to the energy developers—a virtually unheard of stance in Wyoming. A key reason Jackson can confidently turn a cold shoulder to the oil industry is that the three million to four million tourists who pass through Jackson Hole annually account for 85 percent of local income. Summer is still the prime tourist season, but skiing has turned the valley into a popular winter resort also. Unlike other Wyoming towns, Jackson does not need oil and gas revenues. A Chamber of Commerce poll of the eight hundred business owners there has shown that 69 percent don't want energy developments marring the scenic beauty that brings the tourists and dollars rolling in.

As a concession to local concerns, the U.S. Forest Service and the U.S. Geological Survey agreed to prepare an environmental impact statement on the drilling proposal, only the second such EIS in the nation's history. The first, conducted in Florida in 1974, concluded that the Secretary of the Interior lacked authority to deny a drilling permit. A nodrill decision in Jackson Hole would set a national precedent. The fact that no drilling application has ever been refused for a valid lease leads to local speculation that the EIS is merely a bone tossed to public concern and a fruitless exercise that may delay, but may not halt, exploratory drilling.

The EIS will consider the impacts of road access to the proposed Cache Creek and Little Granite Creek sites as well as the option of servicing the exploratory drilling by helicopter. In addition, it will consider the impacts of full-field development if major reserves are found. The feasibility of buying back the Cache Creek and Little Granite Creek leases is another potentially precedent-setting option being addressed in the EIS, and an alternative endorsed last summer by an editorial in the Jackson Hole News.

Public sentiment is everything. With public sentiment nothing can fail. Without it nothing can succeed. -A. Lincoln

his adage is displayed in the office of Fred Kingwill, public information officer for the Bridger-Teton National Forest. He indicates a draft EIS will be released for public review in early June 1981, and a final statement and recommendations are due the following October. Kingwill stresses that the input of local people is vital, but that decisions must be tempered by regional and national views and policies. "The national forests are managed for the greatest good for the greatest number of people. Jackson Hole residents are most affected by the decision here, but people in New York City may need gasoline to drive to work, and they are part of the public base."

Complicating the whole issue is the fact that several federal agencies are involved in the review and decisionmaking process. The Forest Service manages and is charged with protecting the surface rights, whereas the Geological Survey controls subsurface rights; the Bureau of Land Management is responsible for selling leases and issuing drilling per mits. Phil Hocker, a local architect and one of the most active conservationists in the valley, accuses the Forest Service of "playing chicken" with the BLM and sacrificing its stewardship responsibility by bowing to pressures to recommend leasing permits. "People must become more responsive to the fact that a very large portion of their ownership of na-



il rig. Snake River Range, by Richard Murphy, Jackson Hole New

tional forests and land around the national parks is being contracted away for long periods of time and without effective control," Hocker states. "Whatever the oil and gas potential in the Gros Ventre, we know it is one of the prime wilderness candidates in the lower forty-eight states and the only one of thirty roadless areas in the Overthrust Belt that received a wilderness recommendation under the RARE II program [a Forest Service program to evaluate the wilderness potential of roadless areas] The oil in that area would amount to only a few weeks' supply in terms of world consumption. Is that worth permanently sacrificing a wilderness

According to Story Clark, director of the Jackson Hole Alliance, the valley's residents are up in arms over the prospect of drilling in Cache Creek, but few are aware of, or as yet aroused about, the potentially devastating impacts of full-field development. If given the green light, it would radically alter the community's social and economic structure. Intensive development pressures will erode the valley's pastoral character, spawning subdivisions among the farmlands, while oil trucks crowd campers on the already clogged main streets of town. Clark calls for a very careful consideration of the natural resources and values at stake.

"We need a more coherent approach to oil and gas development in the United States," she asserts. "Right now we drill anywhere there seems to be oil. It is time to set up a comprehensive priority system to protect areas of national importance like Jackson Hole."

Aside from impacts on the forest lands and pressure on Teton County, conservationists are also concerned about the effect of intensive energy development on neighboring national parklands and on the region's wildlife resources. Last summer a highly unusual sighting of five Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep in the open flatlands of the National Elk Refuge led to the speculation that they had been driven down from the Gros Ventre by seismic dynamite tests along sixty-eight miles of mountain ridgeline. One wildlife expert prays that "the only thing they find is gravel." Every winter more than 8.000 elk, the largest herd in North America, migrate down from the Yellowstone area to the refuge just north of Jackson. Disaster could befall the herd if developments or disturbances were to disrupt their migration pattern.

Jackson Hole attorney and NPCA trustee Hank Phibbs is extremely concerned about the impact of oil and gas development on wildlife. "The northwest Wyoming region contains perhaps the greatest and richest wildlife population in this country, including any comparably sized area of Alaska," Phibbs emphasizes. He notes that the oil companies have the money to build roads into areas that would otherwise remain roadless because it is not economical to build roads into these areas just to harvest their timber.

"Roads have a major impact on wildlife, particularly elk," Phibbs states. "Recent studies on the Bridger-Teton National Forest have shown that any area within one mile of a used road is simply abandoned by elk. When you consider the history of Forest Service failure to effectively enforce road closures in this forest, the magnitude of this impact comes into clearer focus: it is probably the end of some of our magnificant resident elk herds." Phibbs warns that the further destruction of wildlife habitat resulting from the use of these oil roads for timbering "will cause both short-term and long-term problems for wildlife; and the overall result will be, as usual, that wildlife is the loser."

ven if the citizens of Jackson Hole succeed in holding the oil boom at bay, intense growth and development pressures already threaten their pastoral landscape. In the past decade the population of Teton County has doubled to nearly 10,000 and is growing at a rate of about 12 percent annually. Land prices have reached stratospheric levels befitting the neighboring peaks; shopping centers and trailer parks sprawl along the highways into town; and prime farmlands are being subdivided at an alarming rate.

A comprehensive county land use plan enacted in 1978 is considered an important first step in guiding growth, but it lacks the teeth for effective regulation. Conservationists in the valley continue to fight for legislation to preserve open space and farmlands through federal purchase of scenic easements. Such legislation was introduced into Congress several years ago and passed the House but made no headway in the Senate. A revised version of the measure has gained considerable support among local landowners, but the Teton County Board of Commissioners refused even to consider the possibility of such a federal program and declined a request to approach the Wyoming delegation about setting up hearings. Nonetheless, in response to requests by landowners, Wyoming's Senator Malcolm Wallop plans to conduct exploratory field hearings this year to discuss the feasibility of various alternatives for protecting open land in lackson Hole.

National concern for the future of Jackson Hole has built almost as rapidly as the development pressures have. In the past year, major feature articles have appeared in newspapers as far afield as the *Wall Street Journal*, the *Denver Post*, the *Minneapolis Tribune*, and the *Washington Post*. Jackson Hole residents who seek to protect their beautiful valley will undoubtedly find strong support among the tens of millions of Americans who have traveled far from their own backyards to enjoy the natural wonders of this truly special place. □

A free-lance writer based in Seattle, Sandy Marvinney formerly was editor of Wilderness Report for the Wilderness Society in Washington, D.C. She first visited Jackson Hole when she was nine years old, and it has remained one of her favorite places ever since.

For more information on the Forest Service EIS or the exact date of hearings to be held in late June, contact the U.S. Forest Service or the Jackson Hole Alliance, Box 2728, Jackson, WY 83001 (307/733-9417). To submit written comments, contact the U.S. Forest Service, P.O. Box 1888, Jackson, WY 83001 (307/733-2752).

Is Sport Shooting a Responsibility of the National Park Service?

When President Carter signed the bill H.R. 39 into law on December 2, 1980, it became Public Law 96-487, the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act. It established in Alaska four new national parks, two new national monuments, and it enlarged one existing national park—Mount McKinley—changing its name to the more appropriate and beautiful Indian name, Denali. It also enlarged two existing national monuments—Katmai and Glacier Bay—redesignating them as national parks, because both of them conformed to the highest standards for national park status. Up to this point, the Act constitutes a grand achievement, for it raises to new heights the splendor of our superb systems of national parks and monuments.

Now this otherwise glorious Act became tarnished, because Congress has introduced a quite new category of land for National Park Service care—land to be used as "sport" shooting grounds. In an attempt to get around the fact that sport shooting is not permitted in national parks and monuments, lands in this category are to be called "national preserves." There are ten of them in Alaska, as provided by the Act.

What I want to say about national preserves is mostly based on my testimony before the House Interior Committee hearings on H.R. 39. If we are to retain the sanctuary principle with regard to national parks and monuments, we shall have to keep in mind a provision that occurs in almost every one of the individual park establishment Acts, which says in effect: any person shooting, trapping, capturing, or molesting the native wildlife of this park will be prosecuted. Congress has adhered to that basic principle through many decades, for it is a principle that distinguished our national parks and national nature monuments from all other federal land categories. It is clearly evident that the national park and national nature monument idea affords proof of a significant forward step in human spiritual advancement. To those who have enjoyed the parks and monuments as they have originally been intended to be enjoyed—for esthetic experience—can hardly help but regard this change in viewpoint as a long and dangerous step backward.

The change began with establishment of certain national lakeshores and seashores and some of the national wild and scenic rivers, which have been open to sport shooting. It probably went from there, in 1950, to Grand Teton National Park. Disguised as an elk herd control measure, a Senate bill, S. 3409, was enacted into law with a provision to "deputize" gunners as park rangers on a first-come first-served basis. This in spite of the fact that herd control was being carried on in the adjoining national forest, and there was no necessity to open the park for that purpose. The purpose of deputizing the gunners was to keep opponents to this move quiet. Perhaps some were taken in by it.

The next move toward shooting in National Park Service areas came with enactment of a bill to acquire the Big Cypress Swamp, which adjoins Everglades National Park on the northwest. This area, almost as large as the park itself, assures a continuous flow of fresh water into the park on its western side, when it was threatened with being drained and turned into a housing development. It ensures the survival of plant and animal life in that part of the park, as well as in the swamp itself. For

enactment of that bill, Congress deserves high praise. But, "under terms of the bill, hunting and trapping would be permitted in the Big Cypress Swamp, subject to state and federal regulations." What the bill should have done was to provide a cut-off date for "hunting and trapping." Instead, it was here that the designation "national preserve" was first conceived.

Next came the Big Thicket in Texas—another area kept open to sport shooting and, to soft-pedal the misuse, was similarly designated a national preserve. Following that came the ten Alaska national preserves.

Let's give this Alaska matter further consideration. Before any legislation could be drafted to protect areas that might meet the standards for national parks and monuments, the National Park Service sent task forces into Alaska to go over the entire state to seek out the finest of scenery and wildlife areas. The outcome was that the Service worked up maps to show what could be done about the most esthetically important lands. The results were thrilling. But then, to actually save all of the land the Service considered should be set aside as parks, the Service realized that their proposals would have to be made smaller. There were the mining interests. the logging interests, and the gunning fraternity—all wanting much more land left open for their activities than the Service would leave, well knowing that parks and monuments always are closed to the accommodation of their interests.

The result was that the Service, remembering the national preserve device to bypass the no-sport-shooting

principle, latched onto the idea for Alaska. All the land we can't get for parks and monuments free of sport shooting and other nonconforming uses, they decided, we'll open up not only to sport shooting but to other noncommercial uses not otherwise considered appropriate for the parks and monuments. Congress and certain private organizations decided to go along on the idea because, as they said, we at least can keep unnecessary roads, pipelines, and such out. Furthermore, they said, if the time comes when we want to terminate sport shooting, we can phase it out. How quickly they have forgotten the Grand Teton blunder! This writer has made many efforts-as have others, as well—to end the shooting there; but it goes on and on year after year with no hope of an end in sight. The elk shooting was stopped for two years, and we dared to believe that was the end.

The National Park Service has supported the no-shooting principle since the beginning of the Service in 1916. How, then, can the Service do an about-face now, well understanding the threat it poses to all the parks and monuments? There's an expression much in use these days—"brainwash." Has that actually happened to the Service? If not, then what has happened?

I wish it might have been possible to block enactment of H.R. 39 - until it had been amended to exclude provisions for sport shooting and the national preserve designation. It is right that all of the highly scenic Alaska areas proposed for National Park Service care be protected from nonconforming uses, and to

have them become sanctuaries for wildlife and for the enjoyment and inspiration of ours and future generations; but I rebel at being coerced by a special interest group to take action that can lead to placing in hazard not only the Alaska parks and monuments, but all of our other national parks and monuments. No matter how important those ten national preserve areas may be, they certainly are not worth so great a price. And if in fact it turned out that we could not include them in the national park boundaries free of all nonconforming uses, then we should have turned them over to the Fish and Wildlife Service. In the care of that Service they could have been subject to sport shooting, which is common practice in many of the refuges. But this should not have been necessary. In the past, the National Park Service has been able to stand up to gunner opposition. Have Congress and the Service lost the ability to face up to objections?

Consider what condition our national parks and monuments would be in today had we weakly given in to the many other special interest groups that never cease to pound on Interior Department doors for admittance to the parks and monuments. At the beginning of World War II, the loggers wanted to invade Olympic National Park to cut Sitka spruce for airplane construction. Their cry was long, and loud, and they acted under the guise of the war effort. The Secretary of the Interior said "no" with emphasis. Soon it was found that wooden planes were splintered by bullets, endangering the men in them. Suddenly there were vast quantities of aluminum for planes. Just after the war, the loggers tried again to open Olympic to cut wood, this time under the guise that men returning from the war needed wood for houses. The Park Service stood its ground, and all eight bills that had been introduced in Congress to sever the rainforest from the park died even before hearings were held.

Loggers tried to raid Great Smoky Mountains National Park for its magnificent stand of red spruce, hemlock, and Fraser fir along the high ridges. They never got in.

Perhaps the toughest struggle ever waged in all national park and monument history was brought on not by outsiders, but by one of the Park Service's sister bureaus, the Bureau of Reclamation, which wanted to build two 500-foot-high dams inside Dinosaur National Monument. The battle raged for six years. At the start, word got around about the threat to the monument, and before long the newspapers, magazines, and the various citizen groups of all kinds jumped into the fray. Hearings were held, and in the end the Bureau of Reclamation was defeated. The thick volume of the printed record of the House hearings in many parts reads like fiction and is worth anybody's time. Those who attended the hearings, which went on for nearly two weeks, cannot forget the vigorous, courageous defense of park principles by the late Republican Representative John P. Saylor of Pennsylvania, at that time the strongest supporter of national park integrity in Congress—a member of the House Interior Committee.

Under-Secretary Tudor of the Interior Department was the first witness, and his effort to build a case for the dams droned for more than two hours on the first day of the hearings. From evidence he had already given, to the effect that Steamboat Rock in the monument's Echo Park area might remain as a narrow peninsula of only a few feet high above the reservoir's surface, with 500 feet under water, Saylor spoke up. He said, "In any case, Mr. Tudor, I think you will have to admit that what the dam would do to Echo Park and the monument might be considered drastic, even though you like to speak of it as merely altering the scenery." Saylor had a powerful voice, and when he spoke he got attention. He went on, "I might say to you, Mr. Secretary, that the people of my district are more wrought up about the Bureau of Reclamation and the Department of the Interior having what one man wrote to me and called 'effrontery' to set up a policy of invading national parks and monuments than any other action that the department has taken."

Tudor had the audacity to contradict curtly, "We are not setting up such a policy."

"But unfortunately," Saylor thundered, "if this is built, everyone will say, 'you did it in Dinosaur National Monument, so you can do it anywhere else.' " Saylor ended by saying emphatically, "That is the policy that follows, regardless of what the Bureau might think." Precedent-setting plays havoc with the parks. As for the gunning enthusiasts, they do not have to go to the parks to do their killing, for there are vast land areas all across the country where they can carry on their pastime. I'll modify that: there is a great deal too much land open for their destructive purpose, and the parks are little enough to be placed and kept under protection from "sport" shooting of wildlife.

Victor H. Cahalane, chief biologist, National Park Service, from 1936 to 1955, in a letter written in 1961 to the then Director Conrad L. Wirth, National Park Service, said, "The sanctuary principle is a keystone in the basic concept of national parks. The principle was adopted because a natural animal community cannot be maintained for public benefit, education, and enjoyment if hunting is permitted. Where public hunting is a regular feature, animals become so wary that they are rarely seen by nonhunting visitors."

Although officials of the Park Service receive letters expounding all dangers that could accrue to the national park and monument systems in the event they should give in to the idea of supplying shooting preserves for the public, these warnings were ignored, and now there seems to be only one way out: to have Congress enact legislation closing all areas in National Park Service care to sport shooting and dropping that newest of land designations, "national preserve." □

Devereux Butcher is former Executive Secretary and Editor of National Parks & Conservation Association.

PARK CONCESSIONS G CONCESSIONERS

Concessioners have gained too much power over policy and management decisions in the National Park System

Michael Frome

When the National Park Service decided three years ago to reduce drastically the scope of overnight lodgings in the Chisos Basin of Big Bend National Park in order to restore the natural setting, the park concessions operator protested, with considerable support from the tourist industry of West Texas.

New accommodations emerged, however, *outside* the park. Lajitas on the Rio Grande, the latest and largest development, bills itself as the gateway to Big Bend country. It offers guided motor coach trips, riding, hiking, and rafting on the Rio Grande. Lajitas is designed to accommodate a varied clientele from school groups on field trips to business conferences. The tennis court, swimming pool, and air strip would be considerd inappropriate in a national park—but Lajitas conducts its affairs free of federal restrictions and red tape.

Moving visitor facilities outside the park boundary provides one promising approach to the knotty problem of park concessions. It won't work everywhere, but it is well worth considering wherever possible. Concessions were born in another era, when visitors would arrive in the large western parks by railroad and proceed to tour in carriages or open buses. Those times are long gone. The Reagan administration ought to be the first to recognize this fact of life and to cheer the idea of shifting accommodations outside the parks. That, after all, represents the essence of free enterprise, initiative, innovation, and significant money-saving for the taxpayer. Alas, this is not to be the case.

At a conference with national park concessioners in March, Interior Secretary James G. Watt made clear his intențion to perpetuate the worst of the old system. "You are going to play a tremendously important and growing role in the administration of our national parks," Watt told the concessioners, "and we are going to reach out to involve you in some areas that you haven't been asked to be involved in before."

It would be one thing if park concessioners over the years had demonstrated concern and responsibility for park resources. But the concern of the most vocal and powerful of them has been for the protection of their vested interest of the public subsidy they receive for private profit. As Don Hummel, head of Glacier Park, Inc., a man who swings a wide axe with his political connections, declared at the same conference in March: "We've ignored the people. We've protected the animals. We protect the ecosystems, but we haven't put the money where people can use it."

He wasn't talking about his own money, of course, but rather about public funds. He was advancing the cause of those concessioners who extract rather than invest. They have allowed park visitors to stay overnight in buildings that constitute fire hazards and have marketed the worst kinds of trashy trinket souvenirs at exorbitant profit.

Their way is Secretary Watt's evident choice. "I will err on the side of public use versus preservation," he told the concessioners—as though it's possible to have any use without a preserved resource.

While the Secretary has spoken of his respect for professional resource managers, his signal to park professionals is simple and direct: Don't buck the concessioners; they're in the driver's seat, and never mind the process of public administration.

"Don't be hung up on protocol," he urged the concessioners. "If a personality is giving you a problem, we're going to get rid of the problem or the personality, whichever is faster."

That is hardly the way to encourage (a) professional management; (b) preservation of park resources, or (c) private initiative to save public funds.

Twenty-five years ago, when Everglades National Park was still new, the Park Service resisted the idea of siting anything but a day-use area of Flamingo, at the edge of Florida Bay. John Pennekamp, a newspaper editor who had helped in the campaign to establish the park, led the fight for a full-blown tourist complex at Flamingo. Though it opened with promise, the concession has operated through the years only with problems.

Virtually every park superintendent serving in the Everglades has recommended closing Flamingo, citing the abundant accommodations at Homestead and other nearby resort communities. This move might logically have been made when the former concessioner gave up the ghost, but the Park Service transferred the contract to Restaurant Associates. Despite considerable improvement and clean-up, the facility is still definitely substandard.

lamingo is not the only national park lodgings where a travel agent would hesitate to book clients. Glacier National Park is the pride of Montana, but the Mobil Travel Guide carries this note: "Many of the following accommodations are in the park, run by Glacier Park, Inc., under concession from the Department of the Interior; they are not rated but are included for the convenience of those who wish to stay in the park proper." The AAA Tour Book carries similar wording, placing members on notice that hotels in the park do not meet AAA standards. Accommodations are provided in old wooden structures built for the Great Northern Railroad, the park concessioner in the distant past. In 1979 the park superintendent, Philip Iversen (who has since retired), became alarmed about potential

fire hazards and commissioned an investigation by three outside experts. The same conditions prevailed for years, but the Park Service allowed itself to be overawed by Don Hummel and his political connections.

The fire experts found deficiencies that would scare the pants off Beelzebub. As a result, the Park Service screwed up its courage and listed more than fifty improvements that must be made before the hotels would be allowed to open for public occupancy in June 1980. Even with these improvements, the report warned that "this emergency upgrading is only temporary and not a cure-all for continuous operation. Measures must be taken immediately or as soon as possible to correct the other life safety deficiencies. . . . "

Some of the most inadequate facilities are in Yellowstone, the flagship national park, where they should be the most exemplary. Here again the Mobil Travel Guide refuses to rate accommodations, and AAA warns that they do not meet inspection standards. The state of things in Yellowstone reflects a sorry saga.

In 1965 Congress enacted the Concessions Policy Act, providing for longterm leases and "possessory interest," a move intended to encourage investment by the concessioners to improve facilities. In the following year the Yellowstone contract was awarded to General Host, a mini-conglomerate, on condition that it spend \$10 million on renovation and modernization. After a promising start, General Host chose to follow a course of minimum expenditure and maximum profit. The government finally canceled the contract in 1979, but only after buying out General Host for \$19 million. TWA Services, a subsidiary of the Trans World Corporation, is now operating the Yellowstone concession on a two-year interim contract.

Concessions operations vary widely. Some are privately held corporations, including small family-held operations. A few are nonprofit cooperatives, which the National Park Service encouraged as a means of providing service in areas that private enterprise considered risky and unprofitable. Recent years have witnessed the entry of conglomerates in the large parks, such as ARA in Shenandoah; MCA in Yosemite; Del Webb at Glen Canyon and Lake Mead National Recreation Areas; Canteen in Crater Lake and its affiliate, TWA Services, in Yellowstone, Zion, Bryce, and North Rim of the Grand Canyon; and Amfac, which has acquired Fred Harvey, Inc., and its interests at the South Rim of the Grand Canyon and in Death Valley National Monument.

Some critics deplore the trend to conglomeration. However, in weighing service to the public, concern for protection of park features, and maintenance of park management principles, any generalization proves futile. The bigs, independents, and nonprofits don't factor out as they should; and they are subject to change as their managements change.

There ought to be a better system than the present one. During New Deal days government ownership and operation were considered but ruled out. Curiously enough, that system operates with efficiency in the national parks of South Africa. And state park facilities often are owned by state governments. Another alternative that may still have value is for the government to expand its present efforts to construct and own visitor facilities, and lease them to private concessioners.

Generally, however, the system of private entrepreneurs furnishing lodgings, meals, and other services under contract and supervision of the government is firmly fixed and tough to change. "This is the place for private enterprise, rather than for the U.S. government as a competitor to it," insists Robert Giersdorf, one of the sparkplugs of the Alaska tourist industry, who operates the concession at Glacier Bay National Park. "It is the government's role to set the rules and provide guidance in order to insure the proper kind of service."

Giersdorf offers an added thought that is basic to effective management, but easy to overlook: "The park concessioner has both an opportunity and responsibility. The concessioner must see himself in a partnership with the National Park Service. It just won't work to be in an adversary role. Above all, it is up to us to deliver value and a quality experience."

If only that were the universal idea!

Concessioners—or at least some of them-have been faulted for placing profit far ahead of performance; but the federal government over the years has failed to provide adequate guidance and supervision or to define a set of clear. workable rules. Political pressure has had a lot to do with this failure. Professionals have been intimidated, silenced, and transferred. The National Park Service should be able to challenge itself on the necessity for and specific types of visitor facilities; it isn't easy, but the agency should come up with a position defensible against any quarter on increasing, decreasing, or eliminating facilities.

Now that questions of public health and safety have emerged, it may be fitting to ask whether aged facilities should be removed instead of repatched. Yosemite Valley today is congested with more than a thousand buildings, stores, homes, garages, amusements, lodgings, and restaurants. Proposals are pending to phase out over the next twenty years most of these structures, including clothing stores, employee housing, warehouses, and maintenance buildings, relocating them on the perimeter of the park.

Experience at Yosemite shows that major steps can be taken. A few years ago the floor of the Valley, the scenic core of the park, had become snarled with an endless traffic jam. The granite walls above the Valley trapped exhaust fumes and campfire smoke, and on some weekends pollution levels exceeded those in the Los Angeles basin at its worst. Finally the Park Service introduced mass transit: visitors park at designated lots and move around the Valley aboard free open-air trams. It's a system that works.

The Grand Canyon is another trouble spot. In 1979 a decision was reached to phase out the use of motors on boats and rubber rafts running the Colorado River through Grand Canyon National Park in order to protect the park's resources and to assure visitors a natural experience.

Until 1949 barely one hundred adventurous souls had followed the route down the Colorado pioneered by John Wesley Powell eighty years before. Since then the volume of use has skyrocketed. The popularity of the river has proven its own undoing, resulting in problems of public health, sanitation, and safety; trampling of vegetation; destruction of natural and archeological features; and noise and water pollution. In order to protect rivers for people, they need to be protected *from* them as well.

But this is only part of the picture. Several of the commercial river outfitters, operating under permit as park concessioners, have been fighting the phase-out. "Why pick on us," they demand, "when the National Park Service tolerates a tourist ghetto on the South Rim?" There is a lot in what they say. Park officials have permitted a small city to spawn at the edge of one of the world's natural spectacles, with all kinds of support establishmentsschools, banks, hospitals, entertainment centers-to serve employees and their families, many of whose work does not even relate to the Grand Canyon.

Any change for the better at the Grand Canyon won't come easily, at least not any time soon. Secretary Watt related to the concessioners at their March conference his impressions of a trip he had made on the Colorado River last fall. The first day, he said, was thrilling, filled with spectacular observation. Then things began to wear.

"The second day started to get a little tedious, but the third day I wanted bigger motors to move that raft out. There is no way you could get me on an oarpowered raft on that river—I'll guaran-

Michael Frome recently received the Mort Weisinger Memorial Award from the American Society of Journalists and Authors for the best magazine article published by a member of the Society during 1980. Mike's article, "The Un-Greening of our National Parks," ran as a five-part series in The Travel Agent. Portions were adapted and updated for tee you that. On the fourth day we were praying for helicopters and they came."

Thus the appreciation of nature that now prevails in the administration of our national parks.

Several years ago the chief warden of Serengeti National Park toured the United States, visiting Yellowstone, where he was struck by the sight of more people than animals, and the Grand Canyon, where he found supermarkets selling everything from gimcrack souvenirs to wrist watches, television sets, and motorcycles. "In Tanzania's national parks," he commented, "we avoid such things."

If Secretary Watt and the Reagan administratioin, for which he presumes to speak, seriously want data on which to base criticism of the National Park Service, I for one can furnish plenty of it. My data, however, is designed to enable parks personnel, the majority of whom are competent, conscientious, and committed, to perform more effectively in the public behalf, and not to tear them down. The national parks as Americans know and love them today would be as nothing without the men and women in the ranks and without the agency to which they are rightfully devoted.

Of course there is room for improvement, and room for criticism to make it happen. But this Administration needs to get the message that Americans cherish the national parks. They don't want them dominated by profitmotivated concessioners, any more than they want the parks opened to snowmobiling, hunting, or mining. National parks have endured longer than any office-holder, whether elected or appointed, because that's the way the people want it.

January, February, and current issues of National Parks. Members will be glad to learn that Mike's recent book, The National Parks, published in 1977 with photographs by David Muench (Rand McNally), is now available in paperback, along with his best known work, Strangers in High Places (University of Tennessee Press).

Transfer of Former HCRS Programs Leads to NPS Reorganization

The hiker on a national scenic trail, the paddler on a wild river, the picnicker in a state park, and the homeowner taking a tax deduction for restoring a historic building all benefit from the programs once administered by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service (HCRS). Although the agency itself has fallen victim to the budget cuts of the Reagan administration, many surviving programs will be transferred to the National Park Service. The transfer order has set off an intense battle over the reorganization of the Park Service. At stake are access to decisionmakers and millions of dollars in funding for a dozen programs. The cultural resources -historic and prehistoric sites, memorials, monuments, and battlefields-administered by the Park Service have the most to lose or gain from this reorganization.

Supporters of these programs feared an even tougher battle for adequate funding from a proposed reorganization plan that would have pitted cultural parks against the large constituencies of existing HCRS outreach programs. Comments from NPCA and other conservation and historic preservation groups have led the Park Service to reconsider grouping the cultural parks and the HCRS outreach programs under the same associate director. The new plan would maintain the two programs under separate associate directors.

In the 1960s HCRS-then called the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation-was created to conduct recreation planning on the federal level. In 1977 the Carter administration changed the agency's name and expanded its mission. In addition to recreation planning, the Service assumed new roles in historic preservation and the natural landmarks program. In theory HCRS now had a threefold mission: planning state and federal recreation; safeguarding and surveying outstanding natural areas; and promoting private, state, or local historic preservation. The last third of this mission is most likely to be affected by the ongoing reorganization.

The administration's original plan for the Park Service would have added a new associate director for archeology and history, responsible for a mix of direct federal programs and technical services that provide information and grants to state planners and individual citizens. In effect this proposal would have forced the already hard-pressed cultural resource programs (represented by the anthropology, history, historic architecture, and curitorial divisions) to compete for attention and funding with programs serving state historic preservation planning and with services to homeowners interested in private restoration. Both of these last two areas have much larger constituencies than the cultural parks do.

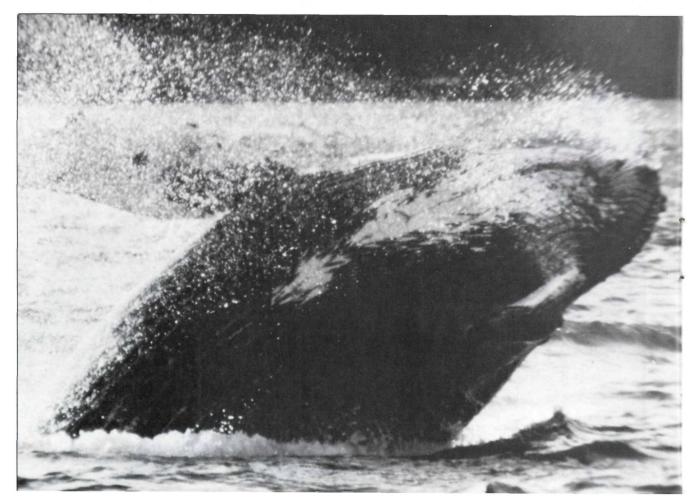
Reacting to recommendations from NPCA and other conservation and historic preservation groups, the Park Service has abandoned this plan. NPCA argued that placing these programs in the same division as the cultural parks program would cause competition for scarce dollars between this strong private constituency and the managers of the park's cultural resources. Any single associate director would have to represent both the professional managers of the cultural parks and the millions of private citizens who utilize these external technical services.

In attempting to unify NPS and HCRS, managers of the Department of the Interior confronted two agencies with very different missions and constituency groups, especially in the area of cultural resource programs. Any attempt to blend these programs had to assure that one of these constituencies would not overwhelm the other. Pointed questioning by Representative John Seiberling, chair of the House Parks and Public Lands Subcommittee. during a recent budget hearing revealed the shape of the original Park Service plan. Effective participation by NPCA and other groups has resulted in a new plan that promises better management of the public resources of the National Park System and these technical services designed for the states and private homeowners. If Secretary Watt approves the plan, it should be implemented by May 31, 1981.-Laura Beaty, Administrative Assistant, and Jim Jubak, Assistant Editor, NPCA











These remarkable photographs give a rare glimpse of humpback whales lunge-feeding in November and early December in waters off Southeast Alaska. In lunge-feeding, the whales plunge to the bottom, then shoot upward directly beneath schools of fish. The whales burst from the sea, mouths agape, their throats bulging with fish and seawater. The water is then strained out through the baleen (a series of plates in the mouth acting as a sieve), and the fish are swallowed. Seagulls and sea lions closely follow the feeding whales to feast on the leftovers. Plumes of mist in the frosty air, from the whales' exhaled breath, betray their presence at the surface.

It was previously believed that humpbacks do not winter in Alaska. During his stay at the feeding grounds, Greenough sighted as many as seven whales lunging in a single group—more than are usually seen together.

Humpback whales are more often seen in Alaskan waters in summer, when Glacier Bay National Park is a favorite feeding ground. In recent years, however, the population in the bay has declined

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Conservationists are concerned about this decline, and researchers are trying to determine its cause. Some believe that boats bringing visitors to the beautiful, remote bay may be driving the great mammals away. Another theory is that populations of food sources for whales have decreased in Glacier Bay. The Park Service is in the process of establishing regulations to prevent disturbances by boats and depletion of food species by commercial fishing in the bay. \Box

James Greenough, a clinical psychologist, spends his free time pursuing his interest in wilderness travel, geology, birds, and photography. He has traveled extensively through Alaska by bushplane, kayak, and raft, and on foot, and has spent four summer seasons in the northern or interior Alaskan wilderness.

NPCA Report

NPCA Recommends Removing Mountain Goats from Olympic

The exotic mountain goat (*Oreamnos americanus*) should be removed from Olympic National Park, NPCA urged in support of a recent Park Service goat management proposal. "Despite their appeal to visitors, exotic mountain goats do not belong in an environment recognized both nationally and internationally as a unique natural area," NPCA said.

The park's mountain goats are descendants of twelve animals introduced into Olympic Mountains in the late 1920s. Although mountain goats naturally occur in the nearby Cascade Mountains, they are not native to the isolated Olympic Range.

The goats have easily adapted to Olympic National Park. The present estimated parkwide population of seven hundred is expected to double within the next ten years. The park's unique environment, which has been nominated as a world heritage park by UNESCO, has not as readily adapted to the prolific goat, however.

According to the Park Service's environmental assessment, the mountain goat has had major impacts on the park's environment. Grazing by the goats is altering the composition of native plant communities, endangering some rare species found only in Olympic National Park. Trampling, pawing, and digging by the goats have had severe effects on mountain plants and soils. Wallows up to thirty feet in diameter have been formed where the goats dig up the soil to dust-bathe or create cool resting places.

The damage caused by the goats may be extremely long-lasting. Areas of the park fenced to exclude mountain goats have shown very slow or no recovery from these impacts.

NPCA has recommended that the Park Service live-trap the goats and transplant them to lands within their native range. "The park's goat management program should not be limited to within the boundaries of the park, but should extend to include cooperative agreements for controlling migrating goat populations with the land managing agencies responsible for lands that abut the park," NPCA also urged.

The removal of the goat from Olympic National Park will not threaten the survival of the species. Nearly 100,000 mountain goats are estimated to live in the northwestern United States and Canada.

Administration Freezes Glacier Bay Whale Rules

In its zeal to cut excessive regulation, the Administration in April froze several Interior Department rules including a Park Service limit on boat traffic and commercial fishing in Glacier Bay National Park during the summer whale season. The rules were postponed until the Department could determine whether they had economic significance.

Criticizing the freeze, NPCA said that the rules had minimal economic impact and that their "ecological, legal, and administrative importance justifies their immediate implementation."

The Park Service is seeking to limit the number of small boats visiting Glacier Bay during the summer. Scientific data has indicated that small boat traffic is causing the whales to avoid the bay. Until 1978, between twenty and thirty whales would enter the Bay each July and remain until August. An abandonment of the Bay by the whales in 1978 and 1979 strongly correlated with a substantial increase in small boat traffic and whale/vessel encounters. Furthermore, it is suspected that commercial harvest of food species may be depleting the food supply within the Bay. The Park Service has identified the Glacier Bay whale situation as the number one resource problem in the National Park System.

In support of the boat traffic and commercial fishing regulations, NPCA said, "We strongly believe that until further scientific investigation proves that factors other than small boat activity and commercial fishing are contributing to the whales' avoidance of the Bay, the Park Service should seek to control these activities."

Final arrangements are now being made for a two-year study of the Glacier Bay whale situation that will look at boat traffic, food supply, and acoustical reasons for the whales' sudden abandonment of the Bay.



On March 20, NPCA participated in a demonstration to protest the proposed closing of the National Aquarium in Washington, D.C. Above: NPCA board member and well-known marine biologist Dr. Eugenie Clark (right), talks to two demonstrators.

Senate Action Would Restrict RARE II Review

Legislation sponsored by Senators Hayakawa, Helms, McClure, Symms, and Hefflin would require the U.S. Forest Service to reopen for normal development—including timbering and road building—all of the roadless areas identified in the Roadless Area Review and Evaluation II (RARE II) study that were not recommended for wilderness status by the Forest Service. In addition, the bill (S. 842) would prevent the Forest Service from recommending any new wilderness areas during any future reviews of individual forest plans.

The proposed law sets a deadline of January 1, 1985, for congressional action on all outstanding wilderness recommendations. Conservationists oppose this national wilderness release provision, arguing that it does not provide the careful case by case review of past wilderness efforts. The proposed date, less than four years away, would permit the Reagan administration or a Senate committee to bottle up all wilderness bills until the deadline passes. NPCA has favored wilderness designation for some Forest Service areas along the borders of national parks as one way of protecting fragile watersheds and natural resources in the parks.

Several release bills were introduced in the last session of Congress. In an important compromise between the timber industry and conservationists Congress agreed to deal with RARE II wilderness proposals on a state by state basis. Each state bill passed under this compromise designates new wilderness areas and releases for other uses those areas that are not suitable for wilderness. The timber industry, sensing the possibility for further gains in a new Senate, has again raised the national release issue, using many of the same arguments heard last year.

The Senate legislation would indirectly amend the National Forest Management Act by eliminating wilderness review from the planning for wildlife, water, timber, and other resources required on each forest every ten years. The legislation would also overturn an injunction on the management of forty national forest areas in California. The state of California won this injunction after charging that the Forest Service's recommendation of these areas for nonwilderness uses under RARE II was seriously flawed.

Although passage of this legislation seems unlikely in the House, favorable Senate action could lead to a disastrous stalemate with Senators Helms and Mc-Clure (who chair the Senate Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, and the Energy and Natural Resources committees respectively) holding up Housesponsored wilderness legislation until the House compromised on national release language.

Representative Phillip Burton has introduced two California wilderness bills in the House (HR 856 and HR 859). The bills would provide wilderness protection for several areas important to NPCA, including wilderness in Yosemite and Kings Canyon national parks, and along the northern border of Yosemite. The two national forest additions north of Yosemite—the Emigrant Wilderness Addition and the Hoover Wilderness Addition—were featured in *National Park*'s April story on backpacking in Yosemite.

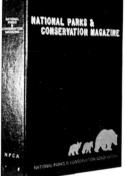
Demonstration Urges Reopening Parks to Snowmobiles

A March 21 snowmobile "Ride for Our Rights" in Kings Canyon National Park signaled the beginning of an intense effort to reopen Yosemite, Lassen Volcanic, Sequoia-Kings Canyon, and Glacier national parks to snowmobiling. "There is no sound resource management, environmental, economic, social, or political justification for reopening this issue in California, or elsewhere in the system," NPCA executive director Paul Pritchard wrote in comments to the Park Service. Research links snowmobiling to severe stress on wildlife populations. Snowmobiles in the parks disturb crosscountry skiing, snowshoeing, and wildlife observation.

The Sierra Snowmobile Club had requested permits for pro-snowmobile demonstrations in Yosemite, Lassen, and Sequoia–Kings Canyon. Members of the club had threatened to hold the demonstrations whether permits were



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issued or not. In an effort to avoid a confrontation, the Park Service granted a permit for the Kings Canyon event. NPCA protested allowing snowmobiles in the park for this demonstration and pointed out that a permit for the demonstration could have been granted that would have prohibited the machines inside the park.

The Park Service faces intense political pressure to reopen this issue through another set of hearings and a new public comment period. The original decision to exclude snowmobiles from these parks was made only after extensive public meetings and a thorough environmental review. During the general management planning for Yosemite, for example, the Park Service collected twenty thousand survey responses. More than 80 percent opposed any snowmobile use in the park.

A decision to hold another round of public hearings or to allow snowmobiles in the parks would further strain the limited Park Service budget. New hearings would require the preparation of a new environmental assessment, draft environmental impact statement, final environmental impact statement, and the processing of thousands of comments from the public.

Reopening the parks to snowmobiles would cost hundreds of thousands of dollars. Snow-grooming machines, essential to the use of snowmobiles in the parks, cost about \$90,000 each. The budget for snowmobile use at Yellowstone National Park, where the machines are currently permitted, is approximately \$400,000 annually.

The absence of snowmobiles has contributed to the rapid growth in crosscountry skiing and other nonmotorized winter uses in these California parks. In Yosemite alone this past winter more than 17,000 skiers used the park.

Mount St. Helens Proposed as New National Monument

In comments to the U.S. Forest Service, NPCA, the Mount St. Helens Protective Association, and other conservation groups have recommended the creation of a Mount St. Helens' National Monument to preserve the natural resources of the area, to allow continued scientific research, and to encourage interpretation of volcanic processes to the general public. Beginning with a national park proposal from Secretary of the Interior Harold Ickes in the 1930s, the Mount St. Helens area has often been suggested for special federal protection. A bill was introduced last year in the House of Representatives to designate the area as a national monument.

The proposal backed by NPCA would create a 216.000-acre national monument from the Gifford Pinchot National Forest to protect key scenic features and wildlife habitat such as a twothousand-year-old lava flow, glacial moraines, critical winter range for deer and elk, lakes created by ancient mud flows, and several unique plant and animal communities illustrating natural succession on old lava flows. The national monument would include a comprehensive record of past and present geologic events related to Mount St. Helens. It would also include a spectrum of landscapes, ranging from the crater itself and the devastated Spirit Lake Basin to the relatively untouched forests that represent the way much of the land looked before the 1980 eruptions. National monument designation would also permit continued study of the Goat Marsh and Cedar Flats Research Natural Areas as well as recent research on volcanic processes in the area. The heavy recreational use experienced by the area before the eruption is expected to resume. Forecasts project increasing numbers of visitors interested in experiencing and understanding the active volcano.

A Forest Service draft plan for the area poses eight management alternatives. Although NPCA commented in support of Alternative One, which recommends the wilderness designation of all forest areas set aside for further planning during the Roadless Area Review and Evaluation II (RARE II) survey as the best plan, NPCA believes none of the proposed alternatives is totally adequate to protect this unique landscape. NPCA has recommended the continued management of these areas for semiprimitive recreation, minimal timber harvest, and controlled visitor access.

Creation of a greenway along the Toutle-Kowlitz river corridors and acquisition of critical flood plain areas outside the monument should be part of any preservation plan, NPCA said. Flood plains could be used for recreation and appropriate forms of agriculture. The acquisition and management of the flood plain in this manner would be an effective way to control flood damage and reduce insurance and relief costs.

NPCA Director Highlights Park Threats in West

"All America's parks are threatened," NCPA's executive director Paul Pritchard declared to concerned citizens in Houston, Los Angeles, San Francisco, and other communities during his recent trip through several western states.

Pritchard visited Houston at the invitation of NPCA Board Member Judge Jon Lindsay to address the city's Green Ribbon Committee and other citizens concerned with the state of the parks.



NPCA executive director Paul Pritchard (right) talks with a Park Service employee in front of the Glen Canyon Dam on the Colorado River. The dam is the site of a proposed peaking power project that would radically increase the fluctuations in the river's water level as it flows through the Grand Canyon. The committee has been working to provide more parkland in Houston, the fifth largest city in the country. Houston falls woefully short in open space per capita, ranking 106th among national metropolitan areas.

During radio interviews and media conferences in Los Angeles, Pritchard repeated the same message. Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area near Los Angeles is one of the most threatened units in the entire National Park System. Pritchard urged community leaders to mobilize support for the park, stating that the threat to their park was real, requiring immediate and unified action to combat budget restrictions and policy shifts in Washington.

Speaking in San Francisco, Pritchard warned that the national park program is threatened here as in other areas of the country. "The problem," he said, "comes not only from federal budget restrictions, but from a lack of leadership and continual commitment at the community level."

While in Arizona, Pritchard visited the Glen Canyon Dam with NPCA regional representative Russ Butcher. They inspected the dam, where proposals under study would increase electricity production at the sacrifice of the recreational and natural values of the Colorado River. Later Butcher presented an exciting slide show on the parks of the Southwest to 150 NPCA supporters in Southern California.

Pritchard concluded this trip by meeting with Horace Albright, second director of the National Park Service. The two exchanged ideas and discussed, at length, the foundations and future of the parks.

Expanded Glen Canyon Dam Would Change River Flows

A plan to expand the peaking power capacity of Glen Canyon Dam would alter the existing Colorado River landscape, radically change plant and animal communities along the river, and jeopardize the popular raft and dory trips through the Grand Canyon. The two new peaking turbines would require increased high water flows that would be balanced by periods of extremely low water levels in the river.

The project now under study by the Water and Power Resources Service (WPRS) considers adding two new turbines to the dam for use in producing "peaking" electricity. The two turbines, which would add 250 megawatts to the dam's current 1,000 megawatts of base load power, would be used during the mid-morning and early evening peak periods of very heavy electrical demand.

Producing this extra power during times of heavy electrical demand would require increasing the maximum flows through the dam and down the river to 40,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) from the present high flows of 27,000 cfs. The increased flow would accelerate the erosion of beaches, flood some popular campsites, and increase hazards on the river in rapids and eddies.

To make these increased high flow periods possible, the periods of minimum flow would lengthen and the water level during these periods would be decreased. Minimum flows would decrease to 1,000–3,000 cfs. At this level fish habitat would be severely restricted and some rapids would not be passable by rafts and wooden dories. Long stackups of boats waiting for navigable water may occur.

Due to the rapid fluctuations in power demand, these high and low water flows may sometimes occur on the same day. Such rapid changes would substantially decrease the river's ability to support plant and animal communities. The many river-running trips would have to fit into narrower time slots dictated by water releases.

Continued on page 27





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National Parks June 1981 issue

Reader Interest Survey

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

	Very Interesting	Somewhat Interesting	Not Interesting		
COMMENTARY	0				
(inside front)	1	2	3		
EDITOR'S NOTE					
(inside front)	1	2	3		
OLYMPIC NP					
(p. 4)	1	2	3		
JACKSON HOLE					
(p. 8)	1	2	3		
SPORT SHOOTING					
(p. 13)	1	2	3		
CONCESSIONERS					
(p. 16)	1	2	3		
HCRS TRANSFER					
(p. 19)	1	2	3		
HUMPBACK WHALE	1				
(p. 20)	1	2	3		
NPCA REPORT (pp.	22-29)				
Mountain Goats	1	2	3		
Glacier Bay Whales		2	3		
RARE II Review	1	2	3		
Snowmobiles	1	2	2 3 2 3 2 3 2 3 2 3 2 3 2 3 2 3 2 3		
Mount St. Helens	1	2	3		
Director's Trip	1	2	3		
Glen Canyon Dam	1	2 3			
Mitigation Report Turkey Run Park	1	2	2 3 2 3		
Land Use Court	1	2	3		
Cases	1	2	3		
BOOKSHELF (p. 26)	1	2	3		
	•	2	3		
THE LATEST WORD	,	2	3		
(pp. 30-31)	1	2	3		
	Excellent	Good 1	Fair Poor		
How would you rate					
the cover?	1	2	3 4		
Additional comments					

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Bookshelf

*Wilderness Rivers of America, by Michael Jenkinson. (New York: Harry N. Abrams, Inc., 1981. 280 pages, \$40.00 hardcover.) Wilderness Rivers of America portrays eleven wellknown North American waterways, such as the Noatak in Alaska, the Colorado, and the Suwannee. Eleven renowned nature photographers, such as David Muench and Boyd Norton, were each assigned to cover a waterway; this creates a remarkable cohesion in the view we get of the rivers. A short essay by Michael Jenkinson acquaints us with each river, giving us a historical, as well as a geographic perspective with which we can better appreciate the photo essays. Watch for a special offer in the July issue on a limited supply of this impressive book.

*Mountains Without Handrails: Reflections on the National Parks, by Joseph L. Sax. (Ann Arbor: The University of Michigan Press, 1980. 152 pages, \$10.00 hardcover; \$5.95 paperbound.) Joseph Sax's latest book explores the increasingly bitter battle between preservation and recreational use of our national parks. Preservationists were, at one time, an admired and respected group whose words of wisdom and insightful counsel were readily accepted, and whose influence on Congress went unquestioned. Nowadays, however, due to an inflated population and its greater mobility, some of the more famous parks are swarming with visitors. And, for the first time in the history of the Park Service, visitor's interests are butting heads with preservationists' intensified drives to protect the parks from irreparable damage by overuse and misuse. The clash centers on the parks' purpose. Are they playground or paradise, as a recent National Geographic special asked. Professor Joseph L. Sax, of the University of Michigan Law School, examines the situation, supporting the preservationists work and their moral and philosophical ideals. He looks into many of the problems that plague our parks today, such as the not-alwayseasy park-concessioner relationship and vehicle overuse of the better known parks. Mountains without Handrails is

a well thought out, well written book that judiciously analyzes the many park problems. In the end, Professor Sax proposes his own solution for the protection and management of the parks.

*The Sonoran Desert, by Christopher Helms. (Las Vegas: KC Publications, 1980. 52 pages, \$3.75 paperbound.) Desert. The word evokes images of hot, arid land, of prickly cacti reaching for the sky, and of a blistering red sun unmercifully blazing downward. Here the desert is seen as an opponent against which man either survives or dies, a forbidden place where there is no room for compromise and coexistence. Christopher Helms, Public Affairs Officer of the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, shatters this myth in his book, The Sonoran Desert, and reveals the true desert with the assistance of several experts in the fields of animal and plant study. With his help, the reader discovers a complex ecosystem, abundant with vegetation and animal life. Striking photography accompanies this insightful essay.

*The National Parks of The U.S.A., by James V. Murfin. (New York: Mayflower Books, Inc., 1980. 320 pages, \$25.00 hardcover.) James Murfin, former publications manager for the National Park Service, takes the reader on an around-the-country, park-by-park tour of forty major U.S. national parks, from Voyageurs to Mount McKinley (now Denali). Each park is introduced separately with a short, authorative essay, followed by a collection of colorful photographs. Mr. Murfin's fourteen years of experience with NPS come through in his essays, as he succinctly gives the reader the essence of each park and entertains the armchair traveler with bits of history and interesting anecdotes.

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NPCA Report

Continued from page 25

NPCA has recommended that WPRS (formerly the Bureau of Reclamation) adopt the study's alternative of no additional turbines. Management techniques are available to electric utilities to flatten load peaks and reduce the need for peak power facilities. These facilities, which will be unused for major portions of each day, are both needlessly expensive and environmentally unsound. A recent study of the Colorado River conducted for WPRS concludes that "at 40,000 cfs there will be onethird fewer campsites. . . . Overall, camping hazards will increase and erosion will probably progress at an accelerated rate. Many rapids will be 'washed out' at high water and 'impossible' at low water."

Mitigation Report Urges New Science, Training Efforts

In a new report the Park Service has proposed developing an important series of management and information tools for addressing the current problems of the parks. "State of the Parks: A Report to Congress on a Servicewide Strategy for Prevention and Mitigation of Natural and Cultural Resources Management Problems" outlines programs for improved information collection, more effective scientific research, and better training for park personnel.

The Park Service will develop guidelines to aid in the systematic collection of information on the natural and cultural resources in the parks. In addition the Park Service would like to develop a data processing system to improve the handling of resource management information. A part of this data will be used to determine the present quality of the environment in the parks and to study the factors that cause this environment to change. The Park Service has also proposed a comprehensive review of the current boundaries of all cultural units in the system to determine whether these boundaries adequately protect the cultural resources.

The Park Service has just completed a

series of courses at its Albright Training Center for park superintendents and chief rangers. NPCA has participated in the teaching and development of these courses, providing insight into the realities of resource management from a public interest perspective. NPS also proposes beginning a natural resources management development program to bring highly qualified resource management specialists into the Service. These men and women would then undergo a rigorous two-year in-park training program.

The plan also calls for reviewing the entire science program of the Park Service. NPS has retained the National Academy of Sciences to convene a panel

Help NPCA Protect the Parks with Your Photos

Dear Members,

NPCA needs your help to bolster its photo file. As the parks face new challenges, we need current, topical photos to illustrate these issues. If you have high-quality recent pictures (8×10 black and white glossies or color slides) of our national parks, we would like to add them to our collection for possible publication. We cannot pay, but we will provide a credit line on any photo we publish.

Specifically, we are looking for material on the following subjects:

- Encroachment on parklands
- · Threats to clean air and water in the parks
- Natural beauty of the parks and their wildlife
- · Lesser-known parks and new park areas
- Cultural and historic parks

Inasmuch as we cannot return photos, you should make duplicates of your favorites to keep. Enclose a short note identifying the time, place, and subject of each photo; donating the photos for NPCA use; and stating the credit line you wish.

Please help out. We need your support.

Send photos to NPCA Editorial Department, c/o Photo Search, 1701 18th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20009. of experts who will recommend the most efficient means for providing the Service with the information needed to document threats to the parks.

Turkey Run Park May Become First Budget Casualty

NPCA has become involved in the fight to save Turkey Run Farm Park, one of the first units of the National Park System threatened with closing because of recent budget reductions. Funding cuts will force the total elimination of park interpretive personnel and visitor exhibits. The park staff has been informed that the Park Service has no money for continued operation of the park. Only private funding can keep the park open during the busy months.

Turkey Run Farm, a working recreation of an eighteenth century colonial farm in McLean, Virginia, has provided opportunities for many school children to observe the everyday life of the average colonial farmer. Visitors meet farm families in authentic colonial dress, watch crops being planted and harvested, sample fresh honey and cider, and see the raising of animals. NPCA is working with Congressman Frank Wolf, Senator John Warner, the newly created "Friends of Turkey Run," and the National Park Service to develop a long-range solution to the financial threats at Turkey Run. Friends must raise \$80,000 to ensure that this cultural and educational resource will remain open to the public through the fall and to allow time for a more permanent solution. NPCA is acting as a depository for private donations. More than \$10,000 was raised in the first half of April alone.

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NPCA Takes Part in Supreme Court Land Use Cases

When a city rezones land so that less can be built on it, has the city violated the U.S. Constitution's prohibition against the government taking land without adequate compensation? If this is indeed an unconstitutional act, what is the proper remedy? These issues may seem far removed from the nation's parklands, but NPCA has participated in arguments filed in two recent Supreme Court cases that deal with these issues. The way these land use questions are decided in the courts will have an important impact on the ability of local governments and the Park Service to control growth along the boundaries of the national parks.

This spring the Supreme Court ruled on the most recent of the two cases. For a second time the court failed to settle the remedy available to a private landowner whose ability to use his land is affected by a local land use plan. In the case NPCA participated in a "friend of the court" brief arguing that requiring a city or county to buy a landowner's property whenever a court finds that a zoning law has indeed overstepped constitutional limits would prevent effective land use plans, a much needed tool for managing growth near the national parks.

Studies by NPCA have found that approximately two-thirds of the units in the National Park System are adversely affected by incompatible land uses and activities outside park borders. In the long run, application of local land use laws, especially zoning, is one of the best solutions to this problem.

NPCA intervened in *San Diego Gas and Electric Company v. City of San Diego* because of a concern that requiring monetary remedies would intimidate local zoning commissions. San Diego Gas had argued that because the city had rezoned its land for open space (from industrial zoning to agricultural), the city had in fact taken the land without adequate compensation and should pay for the land at full market value. The city, NPCA, and other conservation and historic preservation groups argued that if this was a case where a zoning law had resulted in the

legal equivalent of the city taking the property, the Supreme Court should simply strike down the regulation and restore the original zoning without forcing the city to buy the land. Requiring purchase in every case in which, after the fact, a city regulation was found to be an unconstitutional taking of private property would have a chilling effect on all land use regulations. No city would ever be certain whether a zoning regulation or change would require the purchase of millions of dollars of property. Such uncertainty and the severe financial penalty for making a mistake would reduce most land use plans to vague guidelines instead of useful instruments for guiding growth.

In previous rulings the Supreme Court has held that the question of whether an unconstitutional taking has occurred could be decided only on a case by case basis.

Magazine Grows in Size, Becomes a Bimonthly in July

Beginning with the July issue, NPCA members will receive a thicker magazine every other month. Bimonthly publication will enable NPCA to bring members a better magazine and save money, a necessity in a year when the cost of paper continues to increase and the U.S. Postal Service is raising mailing rates by more than 20 percent. The combined July/August issue will contain forty-eight pages instead of the usual thirty-two. The expanded size will enable the magazine to cover more topics in depth and run more color photographs.

Wanted: People for Parks

Our great natural parks and historic areas have never been more endangered. Budget cuts, overcommercialization, air and water pollution, mineral development, and overuse all threaten these last refuges of wilderness and wildlife. Want to help?

Be an NPCA CONTACT. As a CONTACT, you will receive alerts from our Washington staff on a variety of environmental issues concerning our parks. Alerts provide up-to-the-minute information; they are one way to keep informed about critical issues affecting the National Park System. NPCAlerts urge specific timely actions—from letter writing to testifying at hearings.

Get the *Citizen Action Guide to the National Park System.* This handbook by NPCA staff members includes practical suggestions on participating in NPS planning, working with public officials; dealing with issues such as wilderness, offroad vehicles, transportation, and concessions; and coordinating your efforts with NPCA. Paperbound, 32 pages with drawings, \$1.50 each.

NPCA Programs Department National Parks & Conservation Association 1701 Eighteenth Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20009

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Address _____

____ I am an NPCA member and want to become a CONTACT. Sign me up!

- ____ I am already on your CONTACT list.
- ____ I am particularly interested in the following NPS units: ____

Please enclose check or money order payable to NPCA for handbooks.

The Latest Word

VISTA COMMENT REOPENED; LETTERS NOW URGENT

Bowing to political pressure, the National

Park Service has reopened the comment period for the integral vistas program. The original comment period on guidelines for administering this program to protect important scenic views in the National Parks from visual air pollution had ended in February. The comment period has been reopened for a period ending on June 8. The program and the list of areas to be protected have generated intense opposition from industry lobbyists. The new comment period, imposed upon the Park Service from higher up in the Department of the Interior, offers industry a chance to weaken this vital protection.

You can help: Letters, mailgrams, and public service telegrams supporting the integral vistas program are urgently needed by June 8. Write to Victoria Evans, Division of Air Quality, National Park Service, Washington, D.C. 20240. See the February and May issues of National Parks for more information on the integral vistas program. Clean air is vital to the continued protection of our national parks.

AMENDMENT WOULD END LAND The Adminis-AND WATER FUND PURCHASES tration has proposed amend-

ing the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act to allow funds now used for acquiring state and federal parklands to be used for maintaining and improving the National Park System, the National Forest System, the National Wildlife Refuge System, and areas administered by the Bureau of Land Management. Introduced by request in the Senate by James McClure (R-Idaho), S. 910 is so loosely worded that funds could be used not only for needed health and safety improvements, but also for grazing improvements, road-building, and other undesirable construction projects. In testimony before the Senate Subcommittee on Public Land and Reserved Water, NPCA and other major conservation organizations opposed the amendment. Although NPCA fully supports efforts to provide addi-

tional funding for the National Parks System, the Association strongly opposes amending the LWCF Act to achieve this. With a backlog of \$3 billion in authorized but unacquired land, the LWCF is vitally needed for its original purpose. The best and quickest way to provide the necessary additional maintenance funding would be to take it from general revenue as has always been done in the past. Whether additional funding comes from general revenue or the LWCF, the effect on the federal deficit, inflation, and the National Park System will be exactly the same.

You can help: Members are urged to write their Senators immediately. NPCA supports more money for maintenance, but it should come from general revenue, not the LWCF. Stress the need to complete acquisition of parklands already authorized by Congress. Please mention the bill's loose wording--this money could be used for almost anything in the parks and other land management systems.

INTERIOR MEMC SUGGESTS	"Based on a
TARGETS IN PARK SYSTEM	recent Interio
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r Department memo, we're convinced that the Reagan administration plans to target important units of the National Park System for deauthor-

ization," said Paul Pritchard, Executive Director of NPCA. The memo from Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife, and the Parks Ray Arnett, directs National Park Service officials to report on the history of NPS opposition to creation of new areas within the system. National recreation areas, national lakeshores, and national seashores created in the past ten vears by Congress over the opposition of the agency have been specifically targeted. Arnett's memo suggests that the Santa Monica Mountains, Cuyahoga Valley, Fire Island, Indiana Dunes, and Sleeping Bear Dunes units receive the highest priority of research. Interior Department spokespeople confirmed the existence of the memo but denied it constituted a "hit list" for the parks. Secretary of the Interior James Watt has been quoted, most recently by the New York Times two days before NPCA released the memo, as denying the existence of a list of parks under

consideration for deauthorization. The Reagan administration has placed a moratorium on the purchase of new lands for the Park System and is reviewing turning some federal parks over to state and local governments. "We will support a comprehensive study of the Park System that looks at the quality of park units. What we cannot support is the arbitrary singling out of some parks, without study, for deauthorization," NPCA's Destry Jarvis testified in recent Senate hearings.

<u>On May 4</u>, <u>conservationists representing</u> <u>local park</u> <u>advocacy organizations</u> from around the country met at NPCA in a followup meeting to discuss deauthorization and other threats to the parks, including budget cuts, boundary revisions, and the weakening of policies designed to protect the National Park System. All agreed that the best way to counter these threats is to develop stronger grassroots citizen participation around the country. The organizations at the session and many that could not attend agreed to work together to meet this challenge.

INTERIOR HALTS PROTECTION FOR CALIFORNIA SANCTURARIES

The Department of the Interior has

suspended regulations banning oil and natural gas exploration and development in the Point Reves-Farallon Islands, and Channel Islands marine sanctuaries. The area, protected since January, is the home for over thirty species of marine mammals and more than one-half of California's nesting marine birds. Regulations prohibiting hydrocarbon development in the area, approved under the Carter administration, have been suspended while a regulatory impact analysis is prepared. Although the area is vital to many marine species, including the gray whale, it appears to have a rather low potential for oil and gas. In 1974 it ranked 16th out of 17 areas studied in a petroleum industry survey.

You can help: Write Dallas Miner, Sanctuary Programs Office, Office of Coastal Zone Management, 3300 Whitehaven Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20235. The public comment period runs through June 30.

HOUSE RESTORES LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND

The House Appropriations Committee has

voted to defeat the Reagan administration's proposed rescission of Fiscal Year 1981 funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund, the Historic Preservation Fund, and the Urban Park and Recreation Recovery (UPARR) program. Partial funding was also restored for the Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) program. The vote in committee ratified action taken before Easter by the House Interior Appropriations Subcommittee. The effort to save these programs in subcommittee was led by Rep. Sidney Yates, who chairs the subcommittee. He was supported by representatives Les AuCoin, Norman Dicks, Clarence Long,, and John Murtha. As expected, the Senate Interior Appropriations Subcommittee acted differently. It voted to rescind the \$250 million from the LWCF as requested by the Administration. It also upheld the rescissions proposed for the Historic Preservation, UPARR, and YCC programs. The huge differences between the House and the Senate will have to be resolved in conference, probably in late May. NPCA and other conservation organizations will be working to save as much funding for these programs as possible.

ADMINISTRATION BACKS C WILDERNESS REIFASE BILL

Claiming that "we can no longer afford

further delays" in releasing roadless areas on the national forests to full development, Richard M. Lyng, Deputy Secretary of Agriculture, gave the Reagan administration's stamp of approval to S. 842, the controversial bill that would end the careful consideration of RARE II wilderness areas. S. 842 would set a 1985 deadline for all wilderness decisions and would prevent the Forest Service from ever again considering any areas for wilderness. (See story on page 23 of this issue.) At the same hearings other witnesses noted that the best way to speed up the release process would be to provide the Forest Service with sufficient funds to complete the mandated forest-by-forest planning process on schedule by 1985.

