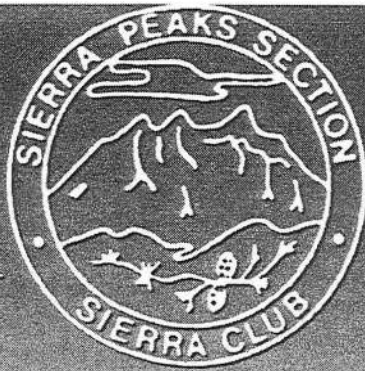


The Sierra

VOLUME 42 NUMBER 4



ECHO

JULY - AUGUST 1998



SPS MONTHLY PROGRAMS

Sierra Peaks Section meetings will be held in the Los Angeles room behind the cafeteria at the DWP, 7:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of the month. Dept. W&P, 111 N Hope St., LA, Free parking on site.

August 12

Linda McDermott will present a program on backpacking in the Gates of the Arctic National Park, a paddle trip of the Kongakut River and kayak of the Kobuk River.

September 9

Gary Guenther and Joe Fontaine will make a presentation on the proposed John Muir/Ansel Adams Wilderness Area Plans and the effect of these plans on access to these areas for SPS trips.

October 14

Sam Roberts SPS member and professional photographer, will present a program on the John Muir Trail

November 11

Mark Goebel member of the SMS Management Committee, will present a program on SKI Mountaineering in the Sierra.

December 9

SPS Annual Banquet Location Greek Orthodox Cultural Center Long Beach. Speaker **Mijka Burhardt**. AAI climbing guide, American Alpine Club 1997 Fellowship Award winner, World class mountaineer.

January 13

Joint Meeting SPS/DPS/HPS/SMS Dan Richter LTC Chair & Bill Oliver LTC co-Chair will present a program on the changes in the LTC and how they will effect the Mountaineering Sections. Great night to socialize and meet old friends or make new contacts from the climbing sections.

FRONT COVER

MT LYLEL & MT RITTER

Photo taken from Mt. McClure
Sept. 21, 1997
Photo by
John Dodds

PEAK INDEX

Mt. Whitney
Bloody Mtn.
Freel Peak
Markleeville Peak
Mt Emerson
Mt Goethe

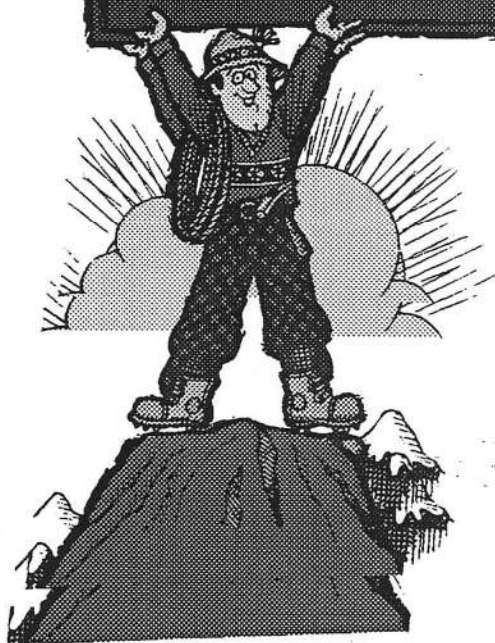
SPS T-SHIRTS

Own your own SPS T-shirt. They come in Ash, yellow or light blue in medium, large and x-large. Specify size and color. Cost is \$12 plus \$3 for shipping per order. Buy them from Patty at the SPS meetings and save the \$3 shipping charge. Make check payable to the Sierra Peaks Section. Send your order to: Patty Kline, 20362 Callon Drive, Topanga Canyon, California 90290.

Attention all trip leaders

Send in your trip write-ups for the next publications of the *Echo*. Also send in photos. We accept photos that accompany an article or identified photos without articles.

SPS - SUMMER & FALL TRIPS 1998



See past editions of *The Sierra Echo* for detailed write-ups of trips without full write-ups. Trips previously described are listed with out detailed write-ups in subsequent publications. Note all trips listed as MR or ER are restricted trips open to Sierra Club members only with the appropriate rock or snow skills.

AUGUST

Nature Knowledge trips being led this month by Natural Science Section on Aug 22-24. See Angeles Chapter Schedule of Activites

I Aug 14 - 17 Fri - Mon Joe Devel Pk (13,327') & Mt Pickering (13,474') Ldrs. Kline/Fleming

MR Aug 15 - 16 Sat - Sun Mt. Winchell (13,775') Ldrs. Richardson/Keenan

M/ER Aug 21 - 30 Fri - Sun Peaks of Evolution & Ionian Basins Ldrs. Jones/Mamedalin

M Aug 22-23 Sat - Sun Wallace (13,377') & Haeckel (13,418') Ldrs. Hertz/Rieck

I/M Aug 28 - 30 Fri - Sun Mt. Hale (13,440'), Mt Young (13,177') & Mt. Muir (14,015') Ldrs. Wyka/Conrad

ER Aug 28-30 Fri - Sun Norman Clyde (13,855') Ldrs. Sorenson/Oliver

SEPTEMBER

Nature Knowledge trips being led this month by Natural Science Section on Sept. 5-7, & 26. See Angeles Chapter Schedule of Activites

SEPTEMBER Continued

MR Sept 4 - 7 Fri - Mon Tehipite Dome (7,708') Ldrs. Murphy/Martin

I Sept 5 - 7 Sat - Mon Foerster Pk (12,057') & Electra Pk (12,442') Ldrs. L. Tidball/G. Roach

O Sept 9 Climbers' Social Hour See July 14th write-up. Ldrs. Kramer/Siering

I Sept 12 - 13 Sat - Sun Needham Mtn (12,520') & Sawtooth Pk (12,343') Ldrs Kline/Epstein

MR Sept 12 - 13 Sat - Sun Tehipite Dome (7,708') Ldrs. G. Roach/Hudson

M Sept 18 - 21 Fri - Mon Recess Pk (12,813') Mt Hooper (12,286'), Mt Senger (12,349'), Gemini (12,880+') Seven Gables (13,080+') Ldrs. Hudson/Siering

I Sept 19-20 Sat - Sun Mt. Goode (13,085') Ldr Cara Zylla asst. Joanne Andrew

I Sept 19 - 20 Sat - Sun Bloody Mtn (12,552') Ldrs. Kline/Wankum

M Sept 25 - 27 Fri - Sun East Vidette (12,350') Ldrs. O'Rourke/Epstein

MR Sept 26 - 27 Sat - Sun Mt Winchell (13,775') Ldrs. Holchin/Stough

I Sept 26 - 28 Sat - Mon Silver Peak (11,878') Ldrs. Kline/Browder, J. Graff

I Sept 27, Sun Navigation Workshop and Check Off Grinnell Ridge Ldr. Harry Freimanis

OCTOBER

Nature Knowledge trips being led this month by Natural Science Section on Oct 16 - 18 & 17 - 18. See Angeles Chapter Schedule of Activites.

Oct 3 - Sat. Leadership Taining Seminar, Griffinth Park Ldr. Bill Oliver

I Oct 3- 4 Sat - Sun Mt Henry (12,196') Ldrs. Stough/Mantle

O Oct 7 Climbers' Social Hour . 5:00 pm McCormick & Schmicks See July 14th write-up

M/E Oct 11 - 12 Sat. - Sun. Leadership Rock Safety Skills & Rescue Course. Adv. Course designed to impart leader safety skills & rescue techniques for leading grps in mtn. Terrain. Instructor is AMGA certified alpine guide John Fischer. Course given in Buttermilk country near Bishop, weather permitting. Fee \$75.00. Course ltd. To M & E leaders or equiv; participants must be SC members. Send SASE, climbing resume, rideshare info. Ldr. Dan Richter

OCTOBER Continued	NOVEMBER
M/E Oct 17 - 18 Sat. - Sun. Leadership Rock Safety Skills & Rescue Course. See Oct. 10-11 write-up. Ldr. Bill Oliver.	I Nov 7 - 8 Sat - Sun Navigation Workshop and Check Off, Indian Cove Joshua Tree Ldr. Harry Freimanis
I Oct 24 Sat Willow Hole/Rattlesnake Cyn Adventure Trip WTC/LTC Trip. Ldr. Dunbar/Creiton	RM/E Nov 7.- 8, Sat - Sun Rock Workshop and Checkoff. Joshua Tree, This intermediate and advanced workshop is based on the rock req. for E & M ldrs. and SPS Mountaineers List. Check-offs for M & E rock will take place Sat. Group campground Fri & Sat nites, fee. Send climbing resume w/ SASE. Ldr. Dan Richter, Asst. Virgil Shields
I Oct. 25 Sun Navaigation Workshop and Check Off, Sheep Pass Ldr. Harry Freimanis	DECEMBER
C Oct 31 - Nov 2 Sat - Mon Wilderness First Aid Course Course runs from 8am Sat to 5pm Mon. For info call Ldr. Steve Schuster	M/E Dec 12 Sat Rock Workshop, Stoney Point Ldr. Ron Hudson
Information on Leaders	RM/E Dec 13 Sun Rock Workshop, Stoney Point This intermediate and advanced workshop is based on the rock req. for E & M ldrs. and SPS Mountaineers List. Send 2 SASE and climbing resume. Ldr Dan Richter, Assts. Pat McKusky, Bill Oliver
May be found in the SPS Roster, published yearly with the July/August edition of <i>The Sierra Echo</i> . Or in the Angeles Chapter Schedule of Activities published 4 times per year	I Dec 13 Sun Navigation Workshop and Check Off Warren Point Ldr. Harry Freimanis

Echoes from the Chair

HELMETS AND HARNESSSES



Tina Stough, Keith Martin, Pat McKusky, and non-member John Fischer have suggested that the SPS make the use of helmets and harnesses mandatory on all class 3 & 4 climbs. The UIAGM, the international mountain guide's union, has this as a minimum standard, but the Sierra Club insurance policy does not demand this. The Management Committee discussed this at the July meeting and we decided to maintain the status quo: the use of helmets and harnesses will continue to be determined by the trip leaders and individual climbers. Many of the peaks we climb have long approaches with a minimum amount of climbing and it makes little sense to lug this equipment great distances for such a minimum amount of technical climbing.

But one person commented during this discussion: "Starr King doesn't have any loose rock, so you don't need a helmet." Many climbers have the misconception that a helmet is only for protection from falling rocks but modern helmets are also designed to protect the climber's head in the event of a tumbling fall. I wear a helmet much more frequently now than in my younger days. I have to wear a hat to cover my bald head and I figure that I might as well wear something practical. Besides, my brain is my second favorite organ.

One of my pet peeves while leading SPS technical climbs are novices who don't know how to put their harnesses on! (These climbers are wait-listed on my next trip.) I refuse to show anyone how to wear their own personal harness. Every harness is different

and I cannot be certain that I am threading the buckle or tying the rope onto an unfamiliar harness correctly. In this situation it is usually much faster, and certainly more safe, to have the novice tie into the rope with a simple bowline. (Those who don't know how to tie a bowline around their waist go on my permanent wait list.) There was a famous accident in the Tetons where a guided client fell out of his harness. One of the repercussions of the widow's lawsuit was that Chouinard Equipment changed owners and became Black Diamond Equipment, Ltd.

In the final analysis, safety is in the character of the individual rather than in the use of equipment or knowledge of specialized techniques.

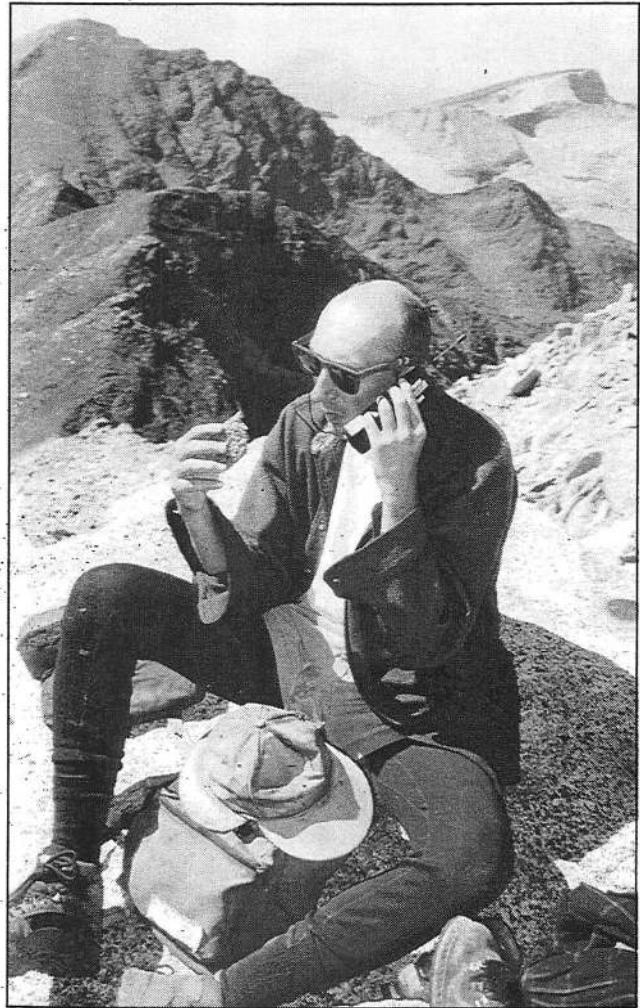
Sierraly,



R.J. Secor

SPORTS THAT REQUIRE OR SUGGEST THE USE OF HEAD PROTECTION HAVE INCREASED DRAMATICALLY IN THE PAST TWENTY YEARS.

BICYCLE RIDING, ROLLER BLADING/SKATING, BASEBALL, MOTORCYCLE RIDING, SKI RACING, SKATEBOARDING, TOBAGGANING/BOBSLEDDING , HORSEBACK RIDING, ROCK CLIMBING...AND MOUNTAINEERING TO NAME JUST A FEW.



Minutes from the SPS Meeting June 9, 1998.

Location: Department of Water and Power downtown LA

Minutes taken by Scott Sullivan

Patty Kline chaired the meeting which started at 7:35pm.

Minutes of May meeting were read and approved.
New attendees were introduced.

Barbara Cohen and Dave Sholle were married on May 30, 1998.

Patty Kline announced her DPS list finish coming up on October 17.

Keith Martin is new Ski Mountaineer's chair.

Candidates nominated for four Angeles Chapter Excomm seats are: Bob Gelfand, Amy Hanson, Lyn Klein, Thietty Kolpin, Lynn Plambeck, Elizabeth Pomeroy, Paul Sailor, and Armando Soto Mayor. Anyone can run by petition with an August 1 deadline.

Inyo National Forest is taking comments until July 1 on the contractor operating the permit system.

Starting in July there will be pre-meeting happy hour lead by Ann Kramer and Eric Siering. The WTC westside chapter is looking for leaders. Contact Mark Hertz if interested. There is a significant avalanche danger in the Sierra extending through early July.

Treasurer reports a balance of \$5922 in bank.

Patty Kline presented an outings report.

Sam Fink recently passed away.
June 24 is the new Sierra Club Office warming party.
The Sierra Club is starting an outings endowment committee.

Bob Gelfund discussed alternatives and solicited feedback for the Angeles Chapter Schedule. A bigger format would save both money and trees.

Jim Long presented his multimedia slide show entitled "Range of Light".

SPS Membership Report

July/August 1998

Achievements!!!

Congratulations to Terry Flood who got his senior emblem on June 28, 1998 on Mt. Abbot.

Welcome !!! New Members

Don Slocum
14114 Clark Street
Baldwin Park, CA 91706

Good Reading New Subscribers

Fred Herrman 601 N Whitnall Hwy Apt 112 Burbank, CA 91505	Rodney Jones 2268 Long Beach Blvd Long Beach, CA 90806
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Address Changes & Name Changes

Michael McDermitt 240 Bay St Apt 306 San Francisco, CA 94133	3625 Palos Verdes Drive N Palos Verdes Est, CA 90274	Denver, CO 80209
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Bruce Rorty	David Stone 320 S. Clarkson St
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Note that minor address changes such as email address and phone numbers will appear only in the updated roster.



Coming Soon ---STAR TREK 9
Scenes from the up-coming Star Trek 9 were filmed the week of June 23, 1998 at Lake Sabrina.

The newest movie will feature Patrick Stewart, as the lead.

WE GET LETTERS !!!!**Notes on Bear Cannisters**

□

Since bear cannisters are definitely on the way in, and since I have used one in the Sierra for several years (mainly on Boy Scout 50-mile backpacks), my comments may be of interest.

□

The extra 2 3/4 lb is a nuisance, but I can squeeze in 5 full days of food (freeze dried, etc.) so it isn't so bad. Besides, the cannister makes a great thing to sit on in camp.

The cannister should be spray-painted white; if it is left in the sun the black plastic absorbs a lot of heat, and gets very hot. Then add some spots of bright colors, like day-glo orange or lime. These make it much easier to find if it is misplaced or bears knock it around for some distance. Do not place the cannister near a cliff. If the bears knock it off, and it falls a long ways, it will crack open (and the bears "know" this). And if it rolls into a lake and sinks, both you and the bear lose. Don't tie your cannister to your pack. This just gives the bear something to hang on to, and the bear will run off with both.

I have never had troubles with bears, and now that I have spent the \$\$\$ on the cannister, I suspect now that I never will.

Rick Jali



Dear Barbee and Barbara:

You are to be congratulated for the excellent coverage and discussion of the SPS Special Election regarding Caltech Peak.

And again, I wish to commend the decision regarding candidate's statements, or refusals to make statements, on the National Sierra Club Board of Directors election. However one problem apparently endemic with all peak sections' elections, is that there are no candidate statements printed regarding our own management committee elections. Unless one is somehow clued-in as to the respective candidates, which is fairly impossible for those of us living at some distance from the Sierra or the Los Angeles area, and those not able to attend meetings or outings, one would not know whom one is voting for.

Granted, most persons who run for election are capable, qualified, and genuinely and sincerely motivated, but I have been chagrined to find that I may have been voting blindly at times for persons who are not worthy of any responsibility or authority. I propose that for all forthcoming elections, statements and rebuttals to statements, plus perhaps an impartial analysis by an agreed-upon independent general counsel as to experience and representations by all candidates, be printed in the election issues or in issues before the election.

If readers have had enough of election mish-mashes, this could be sent out separately from the Echo, as a removable insert, or even, as individually requested, not sent out at all. However unmanageable this may get, I feel that it is better to vote with concrete information and statements rather than a 'blind' vote as many members have to accept.

Again, in past years, this has generally not been our problem, but given the introduction of agendas or hidden agendas opposing mountaineering and the resultant fellowship and camaraderie, I believe that it is time for all of us to beware exactly whom one votes for.

Pete Yamagata

Management Direction for the Ansel Adams, John Muir, Dinkey Lakes and Monarch Wildernesses

Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)

Article contributed by Barbee Tidball,

Whiskey Creek Stakeholder secretary, Sally Miller organized the draft comments for the Stakeholders.

For the past few months a group informally called the Whiskey Creek Stakeholder's Group has met and discussed the proposed new wilderness management plan. Barbee Tidball represented the Angeles Chapter SPS and LTC Sections. The Whiskey Creek Group (named after the group's main meeting place in Bishop, California) is one of many groups and individuals reviewing the plan. The Sierra Club's California/Nevada Regional Conservation (C/NRCC) Committee requested that their sub-committee the Wilderness Committee review the plan and formulate a response to the plan. The comments of that group may be available to Sierra Club members by late September.

In the interim there will be a presentation by Gary Guenther, SPS member, Sierra Club member and Wilderness Watch member and Joe Fontaine, Sierra Club member of the C/NRCC's Wilderness Committee at the SPS September meeting. We are also tentatively looking forward to Jeff Bailey, Inyo National Forest Supervisor attending the same meeting. The September meeting will include a slide show identifying issues in the Sierra, and a discussion of the issues in the proposed Wilderness Management Plan - DEIS. The audience will have an opportunity to question Gary, Joe and Jeff as well as share information and opinions about the proposed plan.

The following is a letter to you, an interested Sierra Wilderness traveler from the Whiskey Creek Stakeholders Group. In the following text you will find the draft comments this group of stakeholders on the Draft Management Direction

for the Ansel Adams, John Muir, Dinkey Lakes and Monarch Wildernesses EIS and Plan Amendment. The Whiskey Creek Group is sharing these comments with you - other stakeholders, elected officials and decision makers - in order to inform you of the work that our group has accomplished and in the hopes they will help you to formulate your individual and group comments on the plan.

The individuals involved in drafting these comments consist of a diverse group of "stakeholders" with interest in wilderness management issues on the national forest lands in the High Sierra. Our group met over fifteen times, over a period of five months to discuss the draft wilderness plan, the specific issues and information contained therein, to share our philosophies on wilderness management, to identify where we agreed and where we did not agree on specific wilderness management issues, and to develop these comments.

Stakeholders represented at the meetings included: commercial horse and mule packers, private stock users, commercial mountain guides, outdoor store owner, private hikers, backpackers, climbers and conservationists. While each person each came to the group as an individual, organizations whose members were present for at least one meeting included:

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

SEPTEMBER 9, 1998

SPS- MEETING

DEIS - WILDERNESS PLAN

PRESENTATION & DISCUSSION

Eastern High Sierra Packers' Association, Backcountry Horsemen of California - Eastern Sierra Unit, California Wilderness Coalition, Wilderness Watch, Sierra Club - Sierra Peaks Section (Angeles Chapter), Sierra Club - Range of Light Group (Toiyabe Chapter), Friends of the Inyo, Eastern Sierra Audubon Society, The Wilderness Society, American Hiking Society, American Mountain Guides

Association, and American Alpine Club. The Whiskey Creek Group wants to emphasize that the presence at meetings of individuals from the aforementioned organizations does not necessarily imply endorsement of these comments by those organizations.

The agreed upon goals of the group were to:

1. Educate each other with facts.
2. Exchange information.
3. Clarify issues and interests.
4. Develop options and recommendations.
5. Reach whatever agreement we can and identify areas of disagreement.
6. Formulate our public input to the Forest Service.

The Whiskey Creek Group emphasizes that it was not the intent of the group to reach "consensus" on the issues discussed.

The group maintained an "open door" policy throughout the time that they met, and welcomed the participation of anyone who wished to attend our meetings. The group realized that it was difficult for individuals living far away to attend, although they welcomed and appreciated their efforts to participate in the meetings.

The attached comments represent what the Whiskey Creek Stakeholder's Group has come up with thus far. The comments are in bullet form and represent areas of agreement and disagreement on what was felt were the key issues in the wilderness plan. The members felt it particularly important to identify and highlight the areas where they did not agree on plan issues, in order to make those issues clear to other groups and individuals, wilderness managers, and decision makers.

The comments focused primarily on the group's knowledge of the John Muir and Ansel Adams wildernesses, because the members were intimately familiar with those wilderness areas. Where the areas of agreement are general in nature (e.g., education, commercial recreation, LAC process) the group believes they are equally relevant to the Monarch and Dinkey Lakes wildernesses. The group recognized, however, that the Monarch and Dinkey Lakes wilderness areas may have different issues (e.g., production livestock grazing) and circumstances (e.g., greater forest cover) than the John Muir and Ansel Adams wilderness areas.

There has been a consensus that the Forest Service needs to revise the draft EIS and

recirculate it for public comment prior to issuing a final EIS and Record of Decision. The revised DEIS should correct flaws in the LAC process; present backup and baseline data that is lacking in the current DEIS; identify new or revised alternatives, if appropriate; incorporate any new scientific information that may be relevant to the issues in the DEIS and the decisions to be made; and, at a minimum, outline criteria that will be used to resolve future issues if the Forest Service doesn't intend to specifically address them in this plan (e.g., needs assessment, recreation grazing, etc.).

The group emphasizes that there was not agreement on whether to support the Limits of Acceptable Change (LAC) process as a framework for development of the wilderness management plan and DEIS. Some members of the group support using the LAC process while others do not. No member of the group, however, supported any of the LAC alternatives as drafted due to the flaws in the agency's development of the LAC-based alternatives contained in the plan.

The Whiskey Creek Stakeholder's Group also would like to emphasize that they fully support the Wilderness Act's goals to protect an enduring resource of wilderness for future generations and to allow human use and enjoyment of the wilderness. We do not support any attempts to dismantle the Wilderness Act.

The group will meet again in the fall to share additional information collected over the summer, discuss issues they didn't have the time to address in the spring meetings (e.g., signage, climbing, communication structures, dogs, campsites in meadows, fire, off-trail travel, etc.) discuss any new issues that arise, and to finalize and submit our comments to the Forest Service. Please feel free to contact any of the group members if you have questions. Thank you.

Allan Pietrasanta
 Brian Berner
 Todd Vogel
 Sally Miller
 James Wilson
 Lois Fischer
 Kelly Moore
 Murt Stewart
 Nobby Riedy

Jennifer Roeser
 Bobby Tanner
 Danica Berner
 John Fischer
 John Ketcham
 Barbee Tidball
 Gary Guenther
 Bette Goodrich
 Dave Dohnel

DRAFT
Comments on Management
Direction for the
Ansel Adams, John Muir,
Dinkey Lakes and Monarch
Wildernesses
Draft Environmental Impact
Statement & Plan Amendment
 By the
 Whiskey Creek Stakeholders Group
 July 20, 1998

I. General Comments on Plan

We agree that the Forest Service needs to issue a revised draft plan and EIS to correct deficiencies in the current draft plan and EIS.

We agree that the plan and EIS lack adequate scientific data to back up statements and proposals (e.g., fish stocking), and that the revised plan should present the data used to develop the plan.

We agree we would like to see a plan that leaves less room for subjectivity in its implementation and provides more certainty to the public and Forest Service staff responsible for implementing the plan

We agree that the plan is in some ways too vague (e.g., lack of specific criteria for needs assessments), while in other ways it is too specific (e.g., 365 management areas).

We agree that we want the plan to address the real issues, rather than skirting key issues and deferring their resolution to an uncertain future (e.g., needs assessment, wilderness education).

We share concerns that the complexity of the plan makes it unlikely it will be fully implemented due to agency budget and staffing constraints and priorities.

We agree that there needs to be better integration, communication, and consistency between line officers and field staff when implementing wilderness plan direction.

II. Limits of Acceptable Change (LAC) Process

We do not agree on whether the LAC planning process should be used as a framework for the wilderness plan.

We all agree that if the Forest Service is going to use the LAC process for the plan, it needs to correct the problems with how LAC was applied in this plan.

We agree that the LAC process and the plan as drafted is too complex; we want a simpler plan that is more easy to implement.

We agree that the LAC process could work if applied properly but it hasn't worked with this plan because the plan fails to complete all the necessary steps in the LAC process (e.g., gather baseline data, field test standards and indicators, monitoring).

We agree that the management action guides (MAGs) contain too much room for subjectivity, and that they focus in some instances on reducing the number of people rather than modifying behavior to address resource problems. E.G., Campfires, Appendix G-4: Action #3) Reduce/implement quotas; Action #4) Consider site-specific campfire closure Action #5). Consider drainage or area campfire closure. E.G., Camping, Appendix G-3: Action #5) Implement or reduce quotas; Action #6) Close specific sites to camping.

We agree that 365 management areas are too many and too complicated.

We agree that there are errors and inconsistencies with delineation of the opportunity classes into 365 management areas that need to be remedied.

We agree that there should be fewer opportunity classes or "zones" (currently there are 5 OCs including the Whitney zone).

Some feel that zoning (OCs) in wilderness violates the Wilderness Act, in that wilderness is by definition of the Act a distinct zone and it shouldn't be further zoned or divided.

Some feel that topography naturally defines "zones" in wilderness.

III. Commercial Recreation (Outfitter/Guides & Packers)

We agree commercial recreation use should be allowed in wilderness consistent with the purposes of the Wilderness Act

We agree that the relationship between the needs assessment(s) and the DEIS needs to be clarified in the revised plan and DEIS.

We agree that the needs assessment process affects all wilderness users and it is in the best interest of all users to have the needs assessments defined and completed as soon as practicable.

We agree that the needs assessments should be conducted in concert with development of the wilderness plan, as per forest planning direction

If the needs assessments are not going to be done in conjunction with development of the plan, we agree that, at a minimum, the revised draft plan (and ultimately the final plan) should spell out the specific process and criteria the Forest Service will use to

conduct the needs assessments (as vs. Appendix M, which lays out an array of possible ways to conduct needs assessments), and a timeline for their completion.

We agree the needs assessments must go through the NEPA process.

We agree that minimum impact practices, such as the Gentle Use and Leave No Trace programs, should be required of all commercial permittees and their staff.

We agree that service days may not be the best way to control or monitor commercial use, as they are not reflective of impacts occurring to the wilderness resource.

We agreed that it may be appropriate for the Forest Service to implement a pilot program which utilizes a different system than service days to monitor and control commercial use.

IV. Trails & Cross-Country Travel

We agree that the purpose of trail maintenance should be to protect the wilderness resource.

We agree that resource protection of areas which are impacted by existing trails can best be achieved by maintaining those trails to specified standards, rather than allowing them to deteriorate over time, causing additional resource impacts.

We support the existing system of trails. We agree that there should be no changes in trail classification (e.g., no "upgrades" from a lower class to a higher class of trail, or "downgrades").

We agree that we do not support obliteration of user-created routes, nor do we support upgrading them or creation of new routes.

We agree that the inventory and classification of trails contained in Appendix F contains inaccuracies, and that the trails inventory needs to be corrected prior to implementation of a final plan.

We agree that work on non-system "routes" (e.g., multiple user trails through a meadow) should be done at the discretion of the wilderness manager only where resource damage is occurring and to protect the resource. Work should not be conducted on such use trails to accommodate increased use.

There was discussion about the concept of "hiker-only" trails, specifically about whether trails over Shepherd, Sawmill, Baxter and

Taboose passes should be designated as "stock free" trails. There was no agreement on this issue.

We had considerable discussion but reached no agreement on the issue of cross-country group size off-trail. We intend to discuss this issue further in the fall.

V. Permit System & Quotas

Permits

We agree that wilderness permits should continue to be required for all overnight stays in wilderness.

We agree that wilderness permits ideally serve several useful purposes:

- 1) to provide information to the overnight wilderness visitor, e.g., on wilderness rules and regulations,
- 2) to help educate the wilderness user, and
- 3) to provide accurate data on visitor numbers and destinations. We agree that the current permit system does not adequately achieve any of these purposes.



We do not support the concept of issuing day use permits at this time, with the exception of Mt. Whitney. If in the future the Forest Service believes day use permits to be necessary due to resource damage that is occurring in specific locations, proposals should undergo a NEPA analysis with full public scoping and opportunities for public comment.

We recognize that impacts resulting from day use in wilderness can be significant. We agree that special attention needs to be given to educating day use visitors in wilderness.

We agree that permits should be easier to obtain as far as geographical locations where they are issued. We discussed - but did not agree on - the possibility of having permits available at pack stations, resorts, and other locations at or near trailheads, in addition to Forest Service offices.

We agree that wilderness education needs to be greatly improved at the time permits are issued. Whether the entity issuing a permit is the Forest Service or a private interest, they should be required to have training in minimum impact camping principles, such as the Leave No Trace and Gentle Use programs, and to explain the minimum impact philosophy to individuals obtaining permits.

Quotas

We agree that quotas aren't necessary at all trailheads.

We agree that the plan should explain how current trailhead quotas were established, on what basis they are modified and the rationale behind existing quotas.

We agree that the current quota numbers are arbitrary and should be based primarily on the need to protect the resource as versus for social reasons.

We believe that the wilderness areas generally contain ample opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation without the need for overly relying on quotas to control use.

We recognize the validity of quotas or other controls in heavily used areas where adverse impacts may occur from large numbers of visitors, or where solitude may be diminished by large numbers of people.

We agree that the Forest Service should reevaluate the establishment of quota numbers for each trailhead and adjust them accordingly.

We agree the quota system should be equitable for all users, although we don't agree on how that can best be accomplished.

We discussed but did not reach agreement on the concept of using destination quotas as versus trailhead quotas.

VI. Length of Stay

We agree that we do not support season-long camps (e.g., homesteading).

Some in our group feel there should be no limit to how long one visits wilderness, while others support the 14 day limit.

VII. Human Waste

We agree that disposal of human waste should follow minimum impact principles.

VIII. Recreational Stock Use (Access, Grazing & Handling)

We agree that grazing by recreational stock is different (e.g., use patterns, grazing levels, duration of grazing, etc.) than commercial (production) livestock grazing, and that the plan needs to make a distinction between recreational grazing and production livestock grazing.

We agree that a system and methodology should be devised to monitor and manage recreational stock grazing that is specific to this type of activity.

We agree that the best available science should be used to determine appropriate grazing levels by recreational stock in wilderness, and that objective, measurable criteria should be established which are simple for managers and permittees to understand and implement.

We agree that grazeable meadows should be managed on a "time-specific" and "site-specific" basis. E.G., if a meadow is grazed down to an unacceptable condition, it should be closed for the rest of the season or until it recovers, whichever is sooner, rather than closed on a permanent basis. Similarly, if one meadow within a permit area is closed to grazing due to unacceptable resource impacts, other meadows within the same permit area should not also be closed to grazing by stock.

We agree that there should be no picketing of stock.

We do not agree on whether commercial llama packing should be allowed in the wildernesses.

IX. Campfires

We discussed two key campfire issues:

- 1) should there be elevational limits and, if so, what should they be?, and
- 2) should the Forest Service allow fuelwood to be packed into closed areas? We did not reach agreement on these issues.

Some members of our group support current management of campfire issues (i.e., site-specific closures where necessary), some support strict elevational closures similar to Sequoia-Kings Canyon National Parks, some support elevational closures plus allowing folks to pack wood into closed areas, some do not support allowing wood to be packed into closed areas due to difficulty enforcing closures, some support elevational closures plus additional site-

specific closures where necessary, and some folks would like to see drainages which are closed to campfires opened on a seasonal basis to campfires.

X. Campsites

We agree that no new campsites should be established within 100 feet of water.

We agree that all established campsites within 25 feet of water should be removed.

We agree that the plan needs to contain an inventory of the location of established (hardened) sites within 100 feet of water, meadows, and trails.

We do not agree on whether existing, hardened sites between 25 and 100 feet of water should be removed or allowed to remain. However, we all agree in principle that we do not want to transfer impacts from existing, hardened sites to previously undisturbed locations, creating new resource problems.

Based on the campsite inventory, site-specific resource conditions, and on the principle that we don't want to create new impacts in previously undisturbed areas, we agree that it may make sense for some sites within 100 feet of water but greater than 25 feet to remain in place if suitable alternative sites are not available.

We agree in principle that a site-specific approach may be the best method for addressing the issue of existing sites between 25 feet and within 100 feet of water.

We did not specifically discuss the issue of campsites within 100 feet of meadows and trails. We intend to discuss this in the fall.

XI. Fires

We intend to discuss this issue in the fall.

XII. Fish Stocking

We do not agree on whether fish-stocking should be totally discontinued as a practice in wilderness. Some support continued stocking of trout for recreational purposes, others support continued stocking for its recreational benefits provided native aquatic diversity is not adversely affected, and others believe that all stocking should be discontinued.

Assuming fish stocking continues, we all agree that we do not support the draft plan's proposal regarding fish stocking, which is to discontinue aerial fish stocking in lakes proposed

for the Opportunity Class A designation (c. 70 lakes). In lieu of the plan's preferred alternative, we support a plan for management of wilderness fisheries and preservation of native aquatic fauna that is based on the best available science as opposed to a sociologically-based rationale. We support additional scientific research which will help to maintain or improve recreational fishing opportunities and preserve habitat for the mountain yellow-legged frog and other native biota.

For those who support some level of continued stocking (based on a scientific, not sociological, approach), there was agreement that stocking by packstock as vs. airplane is preferable, where maintained trails access lakes.

While everyone agreed that stocking of lakes by packstock was ok, where maintained trails access lakes, there was disagreement as to whether stocking of lakes by packstock should also occur via non-maintained trails and/or cross-country routes.

XIII. Administrative Structures

Bear Boxes

We support the Forest Order (#04-97, July 25, 1997) requiring proper food storage to keep bears from gaining access to food.

We support language being added to the plan which states that bears will not be killed if they raid campers' food supply.

We support better education of wilderness visitors regarding food storage and bear problems.

Drift Fences

We agree that drift fences should be used for resource protection.

We do not agree as to whether fences should continue to be used to address sociological issues (e.g., conflicts between campers and stock animals).

Helicopters

We agree that helicopters should only be used in life-threatening situations (e.g., medical emergencies), and where it is not feasible to remove airplane wreckage with stock animals due to terrain.

Other Structures

We agree there should be no new structures constructed in wilderness, including cabins, dams, etc.

We agree that existing cabins and historical structures should remain.

We did not specifically discuss Mt. Whitney cables and toilets. We intend to discuss these items in the fall.

XIV. Education

We agree that the plan should address education as a key component of wilderness management in a substantive manner but that it fails to do so.

We prefer education to regulation as a means to protect the wilderness resource but we agree that both tools are needed in the wilderness management plan.

We agree the revised plan needs to contain an educational strategy with action items and a timeline for implementation.

We agree that education should be the joint responsibility of the agency, the private sector, and users groups and that we all need to share in the responsibility for wilderness education.

We agree that the Forest Service and the private sector should promote and encourage use of minimum impact principles and practices such as Leave No Trace and Gentle Use.

We agree that commercial users, who are responsible for bringing many people into backcountry, need to better educate clients and staff on wilderness ethics and minimum impact techniques.

We agree that individuals issuing permits need to have knowledge of the wilderness resource, wilderness conditions, and wilderness ethics, and impart a positive educational message.

We agree that the current permit reservation system fails to adequately educate wilderness visitors on wilderness ethics.

We agree that there needs to be better education of day use visitors. There is currently no system in place to educate day users who are having a tremendous impact on the "front country" wilderness.

We recommend that the Forest Service establish an advisory/working group on

wilderness education involving members of the public representing all user groups and interests.

To obtain your own copy of the Wilderness Management Plan contact Mike LeFevre, Minarets Ranger District, P.O. Box 10, North Fork, CA 93643 or Bob Hawkins, Inyo National Forest, 873 North Main Street, Bishop, CA 93514. In addition you may want to request a copy of Forest Supervisor Bailey, Boynton and Gaffrey's August 14, 1998 letter. This letter has been prepared to answer some of the most common questions asked about the draft plan. Topics covered include:

- 1) Opportunity Class A stock issues.
- 2) Stock encountering issues for Class A and B.
- 3) Equestrian use of trails and trail maintenance.
- 4) How are non-system trails to be managed.
- 5) Group or party size.
- 6) Disbursements of users.
- 7) 100 ft. camping limit from water.
- 8) Camping in or near meadows.
- 9) User education.
- 10) Day use permits.
- 11) Data gathered to prepare the proposed plan.
- 12) Climbing
- 13) Cross-country travel and stock.
- 14) Grazing standards.
- 15) Fish stocking.
- 16) Monitoring of conditions by the Forest Service.

FOREST SERVICE LIFTS BAN ON FIXED ANCHORS

Department of Agriculture Under Secretary Jim Lyons removed the Forest Service Ban on Fixed Anchors, Friday August 14, 1998. This announcement applies to all wilderness climbing areas except the Sawtooth Wilderness and will be in effect for one year while the Forest Service develops and issues a new final policy on fixed anchors.

The ban was lifted to give the public an opportunity to comment on the proposed policy. Lyons stated "The real issue here is not the use or type of rock-climbing equipment in wilderness areas, the intent of this decision is to avoid unnecessary lawsuits and inadvertent actions by Congress that would weaken the existing Wilderness Act."

Mt. Whitney – Mountaineers Route

By Nile Sorenson

June 6-7, 1998

LEADERS: Nile Sorenson, Randall Danta

WE BLEW THIS MOUNTAIN AWAY!!!!

This trip was originally scheduled for May 16-18, but was postponed due to weather. Rescheduling trips is always difficult with everyone so busy. Only four climbers met in the parking lot at Whitney Portal at 6:30 am Saturday morning. After a quick review of gear, discussion of the route, and comparing weights of packs, Ali Aminian, Don Croley, Randall Danta and I headed up the Whitney trail to the cutoff for the mountaineers route at the north fork of Lone Pine Creek. There was some talk of the 2 stream crossings that would be necessary before reaching the Ebersbacher ledges in the drainage below Lower Boy Scout lake. The stream had plenty of water. Ali spotted a relatively easy crossing almost immediately.

We crossed to the south side without incident, and again back to the north side just below the famous Matterhorn shaped rock signifying the route onto the ledges. We scrambled up the ledges which were clear

of snow and made it to Lower Boy Scout lake for a quick snack. The lake was nearly frozen over and snow was everywhere. Fortunately many steps alternating with glissade tracks had been left by previous groups all the way up to Upper Boy Scout Lake where we stopped for a refill and a break.

We then headed south toward Mt. Thor's west ridge and followed the drainage west which leads directly to the east face of the Needles and Whitney. About 1/2 mile before the buttress, there is a break in the cliffs on the right side giving way to a 100ft. class 3 pitch putting us on the Ice Berg Lake plateau. This route may not be as short as the direct approach at the west end of Upper Boy Scout Lake but it is definitely easier. We were camped at Ice Berg lake by 1:15 pm. The snow had been perfect, hardly a post hole to be found and it was nap time. For the next four hours, we watched several climbers descending the mountaineers route, and one lone climber struggle up. The weather was cooperating, a bit cloudy occasionally, but not too windy or cold. Everyone was feeling the altitude and hit the sack by 6:30 pm well before dark.

By 4:40 am, Don Croley was awake and wandering about taking care of business, Ali's stove was humming and Randall's stove was acting up. At 5:30 we were climbing the east chute, about 1400 ft of 30 to 35 degrees. We gave Ali the rope to slow him down. The snow was perfect. By 7:30 we were at the notch at 14,100 ft. grabbing a bite to eat, putting on harnesses, and looking at the sunny day over the western basins and peaks. We chose the upper chute immediately next to the notch to reach the summit. It is about 300 vertical ft of 45+ degree incline near the top. Things were a bit icy at the bottom, but there was good crampon snow above where it got steep. By 8:30am I was signing the register. We had blown this

mountain away with four strong climbers, good weather, perfect snow and occasional jokes from Randall.

We used the rope for one rap down the upper portion of the chute coming out then down

climbed to the notch. After a bite to eat and high fives around, we headed to the long descent to Ice berg lake. Don Croley and I glissaded all 1400 ft. It took us 15 minutes. Randall and Ali did not have their shell pants on so they were a little more conservative, glissading about three fourths of the descent. We broke camp in an hour, got in a few more glissades and were back at the cars by 2:00. I was eating dinner in Yorba Linda by six that night. Wow, what a trip. The weather had been great, the team had been outstanding, and the snow was perfect. It doesn't get any better than this.

Wow, what a trip.

The weather had been great, the team had been outstanding, and the snow was perfect. It doesn't get any better than this.



Bloody Mtn. – May 30 – 31, 1998

Beth Epstein & Tim Keenan, leaders

Having admired the north couloir of Bloody Mtn from the highway, I finally scheduled this trip and wondered all spring what kinds of conditions El Nino would leave behind. Looking at the map, I imagined a hike in little sun and much snow below the steep sides of N-S trending Laurel Canyon. When Tim Keenan, Joanne Andrew, Kim Gimenez, Mars Bonfire, Ken Wagner and I gathered at the intersection of Sherwin Creek Road and the Laurel Canyon "trail", we looked at the sagebrush slopes and the bare hillsides and decided against snowshoes. In fact, the "trail" is an old mining road, and the wilderness boundary is drawn to exclude Laurel Lakes. I expect in another week or two we could have driven nearly all the way to the base of the climb. So we piled ourselves and our gear into the back of Ken's very large truck and got as far as the first snow patch at 2400M. We walked the rest, but the snow didn't start in earnest until about 2800M.

Once we came around the bend into the canyon, I could see that I had pictured some other place—this was a wide glacial canyon of graceful slopes and willows and aspens. Well, some aspens and some avalanche debris. The recent snows lying over the consolidated snow pack from April were sloughing in the gullies after the warm weather of the preceding week. From the mouth of the canyon, you could see the Bloody couloir with the distinctive Y at the top, and we could discern even from there that the snow had been sliding. It is a swell view walking in, and we meandered up the road enjoying the sunny day and the good company. At the road junction at 2800M, we headed straight up canyon on solid snow instead of switching back. At our conversational pace, we reached the first lake by noon (2.5 hrs.) and decided to make camp on some open ground, except for Tim, who dug himself a hole in the snow near a marmot den. In winter, the lower lake would be a chancy campsite smack dab in an avalanche path. There were flat spots (and even a fire ring) at the upper lake, too, right around the bend, but probably just as exposed and colder. (I expect the whole scene is a little less charming without the snow cover, given the access.)

We lounged the afternoon away, visiting the upper lake for a view of the couloir and enjoying a prolonged and very filling happy hour. Ken Wagner won the prize for getting those tortilla chips to camp

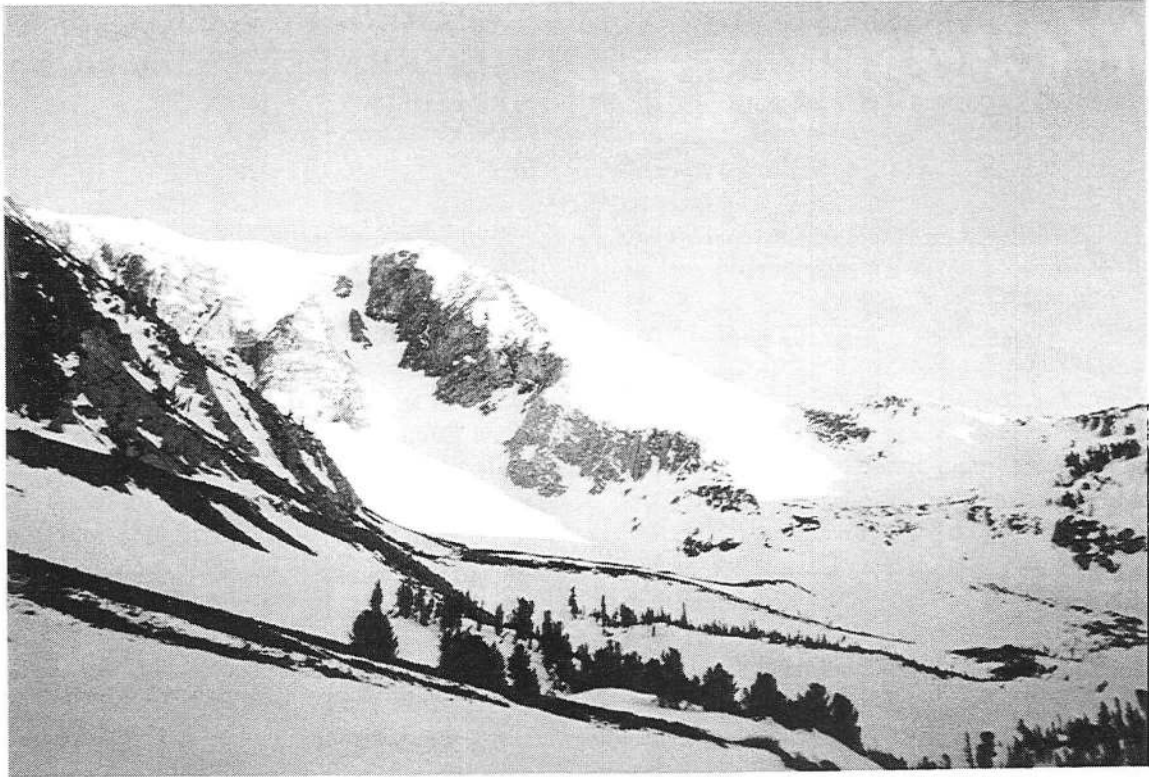
in perfect condition, as well as a pint of salsa, emmanthaler cheese and smoked salmon. Gee, Ken, thanks for dinner! I forget that these May days are long -- the sun rises around 5:00 and sets after 8:00. So did we.

After a moderately warm night which froze just the thinnest glaze in our bottles, we were off at 5:30 walking on good crunchy snow. We put on crampons at the base of the couloir. I had worried about the snow in the steeper sections, shaded by a rock rib for much of the day, but once beyond the open apron at the base, the snow was soft enough to climb without crampons. I was glad for them anyway since the base layer was quite hard. Much of the way we kicked steps in avalanche debris, ironically less consolidated because of the recent warm temps, shade and north aspect. Tim calculated the slope to range as high as 45 degrees, but to be primarily between 34-38°. Nothing extreme, just 1500' of beautiful mountain anatomy. We were on the summit in under 3 1/2 hours, with sunny mild weather on top. More lounging, many pictures, and great views of the Minarets and the peaks around Rock Creek, but especially Red Slate and Izaak Walton close at hand. The country to the south looked gentle and sculpted from snow, and Tuolomne was a blanket of white.

Concerned about avalanche and the unpleasant glissade conditions in the couloir, we opted for a loop, walking northeast down the ridge to the slopes below 3630M where we enjoyed a thousand foot glissade, then to a point above the little glacier south of camp, where we descended to another glissade slope that dropped us a few yards from our tents. We were down in an hour and a half. We caught this route at just the right time, I think; a little later and the slaty scree would have been poking through. We lunched, packed and walked out the way we came, looking back often to see the couloir and the tracks of our glissades.

We ended this fun climb soaking in hot-springs off Benton Crossing Road and eating pizza in Lone Pine called in from Bishop. My thanks to all the participants and to Tim Keenan, with whom it is always a pleasure to lead.

Beth Epstein



Bloody Couloir from Laurel Lakes

Photo by, Joanne Andrews



On Bloody Mtn: Mars Bonfire, Tim Keenan, Joanne Andrew, Ken Wagner, Kim Gimenez
Photo by, Beth Epstein

YOSEMITE VOLUNTEER IN PARKS PROJECT ORANGE COUNTY SIERRA SINGLES/SIERRA PEAKS SECTIONS SAT-SUN JULY 18-19, 1998

By Keith Martin

"Did you see the bears?" asked Ghia excitedly. We turned and gave her a questioning look. "What bears?" I replied. "The ones down by the creek we just crossed. A baby bear with its momma. He was so cute! Just as we approached the creek crossing he stuck his nose out from some bushes he was hiding behind. He looked at us for a few seconds until momma bear made him hide again. He was kind of blond colored but his momma was kind of brownish black."

We were hiking back from Dewey Point to our cars parked along the Glacier Point Road near the McGurk Meadow Trailhead. The six of us had hiked the four mile section of trail from the trailhead out to the point. Along the way we checked the condition and location of trail signs, noting those that were missing or needed repair or resetting those that had fallen over. We removed logs that had fallen on the trail and noted the location and size of those that we could not move. We trimmed away branches that were growing into the trail and we picked up the trash left by thoughtless hikers.

The third annual Yosemite Volunteer In Parks Project jointly sponsored by the Orange County Sierra Singles and the Sierra Peaks Section was a hot success. The heat wave which gripped California did not suffocate the enthusiasm of the twenty volunteers who came from as far as Moraga to the north and Irvine to the south. Working under the direction of Vid Walker, a Volunteer Project Specialist working as a summer intern with the Park Service in Yosemite, we did minor trail maintenance and repair and surveyed the condition of the trail signs at trails along the Glacier Point Road. Vid was known to many of our volunteers who had taken WTC. Vid is one of the WTC instructors for the Orange County section.

Vid met us at 9am Saturday Morning at the Yellow Pines Campground which had been reserved for the use of our group. Located near Sentinel Beach along the banks of the Merced River in Yosemite Valley, this campground is exclusively for the use of the Volunteer in Parks Program. Four group sites are available, furnished with picnic tables, bear boxes, bar-b-que grills, fire rings and lots of firewood, vault toilets and drinking water.

We got the site closest to the river. We slept to the music of croaking frogs and running water.

Vid announced that he had a real treat in store for us. Our original project, which was trailhead maintenance at Wawona Tunnel and Bridalveil Falls had been changed to surveying the trails along the Glacier Point Road. Saturday and Sunday we broke up into two groups, one going with Vid and the other with me. We each checked approximately 4 miles of trail each day, with a round trip distance of 8 miles. My group did the section out to Dewey Point on Saturday and on Sunday did the section of the Panorama Trail from Glacier Point towards Nevada Falls. The other group with Vid checked sections of the Bridalveil Creek Trail. The high country was warm and bathed in brilliant sunshine. An artist's palette of colorful wildflowers crowded the edges of the trails and icy cold streams fed by the copious snows of El Nino were crossed at refreshing intervals. Grand vistas of the waterfalls with colorful rainbows reflected from their mist, greeted us at every turn in the trail.

Each morning Jacqueline Meese prepared generous amounts of delicious hot perked coffee, donated to the group by OCSS. Saturday night we had a potluck dinner and bar-b-que. Participants brought chips and veggies, salsa and watermelon for appetizers. Our bar-b-que entrees were accompanied by potato salad and pasta and desert consisted of pastries and cookies. We then enjoyed talking with old and new friends around the campfire until sleepiness drove us into our nearby tents.

I would like to thank Jacqueline Meese and Lynn Heath of OCSS who stepped in as replacement assistant leaders at the last minute. Lynn did a great job placing signs to guide late arrivals into the campground and Jacqueline provided coffee and ice water for the group. I also wish to thank Gwen Hembrook, Richard and Lorraine Seidmeyer, Larry and Barbee Tidball, Ghia Domont and Lucie Mazmanian all from Los Angeles County, Martin Kluck, David Jamison, Delores Denton, and Susan Harris from Orange County, Pete Yamagata from Sacramento, Rose Certini from Merced, Steve Thaw from Moraga and Frank Oyung, Bert Howard and George McCloud all from Groveland.



Mt Abbott – the moraine at the base of the couloir SPS trip June 27 – 28, 1998. Terry Flood on his way to achieving a Senior Emblem. Paul Graff received his Emblem status on the same climb.
Photography by Joe White.

Freel & Markleeville Pks.

By Jerry Keating

□

Twelve persons originally signed up for this Northern Sierra intro trip July 11-12, and six persevered in spite of itinerary changes prompted by an exceptionally heavy snowpack.

Rather than approach Freel Pk. (10,881') from Armstrong Pass as scheduled, we opted to climb the peak's south ridge from near Horse Meadow. From SR 89 0.8 mile southeast of Luther Pass, we drove USFS Road 051 about 4.3 miles, then took a left-hand spur for another .5 mile. Snow patches remained in the shade at the spur's end (8400'), but we managed to stay on dry ground virtually all the way to the summit. We reached the skyline immediately east of the peak in about two hours, then followed a use trail to the summit. Participants were Bill Sanders (the 1959 SPS chair), Gordon MacLeod, Barbara Lilley, Mike McDermitt and the leaders Jerry and Nancy Keating. Mike's work demands limited him to Saturday only, and the remaining participants agreed to skip Round Top (which each person had done at least once before) and instead climb unlisted Markleeville Pk. (9417') on Sunday. >From the northeast side of Carson Pass on SR 88, we drove 7.5 miles south on Blue Lakes Road Sunday morning to a meadow (7920') in Charity Valley. From there, we ascended the peak's south ridge, crossing several easy snowfields along the way. Wildflowers were in full bloom on the lower slopes, but another week of sun was needed higher up. Views westward included Round Top, which still retained heavy snowfields and would not have been feasible without an ice axe.

With many of the region's peaks volcanic and the meadows green all summer, this area has a scenic character that makes it well worth the long drive from Southern California. Were it closer, it probably would be overcrowded and, therefore, less attractive:

MTS EMERSON (13,204') and GOETHE (13,264')

SIERRA PEAKS SECTION TRIP - JULY 11-12, 1998

by Ron Hudson, leader Greg Roach, co-leader

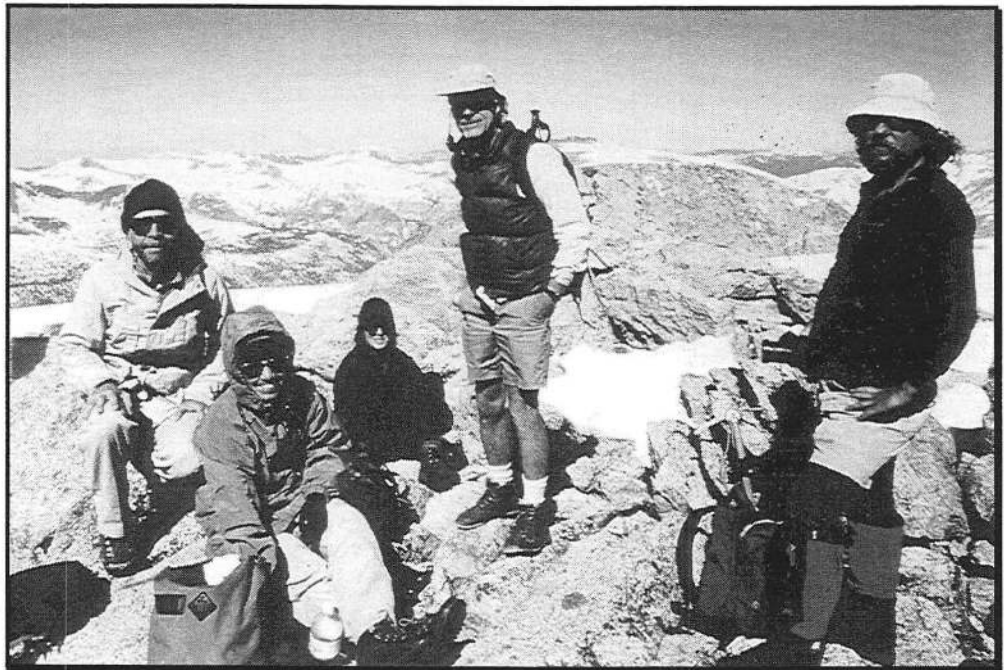
I knew there would be a lot of El Nino snow, but if it was consolidated we could expect a challenging, and hopefully successful climb.

We started from North Lake (9200') at 8:30am, backpacking to just past Loch Leven Lake at 10,500'. There was one stream crossing that took some good balance on logs to negotiate. Emerson's south face was still 50% snow, but we were able to do it almost all on rock. No crampons or axe used here. 1030am-130pm to the top, with some exposed 3rd class near the summit. Nice to be up in the 13,000' Sierra high country again! Great view of the Bishop area and Mt Humphreys. Register was three small books in an aluminum cylinder. Back down to our packs, we hiked on a couple miles more on and off snow to about ½ mile below Puite Pass - about the last open bare spots, but with trees around and good flat rock surfaces for tents. Better to stop now (5pm) and get up earlier Sunday then go over the pass to camp and slog with backpacks twice in the afternoon snow conditions. We had dinner in warm and calm conditions, shared some gourmet rice pudding prepared by Greg and Mirna Roach, and most were in bed at 800pm.

A true alpine start -- 4am, but with a glowing magnificent moon-- overhead and very bright. It seemed like daylight with the reflective white snow and rock; we didn't need flashlights. The best time of day, I think--no bugs, no blasting sun or heat, and nice hard snow. At the pass we yelled for Brian (Smith), who had started with us but went for Pilot Knob (unsuccessful-too much soft snow) and was to camp west of the pass. He joined us shortly, and we continued up the Muriel Lake and Goethe

Lake drainage on good hard snow. Greg and Mirna put on their crampons to go up Alpine Col; all of us had them on by the time we were descending the col's south side and traversed along steepish snow about 100' above the mostly frozen lake. Turning right on the ridge near the lake's outlet, we took off crampons and headed upward on Goethes' SE slopes; on about 50% snow cover. Traversed a couple snow fields; the snow was now softer in the sun but well consolidated. Sun cups were about 6-12 inches deep; no ice = good conditions.

I pushed on quickly for a good deep-breathing 13,000' workout. Mitch Miller and Brian enriched their photo albums with numerous pictures using their professional-grade cameras. Cathy Reynolds was happy with her new boots which were light in weight yet worked fine with strap-on light crampons. All six of us were on the summit by 930am and enjoyed the view. Temperature about 50 degrees with a breeze. The register book, dated to 1963 and 80% full (protected by an ammo can), was in excellent condition. This peak is not climbed by lots of people. Reading the names in the register I realize a lot of things happen to climbers in the 35 years of register entries. Great views! Even a few



Climbers on the summit of Mt. Goethe

Photo by Mitch Miller

polemonium were in bloom.

We could also see that Humphreys Basin NW of Puite Pass was still under 90% snow cover in this El Nino year. The lakes we had passed were starting their seasonal breakup but were nearly all frozen, still. We returned the same route back, down the peak then up and down the col and pass; a lot softer, but no post-holing except occasionally in the voids near rocks. Back in camp from 130 to 230pm. Then we packed out the remaining 5 miles. Seemed a lot of work to do the 2 miles off and on uneven softening snow with packs, but it had been a long day. Hungry mosquitoes didn't help matters

either. The stream crossing on the logs even had more water in the heat of the afternoon. Somehow I managed to throw my pack in the fast stream, but fortunately was able to run into the river downstream and retrieve it before it washed all the way to North Lake. Did about 15 miles, 3500' gain that day (mostly on snow) and 7 miles, 4500' gain on Saturday. Both days perfect weather—not a cloud in the sky. We got back to the cars 5-6pm and drove home. Felt great and was a good workout for some good High Sierra peaks, with a strong group of climbers.

***** ACTION ALERT *** ACTION ALERT *** ACTION ALERT *****

IS IT A PARK OR DISNEYLAND?

Tell Robert Stanton, Director of the National Park Service that S.1693 needs to be amended so non-profits can continue to use our national parks!

Title IV of S.1693, which has recently been passed by the Senate and will soon be marked up by the House Resources Committee, sets up a new scheme for managing all visitor services to the National Park System and provides no place for visits organized by not-for-profit institutions. It puts concessionaires and commercial license-holders in charge of organized back-country use.

The current practice under which organizations such as the Sierra Club gain access will be severely curtailed. As written, this bill could preclude most outings to national parks—both National and Group/Chapter Outings. Accordingly, the Sierra Club is teaming up with the American Camping Association (ACA), American Canoe Association and the National Parks Conservation Association (NPCA) to revise this bill.

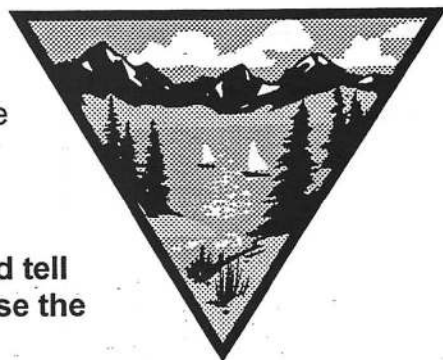
What You Can Do!!!

Call Robert Stanton, Director of the National Parks and tell him to ensure the rights of non-profit institutions to use the national parks.

Key Points To Tell Him:

1. Non-profits have been organizing activities in national parks since the turn of the century!
2. The existing Incidental Business Permit process allows park managers to control access to the parks and need not be replaced with a highly restrictive system.
COMMERCIAL USERS SHOULD NOT MONOPOLIZE PARK USE.
3. The bill as written will reduce the number of options for visitors and increase the costs of programs that remain thereby greatly limiting the public's right to choose how to enjoy our national parks.

YOU CAN REACH MR. STANTON AT (202) 208-3818



American Climbing : A Brief History

By SAM DAVIDSON

Senior Policy Analyst

The Access Fund—Western Region Office

Background

In the past twenty years, climbing has joined the mainstream of outdoor recreation. Climbing is accessible to persons of all age groups, physical abilities, and both sexes. Even "disabled" persons are engaging in climbing with great success. Coincident with the trends of growing personal health awareness and exercise, and of more frequent visitation to America's natural areas to exercise outdoors, climbing has seen a surge in popularity. The Access Fund estimates that there are some 500,000 active rock and mountain climbers in the country today.

The roots of climbing in this country go back perhaps two hundred years. Early nineteenth century outdoorsmen and women scrambled up prominent peaks in the Appalachian mountain chain, from the Great Smoky Mountains in the south, to the Poconos and Adirondacks in the central colonial states, to the White Mountains in the north. The naturalist-writers of the American Renaissance period wrote frequently about mountain climbing; Henry David Thoreau recorded his ascent of Mt. Katahdin in Maine in a famous essay.

As the country expanded to the west, trappers, traders and settlers encountered the larger and more problematic ranges of the Rockies and the Sierra Nevada. Despite the rigors of travel through these mountains, legendary "mountain men" such as Jedediah Smith, John Coltrane and Jim Bridger frequently scaled prominent peaks in the Rockies, as much for diversion as to get the "lay of the land." A government exploration party led by Major Stephen Long made the first ascent of Pike's Peak in Colorado in 1820; Major John Wesley Powell led a party up the first ascent of Long's Peak in 1868. In the 1850's through the 1870's, government surveyors including Josiah Whitney and Clarence King ascended many of the Sierra Nevada's highest promontories. In the late 1800's John Muir, the founder of the Sierra Club, climbed many of the Sierra's greatest peaks by routes that still demand respect from today's climbers.

Evolution of skills, equipment, and attitude

In the 1920's and '30's mountain climbers around the country began actively to seek out new routes up previously climbed mountains, and to attempt to climb peaks and rock formations which hitherto had been considered too difficult. Such routes demanded new skills and tools. The use of ropes and pitons (metal spikes) to create a system of anchors and belays was imported from Europe, and permitted climbers to risk falls while climbing.

It was during this period that mountain climbing began to evolve into two distinct but related branches. "Rock Climbing" became that branch wherein climbers made ascents on formations composed exclusively of rock. These formations often were not true or distinct mountains, but rock faces, pinnacles, domes and boulders. Because pure rock climbing generally has fewer objective hazards than climbing in the high mountains, rock climbers could attempt routes demanding a higher degree of athletic effort and mental control. "Alpine Climbing" became that branch in which climbers encountered various mediums, including ice, snow and rock, and typically involved ascents of true peaks and mountain summits, many of which are found at higher altitudes. A third branch, "Ice Climbing," is a modern variant of alpine climbing and is seasonally dependent, typically concentrating on ascents of frozen waterfalls and other winter water flows.

As climbing evolved so did the implements used to accomplish its various mutations. By the 1930's pitons, which could be hammered in and out of cracks and holes in rock, were in common usage as climbing anchors in the country's three geographic climbing centers: Yosemite Valley, the Front Range of Colorado, and the Adirondack, Catskill, and White mountains in the northeast. In 1939 environmental hero-to-be David Brower and partners ascended Shiprock, a dramatic rock formation in New Mexico; this climb was especially noteworthy because it involved, for the first time,

the use of expansion bolts to protect blank sections where pitons could not be employed.

From the 1940's to the late 1960's, bolts and pitons were used extensively as climbing anchors. During this period most difficult rock climbing was done with "aid," that is, the direct use of equipment to assist upward progress > (i.e. standing in nylon stepladders attached to pitons or bolts). Pitons and bolts were employed also as protection for "free" climbing (moving upward without standing or resting on protection), which emerged in the 1960's as a goal in and of itself. Pitons typically were removed by the second or third climber in a climbing party, after being placed by the leader to protect him or her in the event of a fall. This practice evolved out of the need to re-employ on subsequent "pitches" (ropelengths) the limited amount of gear that could be carried on longer climbs (more than one pitch in height). Also, in the spirit of John Muir and other early mountaineers, climbers generally believed that they should leave as little trace of their passage as possible, to preserve the adventure for those who followed.

By the mid-1960's, the repeated placement and removal of pitons began to have a noticeable effect on the rock at the country's most popular climbing areas. The act of hammering a piton in and out worked to enlarge the hole or crack in which it was placed. Over time, piton use resulted in significant rock damage, as ever larger sizes of piton were required to obtain solid protection at commonly-used "rests" or stopping places along a route.

Bolt use, in contrast, was generally limited by the length of time required for placement, and by the fact that, due to the difficulty of removing them, bolts were typically left in place to be used by other climbers, becoming a "fixed" anchor. It was agreed by virtually all climbers that bolts were necessary in some circumstances, where no other protection could be secured, but that their deployment should be limited.

Besides resource damage from bolts and pitons, in the popular climbing areas climbers began to notice other forms of impact that could be attributed to their activities. Climbers' writings from the 1950's and '60's document the growing awareness of damage to vegetation on and at the base of cliffs; erosion where undeveloped foot-paths had proceeded up loose gullies or over soft soils; litter around mountain basecamps and at the base of smaller crags; and human waste at common camping spots where no sanitation facilities were available. The number of climbers was on the rise,

but the number of areas they commonly visited remained about the same, resulting in a greater density of established routes and even lines of climbers at the start of "trade" (very popular) routes.

Evolution of Style: Clean Climbing, Traditional Climbing, and Sport Climbing*

Prior to the late 1950's the "style" of a rock or mountain ascent was unimportant; climbers used any means possible to get to the top. As climbers began to undertake greater physical and mental challenges, on rock and in the mountains, and to compare their accomplishments with those of other areas and other climbers, style became a topic of much debate. Style provided a way to evaluate and distinguish between climbs and climbers, a framework of "rules" for an activity which had never had any. A climber's style reflected several characteristics of his climbing: whether he free climbed or aid climbed, what type of protection he used and how he placed it, under what conditions he would attempt a climb.

In the 1960's and '70's the climbing game became more overtly competitive, with climbers judging both their own accomplishments and those of their fellows less by their success or failure in reaching a summit than by the style that was employed in the attempt. However, throughout every phase of American climbing, style has always been reinterpreted or redefined by leading climbers exploring the limits of what was possible. This fact has been the cause of numerous controversies and conflicts, in the climbing media and on the rocks. A generation of climbers tends to associate itself with a particular style; each succeeding generation tends to develop a new style, a new set of "rules."

In the late 1960's Yosemite climbers began experimenting with a new kind of protection derived from British methods. "Stoppers" and "hexentrics," aluminum wedges which could be slotted in cracks by the lead climber and lifted easily out again by his follower, did not damage the rock like pitons yet were, in many circumstances, just as secure. These devices led prominent climbers to espouse a new "Clean Climbing" ethos, which placed a premium on climbing with a minimum of impacts to the vertical environment. The concept of Clean Climbing has been subject to much debate over the years, but most climbers have accepted Doug Robinson's definition as articulated in a landmark essay ("The Whole Natural Art of Protection") in the 1972 Chouinard Equipment catalog: to minimize

the use of hammered protection anchors, especially pitons. The Clean Climbing ethic never precluded all use of pitons and bolts; it simply encouraged climbers to climb boldly and go to great lengths (even to retreat from attempted climbs) to avoid placing anchors that could change the medium and the experience for other climbers.

Although slow to catch on initially, Clean Climbing was practiced at virtually every climbing area by the mid-1970's. Of course, the nature of the rock at a given climbing area determined how much the newfangled, non-damaging protection devices could be used in place of bolts and pitons. For the "big walls" (multi-pitch aid climbs), pitons and bolts were used more commonly than on shorter free climbs. In popular climbing areas like Tuolumne Meadows in Yosemite, Joshua Tree National Monument (California), Enchanted Rock (Texas), and Looking Glass Rock (North Carolina), to name but a few, the mostly crackless rock required the use of bolts in order to climb with a modicum of safety.

During this period, placing bolts close together was considered "poor style"; thus climbers typically established climbs on blank faces with long "runouts" > (15' or more from one piece of protection to the next) between bolts. Since virtually all bolts were installed by the lead climber as he free climbed—a difficult procedure—climbers placed as few bolts as possible. The runout face climbs that resulted placed a higher value on boldness than on safety. On many such climbs if the leader fell he risked severe injury or death. Not all climbers enjoyed this kind of climbing; the majority continued to climb crack systems and faces that afforded "natural" (removable) protection. Still, as the numbers of climbers continued to grow, the number of routes ascending blank faces, requiring bolts for protection, continued to rise also. Although climbers from this period had strong convictions about how bolts should be placed, few questioned the precedent that bolts were an integral part of climbing.

In the late 1970's and early 1980's certain technological advances contributed significantly to the escalation of standards of difficulty. Sticky rubber-soled shoes, mechanical camming protection devices, and new training methods all fueled this escalation. However, perhaps the greatest factor in the rise in standards was the importation, in the mid-1980's, of continental European climbing methods.

These methods, developed mainly in France, recognized that the hardest rock climbs required a greater degree of safety, since climbers typically fell

numerous times before succeeding on them. Much of the climbable rock in France is crackless limestone, with bolts being required for protection. Since limestone typically is very steep or overhanging, it was impossible to place bolts "on the lead" as was common in America. So European climbers began placing bolts on rappel, that is, while hanging from a rope. The European attitude towards bolts was, "If a bolt is needed for protection, it should be as strong and well-placed as possible. It doesn't matter how the bolt is placed, as long as it is a good bolt that can be used safely by other climbers."

Rappel-bolting and "hangdogging" (resting on protection after a fall) were accepted European methods well before they first showed up in America. One of the first American areas to embrace "Euro-style" climbing was Smith Rocks in Oregon. Smith Rocks is similar to European limestone: it has few cracks, and is vertical to overhanging in steepness. New routes were bolted on rappel and were of such difficulty that days, even weeks, of effort were necessary in order to climb from the beginning to the end of the pitch in one push, without falls (a "redpoint" ascent). Like the best climbers from previous generations, who went on extended travels to attempt the hardest routes at the country's best-known climbing areas, leading climbers of the 1980's began to come to Smith Rocks to try the new, superhard climbs. They often returned home with a willingness to employ the European methods, as part of the continuing exploration for new and ever more challenging routes.

The standard of safety for fixed anchors changed rapidly. Where formerly 1/4" diameter bolts, placed 1.5" deep, were considered sufficient for protection in most rock, multi-fall sport climbs demanded 3/8" bolts placed 2" to 3" deep. Bolts of this size are laborious to place, so climbers looked for alternatives to the hand-held hammer and drill bit. The alternative they found has facilitated new route development probably more than any other tool or change in attitude: the power drill.

For nearly ten years now, battery-powered hammer drills have been in common usage in virtually every climbing area in the country. Power drills are very expensive, so few climbers own them. Still, the power drill has been responsible for the majority of new, bolt-protected climbs in recent years. Climbers themselves have mixed feelings about power drills; most feel that power drill use should be limited, to prevent "route saturation," but

that some circumstances warrant their use, such as the replacement of old existing bolts which are no longer safe anchors. Surveys show that virtually all climbers support the prohibition of power drill use in designated Wilderness areas.

The effect of Smith Rocks' adoption of European climbing methods on other American climbing areas was profound. Rock formations previously considered too steep and featureless to climb were discovered to offer excellent climbing. In many areas, "top-roping" (climbing while being belayed from above, which can reduce the length and severity of falls) was and still is a common alternative to lead climbing with bolts for protection. In some circumstances, however, it is actually safer to lead climb with bolts than to top-rope; if a climb is very overhanging, for example, a lead fall will be shorter and more controlled than a top-rope fall.

Some American climbing areas embraced the European methods immediately, while other areas, particularly those with long histories of "Traditional Climbing" > (placing all protection anchors, including bolts and pitons, while on the lead, that is, from the ground up), were reluctant or refused to adopt these methods. A few well-publicized conflicts between leading climbers over the use of these methods at traditional areas served to highlight differences between the old and new ("Sport Climbing") styles. Interestingly, these conflicts were not over increased impact but rather over style, how a climb was established. Most climbers don't consider bolts a major form of impact—the issue of how bolts should be placed, and how many bolts should be placed, derives from the ongoing debate over how important is the element of boldness in the sport.

In general, the most basic difference between Sport Climbing and Traditional Climbing is the degree of reliance on closely-spaced bolts for protection.

By 1991, most climbing areas reflected the current consensus that Traditional Climbing and Sport Climbing should co-exist. It should be noted that sport climbs, in some circumstances, can be established in traditional style (from the ground up, on the lead), and that traditional climbs can be done in Sport Climbing style (with hangdogging, pre-placed protection). Some new routes in Yosemite are examples of this blending of old and new attitudes. A few climbing areas, like Pinnacles National Monument in California, where climbing is almost entirely bolt dependent, have remained bastions of ground-up climbing not through regulation but through the consensus of local climbers.

The overall effect of the use of European climbing methods in this country has been to increase the pace of new route development, general climbing activity, and climbers' impact at all climbing areas, not just those where Sport Climbing is the norm. Since Sport Climbing (with its emphasis on steep rock, gymnastic movement and frequent bolt protection) advocates a greater degree of safety than Traditional Climbing (with its emphasis on boldness and placing protection on the lead), sport climbs often require more fixed anchors than crack and slab (low-angle face) climbs. Fixed anchors are one form of climbers' impact, therefore the effect of this increase in bolt usage should be assessed, and measures developed to mitigate this impact where appropriate.

Advances in equipment, technique and training have continued unabated since 1980, allowing climbers to establish more difficult rock climbs and bolder alpine routes. Concomitant with these advances, the number of climbers has probably doubled in the last ten years. With increasing numbers of people getting into all forms and styles of climbing, there is a growing recognition among climbers of shared goals and interests, and of the need for appropriate, sustainable management of our climbing resources.

the Access Fund

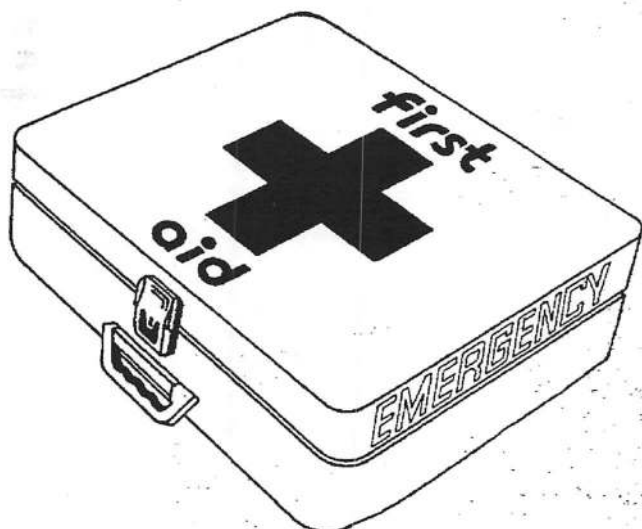
Promotes climber access, conservation and activism.

The Access Fund has provided assistance to the Sierra Club in development of our Club policy on the use of fixed anchors. If you are interested in learning more about the Access Fund or in joining, contact the Fund at the following addresses:

Mail: P.O. Box 17010, Boulder, CO 80308

Phone: (888) 863-6236

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Mountain Sickness

By Jack Miller

One of the more enlightening events on my trek in Nepal was a lecture on mountain sickness by Dr. Wade Henrichs, one of two volunteer physicians at the Himalayan Rescue Station in Pheriche. The station is at nearly 14,000 feet and is about ten miles from the Everest base camp along a very popular trekking route. The principal points of Dr. Henrichs' lecture may be of interest to high climbing Echo readers:

- Signs of acute mountain sickness (AMS) include headache, nausea, poor appetite, fatigue, insomnia and sometime vomiting.
- The best way to acclimatize and avoid AMS is to ascend slowly.
- If at high elevation headache or nausea last more than thirty minutes, take a rest day.
- At the first signs of cerebral or pulmonary edema you should descend.
- Signs of cerebral edema include headache, loss of coordination, drowsiness, vomiting, disorientation and confusion.
- If you have a headache and can walk a straight line, heel-to-toe, then you only have a headache not cerebral edema.
- Decedron, a steroid, only masks cerebral edema symptoms and should only be used to descend.
- Signs of pulmonary edema include noisy bubbly breathing, chest pain, blue lips, shortness of breath and congested lungs.
- If you continue panting or gasping for breath after resting for a minute or two then you should assume that you have pulmonary edema and descend.
- If you take Diamox and feel better, then you are better.
- Diamox works by making the kidneys excrete bicarbonate thus helping to lower the PH of the blood. At lower elevation the body does this by making a weak acid from Carbon Dioxide.
- Drinking lots of water and producing lots of urine will help to acclimatize.
- Neither Cheyne Stokes breathing nor peripheral edema (swelling of hands, face or feet) are by themselves serious matters, not do they foretell serious problems.
- Acute mountain sickness, pulmonary edema and cerebral edema are caused by Oxygen deprivation, not by reduced atmospheric pressure.

In seeming contradiction to this statement most of us could see a pressure chamber in a nearby room that was just the size to hold one person. Dr. Henrichs explained that use of the chamber:

- Pure Oxygen is not always available.
- People with pulmonary edema, cerebral edema or AMS sometimes seem to respond to air (Nitrogen, Oxygen, et.al.) better than pure Oxygen.
- If the air in the lungs is at higher pressure Oxygen gets to the blood faster.

Going higher often means getting colder:

- Cold fingers or toes may be warmed with warm water (100 to 103 degrees) but not hot water. Circulating blood normally carries heat away but when circulation is impaired too much heat may damage tissue.
- Using a product like "Warm Feet" that contains various kinds of hot pepper that irritate the tissue and increase blood flow is a good idea.

NOTICES TO SPS MEMBERS

COME TO PATTY KLINE'S DPS LIST FINISH OCTOBER 17, 1998

PLEASANT POINT (9690'): 6.5 MILES rt, 1,500' OF GAIN, MOSTLY ROAD.

Patty Kline will finish the DPS list on Saturday, October 17. Everyone is invited. Met in downtown Keeler, 5 miles north of the intersection of state highways 190 and 136 at 7:30 am on Saturday morning for the drive to Cerro Grodo. At 5:30 in the evening an optional catered dinner party will be held at the ghost town of Cerro Gordo, the site of the richest silver mines in California, high in the Inyo mountains. The full course lasagna dinner will be served inside the warmth of the original ghost town hotel. In the evening the tradition of the old west lives on with live entertainment, featuring a country-western singer and guitarist. Sunday morning a pancake breakfast compliments of Linda McDermott, Ellen Senior and Phil and Evelyn Reher will be served. RSVP the dinner reservation by October 1st by sending a sase and \$15.00 check payable to: Randy Bernard, 16311 Alora Avenue, Norwalk, CA 90650. Randy's phone is 562/924-1959.

Angeles Chapter – Second Annual Chapter Picnic and Outings Fair October 4, 1998

Crystal Springs Picnic Area – Griffith Park, 10 am to 3 pm.

Most of the Chapter's outings sections and committees will have a display at the Outings Fair. If you've ever wondered what the International Community Section does, or how sections other than the SPS spend their time, this is the event for you.

New members and new outings participants are particularly welcome. Traditional picnic fare will be served from 11:00 am to 1:30 pm. They'll have hamburgers, hot dogs and even more vegetarian alternates than last year. There will be contests, with prizes, interesting people to meet and lots of photo opportunities. Bring your frisbee for the frisbee golf tournament. Bring your driver's license for a chance to drive the electric cars!

Cost: Tickets are \$8.00 for adults and \$3.00 for kids under 10. **TICKETS MUST BE PURCHASED IN ADVANCE.** Purchase tickets by mail from the Chapter office, with SASE. This is a BYOB event. Well behaved dogs on leashes are welcome, but please, do not feed the animals.

**SPS MEETING – SEPTEMBER 9, 1998
TOPIC – FOREST SERVICE WILDERNESS PLAN.**

**SEE RELATED ARTICLE IN THIS ISSUE OF THE ECHO
SPEAKERS: JOE FONTAINE, GARY GUENTHER**

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SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$12.00 per year, due by March 31st. Subscribing to the ECHO is a requirement for active membership in the SPS. Sustaining membership is \$25.00 per year, and includes first class postage. Submit new subscription applications and renewals to the section Treasurer: Tina Stough, 4832 E. Third St., Long Beach, CA 90814, and include your Sierra Club membership number. New applications received after October 1 are credited for the subsequent year. Only one ECHO subscription is necessary for multiple members of a family residing at one address. Contributions or gifts to the Sierra Club or the SPS are not tax-deductible.

ADVERTISEMENT: Private activity announcements and advertisements are accepted at the following rates. Private trip announcements: \$1.00 for the first 4 lines and \$1.00 for each additional line. Other announcements and product/service advertisements: \$1.00 per line or \$25.00 for a half page space. Reach out to our climbing constituency and place an ad today! Send copy and check made out to the SPS, to the Editor.

ADDRESS CHANGES: Send address changes to Scott Sullivan, 11277 Ryandale Drive, Culver City CA 90230. The ECHO is mailed via 3rd class mail and will not be forwarded by the post office.

PEAKS LIST: Copies of the SPS peaks list can be obtained by sending \$1.00 and a SASE to the section Secretary: Scott Sullivan 11277 Ryandale Drive, Culver City CA 90230.

MISSING ISSUES: Inquiries regarding missing issues should be directed to the section Mailer: Elena Sherman, 11277 Ryandale Drive, Culver City CA 90230. Extra copies of the 30th Anniversary ECHO are available by sending \$4.50 per copy to the section Mailer. Copies of the Tribute issue (Nov/Dec 89) are also available from the Mailer for \$2.00.

AWARDS: All prices include sales tax. Emblem pins (\$26.00), senior emblem pins (\$26.00), master emblem pins (\$26.00), list finisher pins (\$15.00), and section patches (\$2.00) are available from Patty Kline, 20362 Callon Dr, Topanga Cyn, CA, 90290. Make all Checks Payable to the SPS

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