



SIERRA CLUB
BULLETIN *January*
1958

*Where should
management stop?*

Straight Thinking

THE YEAR 1957 has made its marks, now, and there is a temptation to relate in glowing terms what marks we in the Sierra Club made too in our sixty-fifth year as an organization of people who, because we have walked a wilderness trail, have a special concern for protecting the things we saw there.

We did well, and the year 1957 didn't make some marks — destructive marks — it might have made otherwise. But we can spare the tooting of our horn; we can observe an extra day of thanksgiving instead. We can be thankful that we don't have to be soloists, but need only play our own part well, and keep in tune, in the concert of effort that is striving to keep this land as America the beautiful.

This issue of the *Bulletin* tells of a year's progress in the effort to save things from blind progress. It also tells of loss and perplexity. One loss it does not speak of, one very great loss, is of a man whose contribution to the cause we serve is too great to treat

here so soon after December 27, when Frederick Law Olmsted, *filis*, died at the age of 87. The perplexities his vision and genius spared us are legion. We'll tell about them in the next Annual Magazine, and about the mark he made, and the marks from which he saved the beauty of our land.

For now, let us just say that he was the son of Frederick Law Olmsted, *père*, and here indeed, *tel père, tel fils!* Ninety-three years ago the senior Olmsted wrote, from his genius, the guideline of park and wilderness preservation that he and his son hewed to in their celebrated careers as landscape architects. We may have forgotten the guideline now and then; we haven't improved upon it — what his long lost report said about Yosemite back in 1865:

The first point to be kept in mind then is the preservation and maintenance as exactly as is possible of the natural scenery; the restriction, that is to say, within the narrowest limits consistent with the necessary accommodation of visitors, of all artificial constructions and the prevention of all constructions markedly inharmonious with the scenery or which would unnecessarily obscure, distort, or detract from the dignity of the scenery.

... it is important that it be remembered that in permitting the sacrifice of anything that would be of the slightest value to future visitors to the convenience, bad taste, playfulness, carelessness, or wanton destructiveness of present visitors, we probably yield in each case the interest of uncounted millions to the selfishness of a few individuals.

The prose might have been simpler; the thinking could not have been straighter. It can stand us well in 1958, as the opportunity comes to establish a National Wilderness Preservation System. Such an opportunity came too late for the Olmsteds. We dare not come too late to it. D.R.B.

THE SIERRA CLUB,* founded in 1892, has devoted itself to the study and protection of national scenic resources, particularly those of mountain regions. Participation is invited in the program to enjoy and preserve wilderness, wildlife, forests, and streams.

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*Reg. U.S. Pat. Off.

COVER PHOTO, by Marion Patterson: a bulldozer preparing for more pavement in Yosemite Valley. How much more "progress" for the parks?



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... TO EXPLORE, ENJOY, AND PROTECT THE NATURAL MOUNTAIN SCENE ...

Where Should Management Stop?

OF ALL the forms of life on the planet earth, man has unquestionably been the busiest and most successful in controlling and changing his surroundings. This is one of his most distinguishing characteristics: while other forms of life may thrive by adapting themselves to their environment, man thrives by adapting his environment to himself. The net result of a few thousand years of increasingly skillful adapting is what we call civilization.

Today, civilization is so far widespread that there is hardly a place on earth that has not felt man's foot—or what is more significant—his hand. The land, the sea, the very air all bear witness to his presence, his ingenuity and his talent for development and exploitation.

It is not surprising, then, that man thinks of himself not as a creature of the earth, but as master of it. In our world today, we accept as normal—and as our right—our ability to control other forms of life. And we think nothing of changing the face of the earth to make ourselves more comfortable: we quarry, we bulldoze, we pave, and we are proud of our mountain-moving abilities. We take the treasures of the earth for our own gain, and in a downright righteous manner.

In all of this activity, we think—and have thought—very little of the earth itself. We

tell ourselves that the alterations we are making are the best for all concerned. But, as Lowell Sumner points out (*Sierra Club Bulletin*, June, 1957), man is just one of many animal populations dependent upon the earth for existence, and the changes he has wrought in the earth have gone very deep. How deep and how dangerous these changes are is just now beginning to be recognized widely.

In our own country, some men had glimmerings of what we were doing as much as a hundred years ago. And fifty years ago, men of vision started talking conservation. But they were powerless to stop the plunder of our natural resources set in motion with the coming of civilized man. In the last century alone, we have used up forever or beyond repair untold quantities of products nature has taken eons to manufacture. Now we are coming squarely to face the fact that our resources are not limitless, despite our earlier delusions.

Today it is being brought home to us that one-fifth of our total once-arable land has been despoiled and is useless for agriculture. The problem of water, in a land once wealthy with it, is becoming ever more vital. Our great green mantle of virgin timber is very nearly stripped. And the old American custom of moving on to new land when the old

This *Bulletin* presents our fourth annual review of conservation issues, and summarizes some major problems in protecting national scenic resources, from the Sierra Club's point of view.

farm went bad doesn't work any more, for there isn't any more new land. The time has come when we must conserve our resources, and conserve them wisely. The concept of intelligent management must pervade our common thinking if we are to survive.

This concept—of wise development, repair of damage, recovery of waste—has grown from small beginnings fifty years ago. It has been pioneered and is being practiced progressively by industries dependent upon natural resources—by the oil industry, the coal industry and, increasingly, the timber interests, and by some of our government agencies.

Among the first in the field has been the United States Forest Service, working to effect sound timber practices in our national forests. The theory of "multiple use" has guided the Forest Service in its efforts to develop yardsticks for its tremendous job of management.

In our National Park Service, dedicated to preservation of the natural scene in areas of great scenic worth, the concept of management has increased its scope. Insect-control and pavement of trails are just two of the recent innovations thought necessary for proper administration of lands set aside for their innate beauty.

And so the pendulum of intelligent management has begun its swing. It must de-

scribe a wide arc, certainly, if our type of civilization is to continue. But the current direction is one to consider, for before we have learned to manage our already-developed lands, we are attempting management in our undeveloped areas. This poses some serious questions not only for those of us who are concerned with our scenic resources, but for all of us "civilized" men:

1. *Are all of our present concepts of management consistent with the fundamental patterns of nature?*

One of the foremost exponents of pure management in our forests says flatly that "nature is never right." The ecologist, the scientist—and the evidence—say that, right or wrong, nature can be very dangerous to human life when tampered with.

What happens when we exterminate an annoying predator? The predator's prey, or its enemies, often multiply to such an extent that they become an even greater nuisance. What happens when the cycle of cutting, of tilling, of over-grazing moves over a hillside? Great forests may end up as wastelands. What happens when the water table is lowered too much in areas adjacent to the sea? Man has salt in his drinking water. These sad examples of toying with nature are everywhere about us.

Shouldn't we then key our type of management to the kind of natural management that has made our earth such a pleasant place? To do this, we obviously need areas—and big enough areas—left in their natural state, so that we can study as well as enjoy them. Such priceless undisturbed biotic areas are already in exceedingly short supply.

2. *How long does it take to judge the total effect of our management methods?*

It is very easy—and sometimes very fatal—to base a method of management on early



SEVEN SISTERS RIDGE,
Northern Washington Cascades
(by David Simons)



SUMMER SCENE, Mt. Diablo State Park

William J. Maund, Jr.

experimental success. Nature moves very slowly; she takes a millenium to grow a great forest, and eons to deposit the oil we withdraw in a few months. To decide that we are right in a method of management after a few years, or even after the span of a lifetime, is open for consideration.

Take the foresters in Germany who once decided that a pure, unmixed stand of spruce would be most desirable. For the first generations of their forest, the trees prospered and the experiment was judged a huge success. But later generations grew progressively poorer, until the forest was dead. Later ecologic experiments proved that other species were needed to grow in conjunction with spruce for it to survive.

More recently, pineapple growers in Hawaii were highly pleased to find a chemical which greatly increased their pineapple crops. The chemical was introduced widely into the soil of many pineapple plantations, and for a few years, it justified all its promise. Then

came a year when crops were poor, and they finally failed altogether. Soil analysis showed that the wonder chemical had not only caused the failure, but had rendered the earth useless for future pineapple cultivation.

In both of these instances, and in many, many more, intelligent management made what turned out to be disastrous snap-judgments, even though in the first case many years were involved. If we will heed this warning, we will go slowly with widespread management of any kind until we have long-range proof of its effectiveness.

3. Our last and most important question is simply: where should management stop? This is the theme of this issue of the *Bulletin*, and many of the articles raise the question squarely.

If we continue to launch current practices of management in our undeveloped lands, where is the logical end? In fact, can there be an end to this type of management? Can we consistently have "sanitation" logging for

pest control in any one area without having it in adjacent areas, until eventually we end up with all our forests being logged for pest control?

Or, if we continue to decrease our supply of natural areas through management, will we be able to leave *any* of them unmanaged? Will they become so precious that we dare not let a natural catastrophe take place in them? Will every insect epidemic have to be controlled, every fire extinguished, and, finally, every inch managed?

What price will we pay for this kind of ultimate management? The scenic and esthetic losses will be immeasurable. Perhaps even more disturbing, we will have lost our natural controls forever.

It is generally agreed that we need natural areas. The question is how much should we leave in an unmanaged state? To answer this properly, we need a thorough and effective survey and evaluation of our remaining unmanaged lands, on a nationwide scale. We need this survey from the ecologic and scenic as well as the economic aspects. This will take time—but time is running out.

Most of our undeveloped lands now lie within our national forests, our national parks, our fish and wildlife refuges, and elsewhere in the public domain. All of these lands are under almost constant and increasing pressure for development, if they are of

any economic worth. And these pressures for development come, in many cases, not from the heedless exploiters, but from the well-meaning, intelligent manager. Unless we slow our present pace, it may not be long before all our lands of economic value are developed, regardless of their scientific or scenic worth.

Must we have such total management? Is there no choice between outright exploitation for immediate economic gain, and "multiple use" for our remaining undeveloped lands? Are we going to leave no part of our earth undisturbed for those who follow us?

This is a plea that we slow down, and answer these questions before it is too late. Let us take full measure of our natural resources. Let us establish sound management in our developed areas first. We must do this not for ourselves alone, but for our children. In a world becoming increasingly taut with the tensions of civilization, with pressures and populations growing apace, the gift of undisturbed areas of the earth, with their scientific treasure as well as their fundamental beauty, will become ever more priceless. It is up to us to make sure that the gift—no longer limitless as many would like to believe—will at least be as generous as we can make it.

PEGGY AND EDGAR WAYBURN

Litterbugs Found in Dictionary

The American people can be very proud of themselves. Through their untiring efforts they have brought about the coining of a brand new word. The word is "litterbug," and it is to be included in the new edition of Funk and Wagnalls' dictionary.

We have not seen the official definition of the word as yet, but for the benefit of those who may not have heard it, we will issue our own:

A LITTERBUG is a common two-legged animal which travels about the countryside, often at high speeds, and attempts to distribute paper cups, Kleenex, beer cans and other quaint forms of decoration evenly and

thoroughly on all bushes, trees, rocks, etc., wherever it travels. One highly developed form of litterbug contaminates streams by using them as final resting places for garbage and other assorted debris.

The litterbug is too large to be disposed of by a Flit gun or flyswatter, and as yet no effective form of control has been devised. A varmint rifle would probably be efficient, but this method is usually frowned upon by various law enforcement agencies, since litterbugs are likely to be found in heavily populated campgrounds and recreation areas which are also used by people.

Nevada Sportsman

Machines Violate Wilderness Philosophy

A 1957 NATIONAL PARK SERVICE pamphlet describes the Park principle as "largely a wilderness philosophy." Many esthetic and ecological definitions of wilderness are cited and the booklet then states: "The quality of wilderness is experienced within an expansive roadless area, in a narrow glen, or even close to a major highway, if shielded from the effects of mechanized civilization."

A viewpoint opposite to this one is also finding expression in the national parks, and most certainly at Tuolumne Meadows where in the past two summers we have observed the impact of mechanization. The rising costs of labor, the efficiency of new building materials and of machines, and the fundamentalist engineering attitude of some park officials are responsible for this gradual reliance on a machine economy alien to a wilderness environment.

Mechanical Mule

After Labor Day when most people have left Tuolumne Meadows and when presumably certain government projects will not interfere with summer recreation, the machines appear. In the fall of 1956 the "Go Devil Trail Buggy," a kind of motorized wheelbarrow, made an experimental run across the meadow. Its V-shaped bin carried a heavy load and undoubtedly the "Go Devil" was conceived as a mechanical mule. The Glen Aulin trail was too rough for it, but history tells that another horseless buggy was improved and went on to pave the nation. Would the "Go Devil" pave the Sierra?

A museum piece the day it was made, the newly created trail buggy was already outmoded by the caterpillar tractor, developed years ago. Only a tractor is strong enough to haul the 1500-pound steel girders which will replace the log stringers on the three-span bridge south of the Glen Aulin High Camp, and last fall the cat was gouging out a new trail wide enough to accommodate its hulk over the Glen Aulin trail right-of-way. We saw a shocking example of caterpillar erosion. The 52" blade tore up boulders and



Tractor in Tuolumne Meadows

(Frederick Eissler)

sod which hold the trail against rain and spring thaw and churned the dusty gravel soil, making an unsatisfactory trail surface for hikers. Where the path narrowed between two large boulders, the cat explored routes on each side of the obstacles, its cleat tracks marking every move, and then cut its five-foot swath around one side.

What main reasons are given for preferring steel I-beams over the logs and rock available at the building site? Construction and maintenance costs will be lower when steel is used, said the trail superintendent. The region is being scarred for the price of one bridge or—in the possible future—for the cost of additional steel bridges to support extensive caterpillar encroachment in the back-country.

Vista Clearing

While the cat relentlessly charged at the land, the chipping machine was grinding the lodgepole growth cut from the Tioga Road shoulder and from a strip of adjoining meadow, tossing the chips in a twenty-foot arc to the meadow floor where they lay in large drifts six to eight inches deep.

"Vista clearing," the operation is called. The Park Service wants to facilitate the motorists' visual enjoyment of the meadow by lifting the roadside veil of obtruding trees, but again the effects of the project damage wilderness qualities.

Some motorists drive into the vista on a

picnic excursion—no trees to fence the road. And in their tracks the ranger plants a “Driving Across Meadows Prohibited” sign, which adorns the vista where trees once blocked the view. The hiker at the Soda Spring, un-“shielded from the effects of mechanized civilization,” (to paraphrase the pamphlet), sees the ribboned highway and cars following fleeting cars.

The chips? One attitude seems to be: let them fall where they may. The naturalist protests, apparently to no avail, this being the second summer of chipping away at the meadow. He says that the chopped wood forms a mulch, a blanket that kills meadow grass and flowers. The forester replies that the chips rapidly decompose. The hiker observes that chips of the same size are but slowly fading away at the similar altitude of

Sawmill Camp, which was abandoned many years ago.

Could not the three workers who are now shoving the chunks of lodgepole pine into the chipping machine more wisely be stacking the larger pieces for the campers to use, and burning the saplings and trimmings at the dump, which is less than two miles away? Is the policy of vista clearing itself acceptable?

The “trail buggy,” the cat, the wood chipper add to the accumulating evidence that the machine is attacking our mountain strongholds. The Park is working against itself—the “philosophy of wilderness” and the engineers’ cost expediency are in conflict. Here is a question of crucial immediacy: should the Sierra back-country be mechanized?
FREDERICK EISSLER

Zoning Key to Billboard Control

“What’s all the shouting about?” a representative of the outdoor advertising industry asks in the *Saturday Review* for November 9, 1957. In the companion article, Senator Richard Neuberger points out that there is good reason to shout—and to act. Without preventive action the new interstate highway system, much of the mileage of which will run through rural country now relatively unspoiled, will attract a multitude of new billboards.

Nature lovers are all too well aware that wherever counties have not zoned restrictively, billboards already mar many rural highways, including those in the mountains. The amount of advertising increases with the increase in traffic.

Probably we must accept outdoor advertising in many business districts, and a certain number of signs calling attention to roadside service establishments are in the motorist’s interest as well as that of the business concerned. But should we be required to read advertising every mile of the way? May we not rightly ask to find the peace and refreshment that come from viewing unspoiled natural scenes when we drive through the mountains or countryside? A large majority of

the public would like this opportunity, a recent Trendex poll indicates.

In our state there is some encouragement in letters received from county planning officials. The California Roadside Council has been inquiring about the zoning restrictions in effect where new freeways are going through. Most counties are giving thought to the problem. But, although this fact is encouraging, the work is yet to be done. Many rural areas in California are still unclassified under zoning, or are classified in such a way as to be wide open to rural outdoor advertising. To secure adoption of more restrictive zoning laws takes time and endless battles.

On the county level, officials need encouragement. New efforts may be made, statewide, when the time comes for state legislation. Meanwhile Senator Thomas H. Kuchel, though opposing the Neuberger Bill, writes that he is “giving thought” to some more acceptable formula. Letters to him may stimulate his thought, which we hope is in line with recognition of the public’s growing demand.

HELEN REYNOLDS
*Executive Vice-President,
California Roadside Council*



This Is the Forest Primeval . . .



LONGFELLOW's familiar line was nostalgic even in 1847, but we are fortunate enough still to have a fraction of the great North American forests in something near their primitive condition.

What is it worth to be able to turn to the beauty, the quiet, the simplicity, the natural relationships of these places?

We affirm the right of the pre-human world to survive. More important perhaps, we affirm the right and need of people to have access to wilderness for solace, strength and pleasure.

That is why the Sierra Club acts to protect the natural scene, whether forest, grassland, desert, marsh, mountain or shore.

Photos by William J. Maund, Jr., Don Worth

How Much Wilderness?

How much wilderness do we have today?

Dedicated wilderness in the United States, roadless, unmechanized plots of 5,000 acres or more, totals one-third acre per person as of the latest count (of wilderness *and* of people).

A lot of this acreage, however, is wall space, not floor space. Walls are fine to look at, and mean as much to wilderness and houses as the dough around the hole means to a doughnut. But you don't spend much time on the walls of a house, nor can you walk on all the floor.

And so with wilderness. By the time you comb through your third-acre to find a bit of living space—a place to cook, to sit by your campfire, and to lay out your sleeping bag where it will not slide downhill nor be hit by an ember—you find that the key area in your one-third acre is small indeed. How small we don't have the data to determine.

But here's a clue. In all the 20 million acres of national forest in California, only one acre in a hundred is gentle enough for camping; not all of that acre is attractive to people, and even so your sleeping bag would roll off part of it.

But take that ratio of 1 per cent and apply it to your one-third acre of wilderness. You own less than a twelve-foot square of living space!

Whatever the size, this wilderness exists only by administrative determination or sufferance, as the case may be. The good work that has saved these places so far needs the backing of Congress, too, against the day when there will be twice as many people with four times as much opportunity to get to what can be no more wilderness than we now have.

D.R.B.



*Lake Chelan in
the Northern
Washington Cascades
(Grant McConnell)*

Mathematics for the Billions

TAKE a billion people, double the number in fifty years, try to apportion one world's resources among them, and you have a problem—our mid-century problem.

Prepare to double the number again in a speed-shrunk world and you run into trouble—1958 trouble. It is trouble shared by two and a half billion people today.

Shared, but not necessarily faced—not by enough of those people. The conservationist, we submit, is trying to face the trouble and trying to sustain the good life for mankind while alleviating it. Moreover, he believes that the good life is more than an accretion of things, that it also needs some natural world in it, unpaved and unroofed, for the known and unknown benefits that can accrue to civilized man from his heritage of wilderness untrammelled by people and their things.

The year 1957 has heartened the conservationists who are most concerned with retaining our remnants of the American wilderness. Strong new support has come for the idea that we must preserve some land where you *find* an environment instead of trying to take it with you.

More, More, More

But other voices have been added, too, as the invasion from the cradle multiplies peoples and divides space. For all these people we must cut more trees, dam more streams, dig more minerals, plow (but pave) more soil, pump more oil to flow away forever down the long paved river, and build bigger ICBM's. Each resource manager to his own specialty; each resource processor to his own declaration of quarterly dividend. Each shouting for more than his share. Is it surprising that the voice for the wilderness is sometimes lost in the din of inequity?

For all this, support for the Wilderness Bill is growing and encouraging. So was the speed with which the idea of a Scenic Resources Review took hold in the legislation to establish the national Outdoor Recreation

Resources Review Commission. The legislation passed the Senate in 1957 and at this writing is expected soon to complete its rounds of approval. Here at last would come the opportunity to give equitable attention to the future's need for parks, wilderness, wildlife, and the outdoor recreation and recreation they could afford in perpetuity if rescued in time.

The Predawn Dark

This looks like the promised dawn. Perhaps, then, we should not be dismayed if things suddenly darken. For darken they have. There has been a discouraging resistance to proposals to make sure that the recreation review will be truly equitable. To assure equitability, conservationists have repeatedly urged a special kind of moratorium.

For example, they have said to the Department of Agriculture: "You have found out a great deal about the number of trees we could use for timber and pulp by the year 2,000. You have yet to find out what the wilderness and recreation needs will be by then. You have supported the Recreation Bill that will make a three-year study of those needs. You are starting your own research on forest recreation. Therefore will you delay logging on scenic areas now in controversy, such as the Three Sisters country, until we begin to know as much about needs for wilderness and recreation as we know about timber?"

No, comes the reply. This would unnecessarily delay the proper management of those lands.

To the Department of the Interior the same kind of question was addressed regarding a Reclamation withdrawal, for instance, on the Flathead River, within an important wildlife range. Couldn't there be a three-year look-see before an irrevocable commitment was made? The Department was concerned lest existing programs be upset.

To the Corps of Engineers, Department of



the Army, the same question about Bruce's Eddy dam and its effect upon a beautiful stream and winter range for elk. The Corps continued to push hard for the dam.

To members of Congress, a request for an amendment to the Recreation Bill that would provide for a temporary segregation "of areas of probable high scenic, scientific, and recreational significance." The Senate Interior Committee replies: No, the necessary authority already exists in the Interior Department. But the Interior Department isn't sure where or how, especially for lands under the Department of Agriculture.

So complex a subject—so important a subject—cannot be adequately summarized in a few paragraphs or even in a few chapters. But the foregoing summary can serve to convey the feeling of frustration that working conservationists wake up with in the pre-dawn dark. If they suspect that they are the victims of the evil plot of a schemer, they may be forgiven, but they're wrong. This is a shared frustration, shared by administrators and legislators too, and all deriving from that 1958 trouble we were talking about.

Statistics to Tremble at

Two statistics bring the trouble down to earth:

1. The twentieth-century world has used up more of the earth's resources than has all previous history.

2. We now share the earth with one man out of every ten who ever existed on it—ten per cent of all who have lived are now alive!

If you prefer to be more conservative, adjust that to one out of twenty. It makes no real difference; the conclusion is the same. But forget prehistory and just think of the last 1,957 years; view the predicament of man and his natural resources since the first

Christmas. Squeeze that time to a single day so you can feel its substance. . . .

By this compressed scale of time—with a single day representing a period that began in the year 1 and will end in the year 2400—it is now just 7:35 p.m. And what has happened since dinner ended at seven o'clock? Twice as many people are in our house. And of all the irreplaceable furniture that was in the room when the day began, furniture slowly assembled in all the aeons, we've burned up more than half since dinner. We contentedly bask as the fireplace glows, confident that when our number doubles again in the next half hour—and quadruples by 8:30—we'll find some more furniture in undiscovered other rooms. The practical thing to do will be to burn this, too, that still others may join in the widening circle around the fireplace. We bask happily, making good conversation. At cocktail time a misanthropic dreamer was inconsiderate enough to ask what we were going to be doing by midnight. Fortunately he left before dinner and the gloom lifted. What was his name? Oh yes, it was Malthus.

If we could ask him back, he might point out that for mankind to progress blindly from plenty to paucity, then from salt mine to ant heap, men need not plan at all. Their appetite for resources need become no more voracious than it already is, and their plethora of wants would guarantee a universe of want. He would remind us to seek a merciful way to contain the explosion of people across the face of the earth—to discover a merciful way lest a cruel way should descend upon us.

But Malthus would only be getting gloomy again, so out with him. . . .

We're going to assume that man will soon discover his least-exploited resource, Restraint. And that he will also discover substi-

tutes for material resources as each in turn becomes prohibitively scarce, until his skill finally enables him to fulfill his material needs reasonably well from the only three really abundant resources, sea, rock, and air. (Science will do all this, then tackle the common cold.) We're going to assume this because we must; it is the only alternative to our being measured for sackcloth and being fed tranquilizers.

Wilderness—Symbol of Restraint

Having preferred the pleasanter assumption, let's get the metaphor out of the blender and look at what's on the menu for the future.

We see a tender filet, synthesized from algae, cooked to a turn on a pushbutton-operated, self-propelled lazy Susan who washes her own dishes. This, with tasty ersatz extras, will provide all the calories, proteins, and esters our great-grandson may require for subsistence.

Happily, we shall not be expected to join

him at his meal. We have known much better fare. There is room in our house. There is a garden around it, and friends who are not too crowded to be kind. And when we want a change of scene, we know of a wooded spot in the mountains, a spot we are glad we have to walk to, where a stream's energy is white and jubilant, where the lakeshore is just the way eternity made it, where we *can* see the forest for the trees, enjoy it *because* of them, unmanaged, unmanipulated, unmanicured trees—good old-growth, overmature, decadent, high-risk snags that they may be to a silviculturist, but not to God.

This plea, then, to the managers of our resources: Please think hard about our collective great-grandson as you go on about your work. His future will lack many things we enjoy and we're not sure what he will find in their stead. So don't deprive him of wilderness, too, nor of wilderness and the spiritual lift of the primeval forest and stream.

DAVID R. BROWER

Tioga Turnpike—A New Speedway

WORK was started last summer on the improvement of the final 21-mile section of the Tioga Road, leading from Yosemite Valley to Tuolumne Meadows. The entire distance is 55 miles but the first 34 miles had already been improved and paved. Many people who have seen what is being done on the present job have now baptized it as the Tioga Turnpike.

The Sierra Club has long been concerned about the type of road that should be constructed as approaches to the higher regions of the national parks. An article in the *Sierra Club Bulletin* for June, 1949, by Harold C. Bradley and David R. Brower, lists the following disadvantages of a completed high-speed road from Yosemite Valley to Tuolumne Meadows:

1. It invites speeds which are dangerous and at which little is seen except the road itself.

2. It will promote crowding and overdevelopment in the Tuolumne Meadows region, just as happened in Yosemite Valley when effortless access was provided.

3. It will complete the missing and critical link for a fast trans-Sierra highway which will serve not only park visitors, but the general business public which may need to cross the range, east or west.

4. Effortless driving for the park visitor, at any desired speed, along with increasing use as a general public-service corridor through the park, will certainly produce some profound changes in a region whose chief charm today lies in its semi-primitive quality.

After much correspondence and many talks with representatives of the National Park Service including the director himself, the work was finally started this summer. The director had given assurance that he was in favor of a narrow road, with turn-outs for people who want to stop and enjoy the scenery. The United States Bureau of Public Roads, which usually has charge of road construction in national parks, had wanted a wide high-speed road but the Park Service director stated at a recent meeting with the executive committee of the National Parks

Mission 66, Roads, and the Park Idea

MISSION 66 contemplates a great deal of road management — construction and reconstruction. The standards of these roads are not just engineering details—they will have an important effect upon park experience:

1. A high-standard road cuts, fills, clears, grubs, and paves more of the scenic terrain that is supposed to be preserved unimpaired than a low-standard road does.

2. The fast road invites traffic looking for a way through rather than seeking a way to look, and overburdens points of interest, many of them fragile, that are already crowded.

3. A road made to conform rigidly to high standards tends to make the viewer's mood conform too—becomes a road to hurry him somewhere else, as ordinary roads do, and give him less national-park meaning.

(Continued from page 13)

Association that he had persuaded them to lower the standards.

Work has now progressed to the point where the public can see what is being done. The final result is going to be a 26-foot wide paved road with grades of less than six per cent and wide-radius curves. This will certainly invite 70-mile-an-hour driving. Although the speed limit in the national parks is officially 35 miles per hour, lack of policing will cause most motorists to travel at higher speeds.

Thus all the dangers foreseen in the Bradley-Brower article are now upon us, in spite of National Park Service assurances to the contrary. Friends of the national parks are rightly worried at trends of this kind in the entire national park system. Pressure of commercial influences for more travel and more money spending is undoubtedly behind it.

Can conservationists who are interested in preserving some of our wilder values stem this tide at all? It is a challenge that needs the interest and cooperation of all who cherish our national parks for their intrinsic worth.

C. EDWARD GRAVES

4. A high-standard road is not necessarily safer. To the best of our knowledge the old Tioga Road, in all its years, killed no one; the sped-up part is already a killer. Park Service Director Conrad Wirth has said, "The control of a scenic road depends entirely on its standards and not on speed signs or ranger patrols to keep the speed down. You cannot keep the speed down on a fast road; accidents are due to speed, and very seldom do you have accidents on slow scenic roads."

Short Chronology

1953—The Sierra Club published "A National Park Road Policy." It spelled out standards which said in effect that a road like that from Wawona to Yosemite Valley, which carries far more traffic than the Tioga Road, is of high enough standard, and that the then completed portions of the new Tioga Road were too fancy.

1955—The policy was republished as a brochure and received wide support, including the concurrence of the Park Service. The rest of the realigned Tioga Road, the Service said, "will be a narrower and slower road than that section already built."

July 9, 1957—The club was invited to check the Yosemite Master Plan in order to find out specifically what Mission 66 contemplated for Yosemite. Completion of the Tioga realignment is a Mission 66 project.

July 10—The club studied the Master Plan, including the all-critical Tenaya Lake portion. These plans had been revised on June 5, their status designated "preliminary" as of June 17. But they showed no date, in the appropriate squares, for "Revised Preliminary" or for "Advertised," nor any Park Service signatures under "Recommended for Approval" or under "Approved."

July 14 (two days later)—Bids for the road, advertised perhaps 30 days before, were opened. The contract was let soon after, and construction was rapidly under way.

L'envoi

With this speed, there has been irrevocably carved into the Tenaya Lake part of Yosemite, one of the park's finest areas, a

road just as high in standard as the Park Service was contemplating in 1940—if anything, wider and faster than the sections already built. It pinches the Tenaya campground, extends on fill out into the lake, cuts right through meadow and stream alongside the gentle winding of the old road—and about four acres of fragile terrain under Pyweack Dome were strip-mined for gravel and fill. A four-foot “sidewalk along Lake Tenaya” is in the plan.

Pavement will settle the construction dust; nature will try to restore green where it used to be and in time will succeed; the historic, rugged, and challenging old road will all but disappear. And there will not again be the need, or the opportunity, to feel what we used to feel when, after working our way up and down those old grades and around those tight corners, we saw Tenaya Lake burst upon us.

Tenaya Lake, the Yosemite Indians’ “Lake of the Shining Rocks,” is strung on a highway now, and you will be able to skirt its very edge in 35 seconds’ less time, not noticing, perhaps, that some of the shine is gone.

But was the use of a national park, here, so regulated as to preserve it unimpaired for

the enjoyment of present and future generations? Or was something irreplaceable sacrificed for “convenience”?

You can find variations of the same theme on the South Rim of Grand Canyon, on Hurricane Ridge in Olympic, in Stevens Canyon on Rainier—with its hundred-foot roadbed at the Ohanepécosh junction.

There are two questions to think about: (1) Do we all really insist that our national-park driving and windshield vistas be made this easy? and (2) Are we sure our children will?
D.R.B.

New Conference on Conservation Education

On March 15 and 16, the Sierra Club will hold its second conference on information and education activities, at the Josephine Randall Junior Museum in San Francisco. Purpose of the conference is to exchange ideas among the chapters on conservation education. Preliminary plans have been made by Cicely Christy and the Bay Chapter Executive Committee. Chairman Genny Schumacher will announce the program in the near future.

Inventory of Resources Needed Now

WHILE federal agencies pushed ahead with their ambitious plans for extended recreation development on America’s government lands during 1957, the less glamorous job of taking a recreation resources inventory throughout the nation moved more slowly.

The prospects seem good, however, that work on such an inventory may begin before the end of 1958.

It has already started in California, for the State Legislature at Sacramento at its last session passed a comprehensive bill creating a “California Public Outdoor Recreation Plan Committee.” This group, with a \$50,000 budget for its first year and a paid staff, is required to submit a full survey of the State’s recreation resources and a plan for their development by 1960.

On the federal scene, the major step for-

ward was approval by the Senate of a bill to establish a national Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission that would make a definitive study of the nation’s outdoor recreation resources on public lands.

The bill wound up in the House Interior Subcommittee last summer, and will start moving from that point early in the current 1958 session. It is sponsored by a large group of Congressmen, including Engle, Hagen and Doyle of California; Aspinall of Colorado and Saylor of Pennsylvania. It has no organized opposition, so its chances seem secure.

Under the measure a 15-man commission would be created, including four members from the Senate, four from the House and seven private citizens “experienced in resource conservation planning” appointed by the President.

The Commission, in turn, would be aided

State Survey Begun

Head of the State Committee preparing a long-range outdoor recreation plan for California is Elmer Aldrich, Sierra Club vice-president and former director of conservation education in the Division of Beaches and Parks.

His assistant is J. Kenneth Decker, recreational planning consultant and an expert on the economics of the problem.

Their plan will be published in 1960 as part of the report of the State's first full-scale review of outdoor recreation resources.

by an advisory council, including members from federal agencies and departments concerned in the field of outdoor recreation and 25 citizens representing conservation organizations, commercial forestry and fishing interests, state water and land agencies, and geographic areas.

ALL THIS manpower, plus a full-time staff in Washington, would be geared to produce a full-scale inventory of the nation's recreation resources within three years—a formidable job indeed; it may well turn out to need more time.

Recognition by Congress of the need for this sort of survey comes none too soon. Witness after witness, in fact, testified during hearings on the measure that the need is critical.

The Senate, for example, was reminded that recreation use of the National Forests tripled between 1926 and 1946 and then tripled again from 1946 to 1956.

It was given a startling economic lesson in one report from the National Park Service: that in 1935 the Service recommended purchase of a 30-mile stretch of seashore for \$9,000 a mile. The land wasn't bought; by now most of the seashore has been subdivided, and what little is left is priced at \$110,000 a mile.

A resources survey, and a plan for future recreation use of public lands, are obviously needed both to serve the needs of those who increasingly seek recreation outdoors, and to save the taxpayer from the inflated costs of delayed land acquisition.

These things the Congress is ready to recognize in the resources bill. But there is another and equally vital aspect of the inventory which the Senate declined to recognize.

This is the problem of what to do with those wild lands, of obviously high recreational value, which have already been covetously eyed for other use, or which may be grabbed before the completed survey finds them to be of paramount importance to a recreation development plan.

As the Sierra Club's Dave Brower testified before Congress, the resource bill badly needs an amendment "that would in effect permit the Commission to post a *Closed during Inventory* sign on certain public lands which are of high scenic-resource potential and which are not now designated for that purpose."

Brower noted that many areas are already in controversy, and that the Resource Commission's final report should be available before irrevocable decisions are made.

He cited these examples: Timber use vs. park use in the North Cascades of Washington; reservoir use vs. wildlife use at Bruce's Eddy; dam and timber use vs. wilderness use for the Three Sisters Wilderness in Oregon; power dam use vs. scenic highway and wildlife range for the Snake River's Narrows in Wyoming.

It is for situations like these that a delaying amendment is vital. For if the land is put to other uses, the taking becomes permanent, and even the best of federal surveys can never unbuild a dam or uproot a string of power poles. Holding off commitments in controversial areas "pending inventory" would not only be good conservation, but good business as well.

THE SENATE considered such an amendment to the resources review bill, but rejected it, insisting that both the Agriculture and Interior Departments already have the authority to post "closed for inventory" signs if they wish.

But do they wish? Apparently not, for correspondence indicates they have no intention of making even temporary withdrawals pending the outcome of the survey.

Both departments, of course, endorsed the

survey bill with enthusiasm, in correspondence and testimony.

But just how great this enthusiasm was, in the case of the Interior Department, is questionable. The National Park Service has had authority for a continuing survey since 1936; under its multi-million-dollar Mission 66 it is spending large sums on recreational resource reviews of its holdings. There may be jealousy among the Park Service's survey-makers; there may be fear that an overall coordinated review of every federal resource for recreation might take a dim view of some of the Mission 66 projects.

The "closed for inventory" amendment will be urged again as the House considers the bill this year. The bill itself will be urged as a vital adjunct to the development of Mission 66, of the Forest Service's "Operation Outdoors," and of the Fish and Wildlife Service's "Operation Waterfowl."

Congress will be reminded, certainly, that the national review could fit ideally into the pattern of preservation proposed in the Wilderness Bill.

Approval of the recreation resources survey will be a major conservation achievement.

DAVID PERLMAN

IN SAD MEMORY OF
THE HIGHWAY APPROACHING
FLAGSTAFF, ARIZONA

A billboard's what
I loathe to see
Between me
And scenery.

edb.

IN PLEASANT MEMORY OF
THE SAN SIMEON HIGHWAY

Not a billboard
Low or high
Blots where land and sea
Meet sky.

For these green
Uncluttered banks
Here's—to someone—
Grateful thanks.

edb.

A Burning Problem in Southern California

The need to curb fires and floods in usually arid Southern California has evoked a widespread interest in a myriad of suggested panaceas for this problem. Among others, advocates of controlled brush burning have been outspoken and have further suggested that grass could be used to replace the burned areas.

Nature seems to have taken a different stand, and instead of nurturing grasses, she covered the slopes with chaparral, a tough and hearty vegetation able to withstand the climatic and soil conditions of Southern California. Because of the importance of the problem, the Sierra Club sought opinions and statements from experts. General agreement was reached that controlled burning and replacement of the chaparral by grass would be dangerous. It was disclosed that there have been no experiments in controlled burning in Southern California on a large scale to determine long-range effects. The steep slopes, friable soil, and irregular and light rainfall make this a very doubtful venture, with the probability of an equally doubtful outcome. The sprouting nature of chaparral and its reseeding abilities under fire stimulation make it seem improbable that a grass cover would be able to survive, let alone compete. Furthermore, some of the most dangerous fires have been grass fires.

The Sierra Club's Board of Directors considered this problem at its September meeting in Los Angeles, and resolved "that before any large-scale attempts at replacement of chaparral by grass on Southern California hillsides are made, carefully controlled experiments under various conditions be carried out showing the feasibility of such practice in the long run."

On October 9, 1957, the House Committee on Insular and Interior Affairs held a hearing in Los Angeles on National Forest policy of Southern California. The Sierra Club was represented and our findings were submitted. The Committee appeared to accept them favorably.

JERRY FOOTE



AMARGOSA DESERT

Dr. Robert T. Orr

Desert's Greatest Menace: Man

EVER-INCREASING numbers of people are discovering the lasting allure of the desert's stark mountains, their vast sweeps of mysterious valleys, their intriguing mazes of convoluted canyons, their clean astringent winds and their star-blazing nights. Unfortunately, these fascinating areas of America are receiving more kinds of assaults than any other of our remaining wildernesses. Seemingly rugged and ever-enduring, actually no other terrain is so quickly and lastingly defaced, scarred, and injured. All our deserts are under attack by unnatural forces: by the litterbug and the vandal, at the very least. Man's increasing mechanization and militarism increase the number and kinds of attacks. Some investigators are saying that smog and motor-fuel fumes can have definite toxic effects on desert flora and fauna. Certainly the dangers of proximity to radioactive fallout offer additional hazard to the peaceful desert dweller, whether plant or animal.

Anza-Borrego Desert State Park, California's largest, had an attack from persons who should be its protectors. Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 128, passed by the Assembly, not only sought to restore grazing, definitely

proved injurious to the park, but even to dictate who should receive grazing permits. SCR 128 was rejected by the State Park Commission, but the issue is by no means dead. This was shown at a recent meeting of the Agricultural and Natural Resources Committee of the San Diego Chamber of Commerce. There demands were made before two attending State Assemblymen, for actual legislation imposing grazing upon Anza-Borrego. Serious as this is, an even graver threat impends.

The Navy has, "in the planning stage," designs on over 20,000 acres of desert land unique in esthetic, historical, and natural appeal. This contemplated taking is in Imperial County, north and west of the rough triangle formed by State Highway 78, running to Borrego Valley, and U.S. 99, between Travertine Point and Kane Springs. A sizable chunk of Imperial County land originally intended for inclusion in Anza-Borrego Park is included in the Navy plan. It is wanted for a high-level bombing area, in addition to the nearby "lower-level" Carrizo Impact Area, which is now shut off forever from all human use because of unexploded bombs.

Other deserts have difficulties in greater or lesser degree. Joshua Tree National Monument is not presently threatened with high-speed highways, but the problem of private holdings is a continuing one. One individual recently tried to cause trouble because the National Park Service would not alter the Joshua Tree boundaries so as to give him free access to a real or fancied mining discovery.

Squatters have settled in far too many numbers along the Colorado River between California and New Mexico. Apparently because of laxity on the part of administering government bureaus, they have established unsightly homes on once serene desert locales.

The "jackrabbit homesteaders," occupying five-acre tracts which became available to the public shortly after World War II, pose another vexing problem. Their occupation has resulted in ugly ramshackle structures, tin-can dumps, and despoiled scenery—all with little evident benefit to the landholders.

Observations and study of present conditions in our desert wildernesses bring some definite conclusions.

1. Administrators of such wildernesses must stand firm as never before, against any invasion, or threat of invasion, by person, group, or political body. This includes all potential damagers, from the rampaging jeepster with his erosion-causing vehicle to the military forces with their unceasing efforts to seal off ever more land for destruction.

2. These officials must be backed up at all times by concerned groups and organizations. More people do seem to be realizing the importance of regional groups as watchdogs of our desert heritage. Our Chapters have of course acted in such a capacity, and all additional coöperation is certainly welcome. The Desert Protective Council was formed for the express purpose indicated by its name. Other groups are even more specialized, such as the Desert Bighorn Council, formed to offer protection to one of the desert's rarest species.

IN THE NAME OF PROGRESS

Uproot the helpless tree, tear out the vine,
Behold the rounded summit of a hill.
For progress has superior design.

In aisles of meadowed grass, in mountain
shrine.

In forests where the pools are brown and
still,

Uproot the helpless tree, tear out the vine.

Build super highways to the feathered pine
And truck them out to factory and mill,
For progress has superior design.

Deform our valleys with an endless line
Of tasteless homes, with concentrated will
Uproot the helpless tree, tear out the vine.

And deck our fields with ballyhoo and sign,
Let man's invention level, scar and kill,
For progress has superior design.

When wilderness is gone for yours and mine
Our children should appreciate our skill.
Uproot the helpless tree, tear out the vine,
For progress has superior design.

MARGARET G. HINDES

Encouraging is the fact that most people respond well to appeals for understanding of, and help on, the desert's many problems. A broadcast on Anza-Borrego, from Radio Station KSFJ, San Diego, proved so popular it was repeated a week later. Desert lovers must carry on a never-ending campaign of conservation information, education and news among themselves and those around them. Not the least of our attempts must be that of trying to create ever more appreciation of the desert's richness, beauty, and complexity. Such efforts should at least prevent any more proposals like the recent one that desert expanses should be used for trash dumps by Los Angeles County.

ROSCOE A. POLAND

Understanding and Management

IN THIS ERA of assembly line production and overwhelming concern with big numbers the quiet but fundamental voice of nature, heard by sensitive ones, is lost sight of in the headlong rush of the masses. In our haste to produce this and that in wealth-producing quantity, our long-growing trend to appreciate the beauty of the world we live in is being ignored. This thoughtless urge to "develop" everything drags quality down to a low average.

The Olympic Mountains region can be taken as an example. At one recent meeting a Forest Service research man, referring to Olympic National Park, spoke of the "mistake" we had made there in making that a national park and taking it out of lumber production, pointing out that if we want elk, they can be produced in numbers in cut-over areas. The heavy forest is unproductive of game. This man was sincere. But that kind of reasoning has been creeping into the administration of our public lands.

I first went into the Olympics in 1916, when I spent a winter on the upper Elwha River. There I saw my first wild elk. I cannot take the space here to relate the experience I had there with the elk in this forest, reportedly so "barren" of animals. At that time there were still a few wolves there—our government had not yet completely exterminated them. And there were mountain lions, bobcats, deer, birds—a host of creatures which found the great forests a good place in which to live. And *people*, who took pleasure in those things, found it a good place.

Again in 1934 I had opportunity to go back to the Olympics. By that time our exploiting impulses had "progressed" and my field notes for April 12 are as follows:

"The other day I was conversing with some people about game problems.

"The deep woods, all this timber,' I was told, 'is not good game range. There are no mountain beavers, no birds. They don't like that kind of country. Go into the logged-off places, where there is lots of brush, where

the sun shines. There you will find the birds, and the feed.'

"Yes, here it was again—mass production. The forest must produce a 'crop.'

"I am sitting here on the high end of a log, looking down on the green forest floor, looking out among the tall trunks, massive, still, the columns supporting the dark green canopy overhead. A dark solitude, but the sun reaches in and lightly flecks the columns, lightly touches the mossy ground, the mossy logs, and glitters on the vine maples nearby. True, a quiet place. No great chorus of bird song. But song there is. A lively winter wren is running over with music. Trilling, bubbling, he chatters his happy song. No gloom in these woods for him!

"Far from the madding crowd, this happy soul. Has he deliberately sought this solitude? Is he artist enough to seek a fitting background for his song? . . . He is a soloist, and seeks this great resonant hall of trees draped with moss, carpeted with the green of moss and ferns.

"I too like it here. Not alone for the wren song. It is fun to walk the logs, to make my way above ground, from log to log. I like to sink ankle-deep in the moss. I like to feel the caress of drooping vine maple twigs, to watch the sword ferns gently nod and sway in the light forest breezes. High above me, at least 70 feet above the ground, a little fern grows serenely in a clump of moss at the end of a long hemlock limb. Everywhere is moss. On the ground, on the trunks and on logs. It hangs in festoons from the maples and sways in the air currents.

"Yes, I look out past a swaying hemlock spray, out among the silent sun-flecked trunks, and feel content. No forest 'crops' for me. Let me but find a forest and play among its logs, and listen to the music of

MULE DEER FAWN

(*Cedric Wright*)

the solitude. I ask nothing more from the forest.”

These excerpts from my personal notes were written when my official job was the cold biological appraisal of the ecology of the elk in the Olympics. I found that dead trees, and down logs, had a part to play in the lives of the animals there. I found elk feeding on the old mushy small logs, and in some places they even got down on their knees to gnaw and lick at the underside of some huge down logs. As in other elk ranges, the animals work through the forests to the high country to spend the summer, and in the fall come down to the lower river bottoms to feed on vine maple and other browse in winter. All through that rain forest, from the upper to the lower edge, the wildlife, the vibrant life that had evolved through millions of years had produced an ecological situation with adjustments to all the elements of the whole. In nature's economy there were no “mature” trees to be gotten

rid of. It is this whole ecological picture that has so much to offer to the sensitive person; Aldo Leopold's “ecological recreation” so suitable in a national park. To put a commodity value, whatever pretty or euphonious term is used, on any product of such a forest is contrary to the best human motives in designating a national park.

We have become involved in confusion of purpose in other places. In some of the wilderness areas in Idaho certain federal agencies did their best, in the name of “management,” to destroy carnivore populations. The deer became so numerous that the Forest Service encouraged the use of airplanes to help “harvest” the surplus. In the administrative mind the deer became a “crop” instead of one of a rich wilderness fauna. The “get-one-quick” method of hunting replaced the earlier hunting sojourn in wild country, which gave the hunters more than the bagged animal.

This began years ago. Recently a thought-

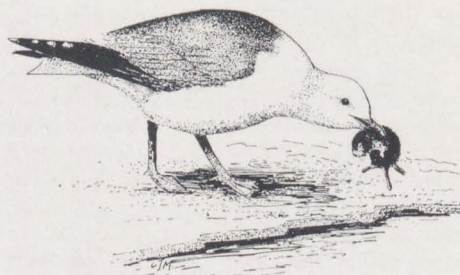


ful forest supervisor remarked: "We have created our own problems."

In the field of fishing we are doing no better. We are running to expensive fish hatcheries, merely to supply something to dangle from a hook. We are invading our mountains with "check dams," presumably to furnish fish in greater numbers. Our water engineers, striving to make all our live streams into millponds, want us to measure our fishing pleasure by the content of the creel alone. Our salmon are being eliminated, by one public hearing after another, based on hurry-up tactics and hasty arguments, thus depriving us of a resource that has been handed to us by millions of years of development.

The irresponsible campaigns with insecticides and herbicides, which have now got out of hand because of the one-track mind of some technicians and the advertising of commercial manufacturers, have brought on activities that throw our wildlife situation into more confusion. At the recent annual meeting of the National Audubon Society in New York, several sharp observers related in detail the damage done in poison spraying. In one case, spraying for mosquitoes also killed insect enemies of mosquitoes and fish which lived on mosquito larvae, and it was abandoned when the damage was discovered. In another area so many insects were killed that the seed alfalfa failed to be fertilized. Many other instances could be cited. This has been called the Age of Mammals. I wonder if it should be called the Age of Poison?

Some worthwhile things were told us many centuries ago, things to which we give only



lip service today. In our present irresponsible tinkering with nature, I believe St. Paul would agree with this paraphrase, on a more mundane yet still fundamental level, of his message to the Corinthians concerning faith, hope and charity:

"And now abideth the need for survival, joy, and understanding, these three; but the greatest of these is understanding."

We are doing our best to survive. And we climb mountains, go hunting and fishing, and do hundreds of other things, to enrich the lives that we are wanting to save. Furthermore, in this seeking of a joyous life, we are becoming more sensitive to beauty of living.

But to accomplish all this, and as a part of the joy in being alive, we need understanding—much more than we have exhibited recently with our tinkering with nature. What we need is a new outlook. We need areas all over our earth which we "manage" with hardly any human management at all; places where we can go for rich experience, where nature can teach us a little understanding.

OLAUS J. MURIE



*Snowshoe rabbits,
El Dorado National
Forest
(Dr. Robert T. Orr)*

Consider the Cascades

A chance for planned protection

INTERWOVEN in the jagged and ice-hung spine of northwest Washington's Cascade Range, an inner world of wilderness awaits the action of the nation. That action, be it positive and wisely protective, or destructive through default, must in the near future inevitably affect our finest alpine region, the Northern Cascades.* For this wilderness is the focus of an awakening, on one hand of logging, mining and other economic interests, and on the other of positive wilderness and scenic resource conservation.

Long obscure, unknown, and fortunately for its preservation, until recently of insufficient economic attraction to invite widespread exploitation, the Cascades Wilderness has witnessed a series of widely spaced, abortive and only partially successful attempts to preserve its prime attribute, unsurpassed alpine wilderness. Several national park and monument proposals (the region is undoubtedly of the highest national significance), the latest in 1940, failed due to economic pressures and general ignorance of the area. In 1931, the 801,000-acre North Cascade Primitive Area was reserved in the northernmost section under the regulations of the U. S. Forest Service, and in 1939 a 794,000-acre region extending from the Primitive Area to south of Glacier Peak was outlined for study. Due to supposed mineralization, the study region was drastically reduced to 348,000 acres and set aside under temporary Northwest Region Forest Service regulations as the Glacier Peak Limited Area pending re-study and classification as a Wilderness Area. Farther south, the Alpine Lakes and Monte Cristo Limited Areas were likewise tempo-

rarily established, again on a reduced scale.

This was the situation until relatively recently, when increasing local economic pressures began to become evident. Logging interests covet the last virgin forests at the wilderness threshold and within its heart. Miners would destroy the living surface in search of inert ore beneath, ore that is yet to be found in profitable quantity in more than one or two locations. Unnecessary trans-range highways would be slashed through the wilderness core. Power dams would drown forested valleys, the very living space of the wilderness.

Threats to the region are as complex as its physiography, and the names of endangered areas are legion. The Agnes, Cascade, Chiwawa, Stehekin, Suiattle, Whitechuck—virgin forest gateways. Miners Ridge—potential spewer of low grade copper ore at the very foot of Glacier Peak. The Lake Ann-Washington Pass country—fragile, highly livable wilderness threatened by a high-speed highway. Thunder Creek—candidate for kilowatt drowning. Yet this is but a beginning.

Such is the complexity of the Northern Cascades that no one man knows its diversity, yet its unity is easily comprehensible, the unity of a great, integral living wilderness. This natural unity should demand carefully integrated, cooperative public and private planning for the *entire* region, emphasizing its prime scenic and wilderness values. Such complex planning requires much time and study; local economic pressures must not be allowed to preempt the decision. It would necessitate an immediate moratorium on economic encroachments into the region. Piecemeal planning emphasizing local economics is necessarily a subversion of the paramount national interest.

Repeated and urgent requests for such integrated, thorough land use studies have been made by outdoor clubs and conservation organizations directly concerned, only to be met with negative response on the part of the administering agency. Instead, the Forest Service has chosen to study one section of

*For descriptive treatment, see:

(1) Hermann F. Ulrichs, "The Cascade Range in Northern Washington," *Sierra Club Bulletin*, Feb. 1937, illustrated.

(2) Grant McConnell, "The Cascades Wilderness," *op. cit.*, Dec., 1956, illustrated.

(3) David R. Brower, "Our Greatest Wilderness Parkland," *op. cit.*, June, 1957, illustrations and map.



UPPER SWAMP CREEK BASIN, Washington Cascades

David Simons

the region, the Glacier Peak Limited Area, by a largely mechanical overlay method. Tentative Northwest Region recommendations for a Glacier Peak Wilderness Area were released in February, 1957. Although the Forest Service is to be commended for undertaking this study, the scope and method of its plan need extensive broadening. The entire North Cascades should be studied in cooperation with those agencies and persons most qualified to judge their peculiar values, while the dangerously quantitative, office-bound overlay method must be replaced by thorough, qualitative, on-the-ground evaluation.

The Forest Service-proposed Glacier Peak Wilderness Area is larger than the Limited Area, but the increase is almost exclusively in high areas of scenic rock and ice. Desirable and commendable additions have been

made in the Lyman Lake basin, the Company Creek-Devore Creek area, Napeequa and Panther Valleys, and to a limited extent at Jordan Lakes, the Chiwawa, Entiat and Little Wenatchee headwaters have been omitted. Although separate studies have been promised for the large northern area omitted, such proposed developments as the trans-Cascade highway through Washington Pass (which could be routed through Harts Pass with much less danger to wilderness) and the Thunder Creek Dam threaten to predetermine the decision.

In the near future, the North Cascade

Primitive Area and the Alpine Lakes Limited Area may be studied for reclassification. Dangers to both are numerous. Yet it must be realized that establishment of a wilderness area or areas, even if ideal, is far from the complete solution. Such areas as the Cascade, Chiwawa and Stehekin Valleys, and Lake Chelan, to say nothing of numerous others in the North Cascades, are vital pristine entryways, yet cannot be included in an official wilderness because of established mechanical access. Such areas should be set aside and protected from logging and haphazard development. (It should be noted that present law cannot prevent mining on Wilderness Areas or other large reserved portions of the national forests.)

Present Forest Service planning in the Northern Cascades is a compromise between economic and conservationist interests, and as such is unsatisfactory. But counteracting economic pressure is increasing conservationist awareness. Groups such as the Seattle Mountaineers and the Sierra Club have studied and sponsored trips into the region, and are working diligently for its protection. In March, 1957, the North Cascades Conservation Council was formed especially to deal with this problem. National publicity and attention have been given the region; very slowly the nation is becoming aware of what is at stake. But awareness must not come too late.

Regardless of its form or forms (for the solution to this complex problem is also likely to be complex) the ultimate protection which the Northern Cascades deserves will come only when conservationists, administrators and the owners of the region, the people themselves, realize the true national significance of what is one of our last and greatest wilderness sanctuaries, *and take positive action for its preservation.*

DAVID SIMONS

An annotated bibliography by Professor Emanuel Fritz on the California Coast Redwood (267 pages, more than 2000 citations up to 1955) has been published by the Foundation for American Resource Management. Available at \$7.50 from the Foundation at 681 Market Street, San Francisco 5.

Appreciation Comes with Maturity

Recognition of beauty in any form comes only with maturity. The child of three will pull down off the shelf and smash a Coke bottle or a lovely vase of Steuben glass without discrimination. By the time he is six he may still enjoy smashing the Coke bottle, but he would hesitate to wreck the vase. By the time he is ready to vote he would not think of cutting a fine painting, by Keith for example, from its frame on the wall, in order to stop a leak in the roof—especially if other pieces of canvas were available. He has matured. He distinguishes between the work of art and the useful piece of canvas on which it is painted—and saves the work of art.

Appreciation of natural beauty requires even greater maturity. But we are reaching it in this country. Hundreds of thousands of letters to representatives and senators last year, from all over the United States, killed the bill which would have destroyed the

As the bee collects honey and departs without injuring the flower, so let him who is wise dwell on the earth.

from Buddhist scriptures (*Dhammapada*)

beauties of the Dinosaur National Monument in favor of acre feet and kilowatts. Back in 1913 we were willing to sacrifice Hetch Hetchy on almost identical terms. But 40 years later this country had matured in its understanding and appreciation of outstanding natural beauty, to the point where it refused to allow the sacrifice of a National Park area—even when backed by all the force of the administration. There were alternate reservoir sites available, and they are now being developed. We shall have the needed water and the power. We also shall continue to enjoy and preserve those incomparable canyons.

HAROLD C. BRADLEY, in a letter opposing a water-power development in Desolation Valley Wild Area

Report on the Three Sisters

THE THREE SISTERS region lies at the top of the Oregon Cascades between Eugene and Bend. In 1937 and 1938 a portion of this, including the Three Sisters peaks themselves, high country to their west, and most of the Horse Creek basin, was set aside by the Forest Service as a Primitive Area. In 1955 the Forest Service proposed to reclassify this Area under Regulation U-1 as a Wilderness Area, and to revise its boundaries chiefly by excluding some 53,000 acres of the timbered western portion. At the same time the reclassification as Wild Areas of the Mt. Washington Limited Area to the north and the Diamond Peak Area to the south was proposed.

The reduction of the Three Sisters Area was protested and a hearing was held February 16-17, 1955. In February, 1957, Assistant Secretary Peterson of the Department of Agriculture announced the decision of the Department to approve the Forest Service's proposal but stated that a land use study would be made of the excluded 53,000 acres before beginning operations there. By this time proposals for other studies of the area, and of the outdoor recreational resources and needs of the country at large, had been advanced. The Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs, Sierra Club, and other organizations and individuals accordingly pointed out that the decision had been made without the benefit of such essential information as these studies would provide and urged the Forest Service to withhold action in the area until the results of such studies were available.

WHEN the Dana Report appeared last summer, recommending that the Forest Service make extended research studies essential for intelligent decisions with respect to recreation in the national forests, including wilderness, the Federation and other organizations renewed their urging that the Forest Service suspend action in this area until such studies have been made.

Recently the Forest Service has announced

revisions of its inventories of standing timber in the region, all substantially upward—one as much as 200 per cent. Incomplete figures indicate an increase of over 60 per cent in the Willamette Forest, thereby greatly augmenting the allowable annual cut. Substantially greater appropriations for access roads will make much more "overripe" timber available for cutting. Most of the timber in the Three Sisters area is admittedly immature. All this is additional reason for leaving the disputed 53,000 acres alone.

Every year scientists from greater distances visit the Three Sisters region, become enthusiastic about it, and make plans to return for more extensive studies. Last summer, on grants from the National Science Foundation, Dean Henry Hanson and Dr. Robert Storm of Oregon State College conducted ecological studies in the area which will be continued next summer. Dr. James Kezer and other University of Oregon scientists are using the district as a natural laboratory for teaching.

EACH SUMMER the Friends of the Three Sisters Wilderness conduct an expedition into the area made up of scientists, teachers, photographers, professional and business people and others, and their families. Around their campfire in the heart of the wilderness last summer were 80 such people, ranging in age from 4 to 70, listening eagerly to scientists display and describe the day's discoveries in which all had shared. Nature study is an important and rapidly growing form of "recreation" deserving much more attention than it has had in recreational planning.

Following its decision the Forest Service asked the Friends of the Three Sisters Wilderness to suggest natural areas which might be set aside within the excluded 53,000 acres. The scientific studies under way will help in arriving at such suggestions, and in evaluating the area generally. The Forest Service has not yet started its land use study.

The Friends of the Three Sisters Wilder-

*South Sister,
Three Sisters
Wilderness Area
(Oregon State
Highway Commission)*



ness have from the beginning been concerned with the whole Three Sisters region and not just with the excluded 53,000 acres. They are currently concerned with the disposition of the Waldo Lake Limited Area south of the Three Sisters Wilderness Area. The Forest Service originally planned to reclassify it as a Wild Area but is now proposing to make it a Recreational Area limited to the margin of the lake, and to open the rest of the Limited Area to logging.

Almost immediately following the announcement that a 53,000-acre tract formerly in the Primitive Area, much of it in the Horse Creek watershed, would be opened to logging, Willamette Basin flood control proponents began promoting a dam on Horse Creek. This would back water into the newly created Wilderness Area on both Horse Creek and Separation Creek. The Army Engineers have announced that they will restudy a Horse Creek dam proposed years ago and abandoned as too expensive in proportion to benefits, but say they have no funds for the purpose this year.

In December, the new Oregon State Water Resources Board held a hearing on the waters of the Upper McKenzie basin, including Horse Creek and its tributaries. This included the McKenzie River proper, on which the Eugene Water and Electric Board is now promoting its Smith-Carmen Project as a less objectionable substitute for the Beaver

Marsh Project which Eugene voters turned down. The Federation, Sierra Club, and other organizations and individuals appearing at this hearing pointed out the importance of the whole Upper McKenzie basin for scenery and recreation.

Three Sisters is not yet a "lost cause." Alert, continued interest and vigorous effort may yet save much of this region for the use and enjoyment of future generations.

KARL ONTHANK

The majority of areas now called wilderness exist because recreational or industrial developments have not, as yet, been economically feasible. If there were well defined purposes and plans for a national wilderness system which could generate common support, the wilderness movement might well be irrepresible. As it is, the disagreement among wilderness proponents is a highly important deterrent to wilderness preservation in this country.

JAMES P. GILLIGAN, in 1954

Trustees Elect Officers

Newly-elected president of Trustees for Conservation for 1958 is Edgar Wayburn, Sierra Club director and Conservation Committee chairman.

Clifford V. Heimbucher, Russell Varian, and Robert Sawyer are vice presidents for the coming year, with Dr. Robert K. Miller as secretary and Stuart R. Dole as treasurer.

Forest Recreation Study

*Dana report
commended*

CONSERVATIONISTS have been pointing out that recreation is of ascending importance among the multiple uses of the national forests. Having noted the great effort and expense that went into the recent Timber Resource Review, they urged a similar study of the recreation resource.

They are therefore pleased to note that in April the Forest Service published a 36-page booklet entitled "Problem Analysis: Research in Forest Recreation," by Dr. Samuel T. Dana, Dean Emeritus, School of Natural Resources, University of Michigan. It merits very careful attention, and the conclusions merit vigorous support.

Dean Dana conducted this study as Forest Research Consultant, Forest Service, as a result of a recommendation by the Department of Agriculture's Forest Research Advisory Committee that the Department place more stress on research in the field of forest recreation.

The important moral of Dean Dana's recommendations is that an obligation rests upon the Forest Service to undertake the research and to be extremely careful about initiating programs which would conflict with the increasing needs for forest recreation until this research is well under way.

There is ample reason to believe that the Timber Resource Review, with its projection of future timber needs, is wielding an influence in forest management that is inevitably disproportionate in the absence of a concurrent Forest-Recreation Resource Review that the Dana recommendations would in effect produce.

Many conservation organizations are supporting the Dana recommendations and are also wondering whether the Forest Service has enough legislative authority to enable it to provide adequately for what seems rapidly to be becoming the transcendent use of the national forests—along with the compatible uses of watershed protection and wilderness preservation.

A condensation of Dean Dana's conclusion appears below (emphasis added).

Recreational use of forest and related lands has grown rapidly in recent years, with every prospect that it will increase still more rapidly in the future. The situation is one of serious concern to both public and private agencies. While vigorous administrative action in the rehabilitation, development, and expansion of recreational areas and facilities is urgently needed, there is also need for a comprehensive program of research that will guide such action along sound lines.

The following problems, listed in approximate order of priority, appear to be of particular interest to the Forest Service at this time:

1. *Completion of inventory of present and potential sites and facilities for different kinds of recreational use on national forests, and estimate of present and potential demand for different kinds of recreational opportunities and facilities on national forests by study of all relevant factors that may influence the demand.*

2. *Coöperation with other agencies in initiating and conducting a nation-wide review of the present and potential supply of, and demand for, different kinds of recreational opportunities and facilities on all types of forest ownership.*

3. *Coöperation with other agencies in organizing opinion surveys to determine public attitudes with reference to general recreation policies and to the kinds of recreational opportunities desired.*

4. *Determination of the carrying capacity ("sustained yield") of land for various kinds and concentrations of recreational use under different conditions of soil, topography, precipitation, vegetative cover, age classes, and stand densities. The impact of recreational use must be measured in terms of its effect on physical, biological, esthetic, and inspirational features of the area under consideration.*

5. *Research dealing with the recreational use of forest lands as a cause of forest fires, and with the effect of fires on recreational values.*

6. *Research to determine the compatibility of timber utilization and recreational uses of different kinds in national forests, and to develop the most effective method of coördinating the two uses. Such research must take into consideration both silvicultural factors and the reaction of the recreationist to timber cutting.*

7. *Research dealing with the early identification of trees particularly susceptible to attack by insects and diseases; with the factors responsible*

for the outbreak of epidemics; with the control of insects and diseases attacking species of small commercial but large recreational value, and with the biological control of insects by the use of parasites and predators.

8. *Research to improve wildlife management for recreational purposes* as an integral part of multiple land use. Specific problems include the determination of methods of timber management that will avoid the creation of "biological deserts," and of range management that will harmonize use of the same range by big game and domestic livestock. Other problems in the field of range management include the encroachment of livestock on recreational areas; their

How many times it thundered before Franklin took the hint! How many times apples fell on Newton's head before he took the hint! Nature is always hinting away at us . . . it hints over and over again. And suddenly we take the hint.

ROBERT FROST

influence on sanitation and health; and the reaction of the recreationist to their presence.

9. *Additional research relating to the control of avalanches* in winter sports areas.

10. *Studies of the location, layout, design, and equipment of recreational areas* of different kinds. Such studies should include determination of the species, sizes, and distribution of trees, shrubs, and herbs that should be used both in the layout of new areas and the rehabilitation of wornout areas. Studies of the most effective designs and materials to use in the construction of recreational facilities.

11. *Study of the entire problem of charging for the use of various kinds of recreational areas and facilities* on national forests.

12. *Study of the desirability of combining an educational program with recreational use of the national forests*, and of ways and means by which this might be done.

13. *Establishment of experimental recreational areas, similar to experimental forests and experimental ranges*, for the intensive study of such problems as the impact of recreational uses of various kinds and intensities; the correlation of recreation management with timber, range, and watershed management.

14. *Re-examination of present procedures for determining workloads and appropriation estimates in the field of recreation.*

15. *Research into the many methods that have*

been suggested for *measuring the economic values and impacts associated with the recreational use of forest lands*, followed by application of the more promising methods.

16. *Research into the possible methods for identifying and measuring the "intangible" personal and social values which constitute the "recreation" resulting from the recreational use of forest lands.* Practical application of the more promising methods would follow the foundational study. So many disciplines are involved in this field of research that coöperation among a wide variety of agencies is almost essential for its effective prosecution.

17. *Basic and comprehensive research into the relation between the recreational use of forest lands and human behavior.* Such a study would attempt to determine the underlying motives that influence a person in desiring a certain kind of recreation; the reasons why he behaves as he does while engaged in a recreational activity; the influence of different kinds of recreational experiences on an individual's physical, mental, moral, esthetic, and spiritual condition and reactions; and their effect on him as producer, consumer, and citizen in the society in which he lives.

DAVID R. BROWER

Remember Toothy?

(he leaves no trash)



Keep his living room clean; it's yours too.

Angeles

Angeles Chapter Conservation Committee activities during 1957 were confined largely, as in past years, to study and education, reports committee chairman Dan Thrapp.

Such interesting State Park possibilities as Catalina Island were studied by Ethel Miess and others. The effects of grazing in Anza-Borrego State Park were considered, as well as the question of what the club's position should be regarding county and local parks.

Atlantic

Atlantic Chapter has kept its members up to date on the progress of conservation legislation in Congress, under conservation chairman Windsor Putnam. Member George Marshall addressed a chapter meeting in December on current and forthcoming conservation problems.

Kern-Kaweah

Kern-Kaweah Chapter concentrated its attention on the Kern Plateau, lying just south of Sequoia Park between the Kern River and its South Fork. The problem: How much and which part of this vast area deserves Wilderness status?

Conservation chairman Tony Reina studied the moister northern end of the Plateau for a week, riding ninety miles and hiking twenty. Six Sierra Club members and two representatives from cooperating conservation groups investigated the central portion during a 4-day horseback trip led by Sequoia National Forest officials.

The chapter opposed a placer-mining claim on the Kern River, supporting the Forest Service in its plans for recreation in the claimed area.

Loma Prieta

Loma Prieta Chapter investigated several current problems, among them a proposed road through Pinnacles National Monument, stream and San Francisco Bay pollution, and the status of the Butano land acquisition program. Many chapter members gave active support to conservation measures in the California legislature and in Congress. Conservation chairman Mark Massie also directed continued gathering of information about suitable park sites in the chapter area.

Los Padres

Focusing its interest on problems close to home, Los Padres chapter held monthly conservation committee meetings under chairman Arden Houser.

Among the interesting meetings were: a round-table discussion by Forest Service officials pointing up many of the problems that face public land administrators, discussion with State Park personnel on plans for riding and hiking trails, a talk by the Santa Barbara County Planning Director, and a tour of the Santa Barbara County Parks led by the parks' director.

Mother Lode

Under chairman Luis Ireland, the Mother Lode Chapter Conservation Committee watched state legislation besides attacking several local problems. The introduction and progress of bills in the State Legislature were followed carefully by Madeline Sheridan's subcommittee. After sifting through approximately one thousand bills, information on those dealing with conservation was forwarded to the Sierra Club.

Billboard regulation along mountain highways in Placer County concerned Daniel Sullivan's subcommittee in Auburn. The opposition to billboards by the subcommittee and other aroused citizens finally resulted in regulations along Highway 40, as well as along most county and state routes.

Other committee projects include: study of mountain areas between Mt. Lassen and Yosemite Park to see which merit wilderness status, discussion with Forest Service officials on the invasion of Desolation Valley Wild Area by the Sacramento Municipal Utility District, and assistance to the Sierra Club on analysis of the California Water Plan.

Pacific Northwest

Vice-chairman Pat Goldsworthy reports that the Pacific Northwest Chapter—collaborating with the Mazamas, Mountaineers, Olympic Park Associates and North Cascades Conservation Council—acted on the major northwest conservation problems during 1957 as follows:

In **Olympic National Park**, studied means of preventing construction of a coastal road through the wilderness section of the "Ocean Strip," unsuccessfully opposed the Park Service's salvage logging of a blowdown on the Quinault River, indicated the necessity of re-

moving from the Park all structures and debris of the International Geophysical Year study on the Blue Glacier of Mt. Olympus at the completion of the study, and studied reported unnecessary and excessive trail logging.

In **Goat Rocks Wild Area**, opposed attempts by the White Pass Ski Co. to reduce the northern boundary of the Wild Area to permit ski tow construction; in **Glacier Peak Area**, continued to study means of preserving the scenic, recreational and wilderness resources of the northern Cascades.

In the upper **McKenzie Basin**, continued to defend the natural values of the McKenzie River and the Three Sisters Wilderness Area against the threat of dams; in the **Waldo Lake Limited Area**, worked for preservation of natural recreational values and prevention of logging.

Riverside

Preservation of the wild area atop Mt. San Jacinto (Mt. San Jacinto State Park) from intrusion of a commercial tramway is the greatest concern of Riverside Chapter's conservation committee. Led by Chairman Joe Momyer, the committee continued to work vigorously for repeal of the Winter Park Authority Act authorizing the tramway, against opposition from local commercial and political interests.

The committee examined the proposed addition of Black Mountain to the Mount San Jacinto Wild Area, and is also studying the possibility of giving State Park status to some of the rare palm oases in the Indio Hills, now under constant fire menace from careless campers and vandals.

Clark Jones, chairman of the Southern Section, Conservation Committee, performed invaluable service in bringing together all the southern chapters of the club, plus all the outdoor groups in southern California, and maintaining a high level of conservation interest among them. There is now a real working group to call on in any conservation crisis in the area.

San Diego

San Diego Chapter's efforts continued to center on Anza-Borrego State Park. A political attempt to return grazing to the park was turned down flatly by the State Park Commission. But a new and greater threat is the Imperial County land now being sought by the Navy for a bombing range, some of the land intended for addition to Anza-Borrego.

The conservation committee, after studying Mission 66 plans for Cabrillo National Monument, states that the improvements planned will help accommodate more visitors without damaging natural values.

San Francisco Bay

During the first half of the year the Bay Chapter's conservation committee put a great deal of funds and time into the publicizing of the legislative bill concerning Mt. Tamalpais State Park, right up to the hour the bill was signed by Governor Knight.

The committee has developed ideas for communication which will make effective a scenic and recreational survey of the nine bay counties. Taking the lead from the club committee's action on state and national levels, this survey may draw together interested groups to plan conservation activities ahead of time, thus avoiding some of the energy-consuming campaigns which have often been necessary. Information on Mt. Diablo, Mt. Hamilton, the San Pablo Reservoir, Moraga Redwood Canyon and many other beauty spots will be gathered for the survey.

Tehipite

Besides reporting conservation news through its monthly paper, Tehipite Chapter undertook two practical conservation projects.

At Cabin Meadow near Dinkey Creek, members cooperated with Sierra National Forest personnel in an attempt to halt gully-erosion and restore grass to the meadow. Small pines were cut and placed in the gullies, in the hope that silt will collect and fill up the scars. Next spring members will revisit the meadow to see what has happened.

Conservation chairman Enos Kraschel reports that a group also went to Weaver Lake to clean up debris. Though the same area had been cleaned the previous year, over four gunny sacks of litter were gathered, then burned and buried.



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Conservation Balance Sheet, 1957

Plus

Operation Outdoors: realization of a National Forest Service 5-year recreation plan marks long-belated congressional recognition of the great importance of recreation in the Forest Service program. 1957 saw the first near-adequate appropriation of funds for such a plan.

Mission 66: the program for the National Parks proceeds, although to date emphasis appears to be on construction rather than on preservation and interpretation of the natural scene.

Alaskan Acquisition by the Fish and Wildlife Service of some 9,000,000 acres of tundra and alpine regions shows increasing awareness of the importance of adequate wildlife refuges.

The Outdoor Recreation Review Commission Bill, to survey and evaluate our scenic resources, was passed by the Senate — must still pass the House. **In California**, a comparable, important **Outdoor Recreation Plan** got under way.

A Growing Awareness of the necessity for over-all planning for present and future water needs is being evidenced. Examples: the Upper Columbia River Basin and California Water plans.

The Surprising — and resounding — **Congressional Defeat** of appropriation for funds for initial development of Bruce's Eddy Dam on the Clearwater River, Idaho, evidenced unsuspected grass-roots conservation strength.

Minus

Continued Disregard of the necessity for comprehensive land-use zoning on a state and nationwide basis exists; consequent local immediate gains are often the nation's loss. Examples: the thoughtless and wholesale conversion of agricultural land to row-house development; the breach of California's Kern Plateau for a single, small timber concern.

The Department of Agriculture Decision to exclude 55,000 acres of land valuable biologically and scenically from the newly established Three Sisters Wilderness Area, Oregon, marks a trend to keep from wilderness protection any regions containing economic potential, no matter what other prime qualities they may possess.

Failure to Recognize that outdated land-use practices are increasingly dangerous and destructive is widespread. Examples: low-grade mining continues in such superb scenic areas as the North Cascades, Washington; grazing is still practiced in California's fragile and magnificent desert areas.

On the California Front: the ambiguous wording of the **Park Omnibus Bill, SB 1,000**, postpones vitally needed land-acquisition until further legislation clarifies the bill's meaning.

Failure to repeal the Winter Park Authority Act leaves the door open for a tramway on Mt. San Jacinto.

In the balance . . . the fate of all our wilderness lands . . . the wilderness bill, which would establish necessary protection for our scenic treasures, awaits hearings in this congressional session. Your Congressman wants your views.