

SIERRA CLUB BULLETIN

April-May 1963



We shall plead that all Americans, here, now, determine that a wide, spacious, untrammled freedom shall remain in the midst of the American earth as living testimony that this generation, our own, had love for the next.

—DAVID BROWER in *The Place No One Knew*

The Sands that Time Will Not Save

The Uneasy Chair

"Lake" Powell and the Canyon That Was

We were there on April 11 when the rising water began to creep over the good shape and color of stones the river had hued through the aeons and had carefully placed on the bar where Powell paused to discover Music Temple, one of the great places on earth. On June 30, we hear, the living river is to be stilled clear upstream to Hite, once the starting point for Glen Canyon river trips. Interpolating, we estimate that the reservoir level was at what we called Spring Canyon (the best fresh water anywhere) on May 7, that it will close in on Moqui Creek by May 24, and that the vivid Smith Bar petroglyphs will be seen for the last time in early June.

In summary, the one-time river elevation at Hite, 3445 feet, will become a reservoir elevation instead when the federal government's next fiscal year begins—with no money requested or budgeted to meet the requirement of law that Rainbow Bridge be protected from the severe threat that now confronts it owing to the Bureau of Reclamation's default.

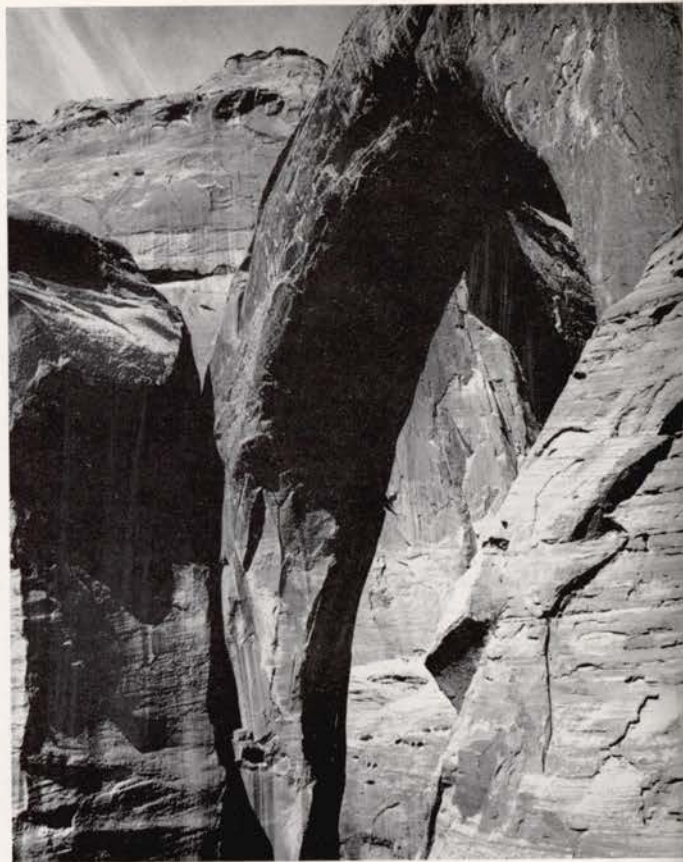
But even with flat water all the way from Hite to Wahweap, there will still be much to see. We who saw Glen Canyon alive should look again, to remember the things now lost, to work hard enough next time to forestall losing what remains of their near equals. Those who have not seen Glen Canyon yet and who will not know what they missed (Eliot Porter's new book is the requiem) will find shade and camping places scant, but will be able to enter other places (while *they* last) which no one has yet been in—side canyons that end in hanging valleys previously blocked to exploration by blank cliffs now or soon to be inundated. Simply step out of your boat onto land where no man stepped before!

You can float back into some of the side canyons where the going used to be a rewarding challenge, and you can stroll on from there. You will no longer see the incredible pools people used to marvel at along Aztec Creek as they followed it up to the Narrows—because by the end of July there won't be any Aztec Creek below there. In Hidden Passage, an outboard motor that echoes from the great walls will push you right to that waterfall which Eliot Porter thought should be a national monument just for itself—provided you get there before *it* goes under.

And if you don't wait until too late in May you can still see the six or seven pairs of great blue herons, who in the old role of parents have been running a rookery that brought herons into the world for ages. As you approach their redoubt under an overhanging wall, you can watch the parents worry in their nests, then rise and wheel high in an exquisite curve to the cliff top to wait while you float silently by. Safe again, they glide back down to their craning and helpless young.

There is a new water line every day, steadily rising and therefore not disclosing the lifeline it erases. But hurry and take it all in on the upswing. It will be different when the dead storage level is reached and exceeded. You will know that this enormous artifact is now ready to generate the marketable units of electricity that the rosy Reclamation releases praise for the new farmland the revenue will put into production. When this wastefully premature reservoir is drawn down, you will not like what you see as it exposes its prey starkly. For then the desert sun will reveal the consuming evil that triumphed irrevocably because too many good men did too little.

—D.B.



"The wonder is the sun, the wind, the clouds, vegetation, chemical action, the forces within the earth—all working together for millions of years to produce this perfect masterpiece."—Weldon Heald. Photograph of Rainbow Bridge by Eliot Porter from *The Place No One Knew: Glen Canyon on the Colorado*, copyright 1963 by Sierra Club.

There are still openings for qualified applicants to join the Exploration and Reconnaissance Trips to the Salmon Mountains (July 21–28) and Siskiyou Mountains (August 24–September 2) of northern California this summer. Specialties desired include forestry, botany, wildlife, and minerals. The February *Bulletin* carried the details, and names, addresses, and phone numbers of leaders. For more about E&R trips, see "Mountain Talk," page 15.



Sierra Club Bulletin

APRIL–MAY, 1963

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... TO EXPLORE, ENJOY, AND PROTECT
THE NATION'S SCENIC RESOURCES ...

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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COVER: Oregon's relentless, moving dunes continue to cover old dunes in the proposed national seashore area. See "The Sands That Time Will Not Save" on page 8. Photograph by Edwin J. Dolan. Cover text (and back cover photograph) from the Sierra Club's newest book, *The Place No One Knew: Glen Canyon on the Colorado*, by Eliot Porter.

Thinking Like a Mountain

By Aldo Leopold



one had given God a new pruning shears, and forbidden Him all other exercise. In the end the starved bones of the hoped-for deer herd, dead of its own too-much, bleach with the bones of the dead sage, or molder under the high-lined junipers.

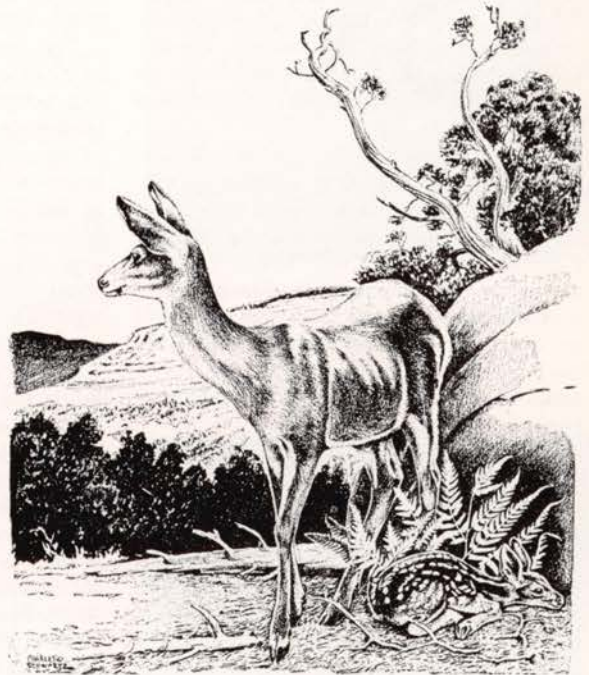
I now suspect that just as a deer herd lives in mortal fear of its wolves, so does a mountain live in mortal fear of its deer. And perhaps with better cause, for while a buck pulled down by wolves can be replaced in two or three years, a range pulled down by too many deer may fail of replacement in as many decades.

So also with cows. The cowman who cleans his range of wolves does not realize that he is taking over the wolf's job of trimming the herd to fit the range. He has not learned to think like a mountain. Hence we have dustbowls, and rivers washing the future into the sea.

* * * * *

We all strive for safety, prosperity, comfort, long life, and dullness. The deer strives with his supple legs, the cowman with trap and poison, the statesman with pen, the most of us with machines, votes, and dollars, but it all comes to the same thing: peace in our time. A measure of success in this is all well enough, and perhaps is a requisite to objective thinking, but too much safety seems to yield only danger in the long run. Perhaps this is behind Thoreau's dictum: In wildness is the salvation of the world. Perhaps this is the hidden meaning in the howl of the wolf, long known among mountains, but seldom perceived among men.

From A Sand County Almanac: And Sketches Here and There by Aldo Leopold. Illustrations by Charles W. Schwartz. Copyright 1949 by Oxford University Press, Inc. Reprinted by permission.



A DEEP CHESTY BAWL echoes from rimrock to rimrock, rolls down the mountain, and fades into the far blackness of the night. It is an outburst of wild defiant sorrow, and of contempt for all the adversities of the world.

Every living thing (and perhaps many a dead one as well) pays heed to that call. To the deer it is a reminder of the way of all flesh, to the pine a forecast of midnight scuffles and of blood upon the snow, to the coyote a promise of gleanings to come, to the cowman a threat of red ink at the bank, to the hunter a challenge of fang against bullet. Yet behind these obvious and immediate hopes and fears there lies a deeper meaning, known only to the mountain itself. Only the mountain has lived long enough to listen objectively to the howl of a wolf.

Those unable to decipher the hidden meaning know nevertheless that it is there, for it is felt in all wolf country, and distinguishes that country from all other land. It tingles in the spine of all who hear wolves by night, or who scan their tracks by day. Even without sight or sound of wolf, it is implicit in a hundred small events: the midnight whinny of a pack horse, the rattle of rolling rocks, the bound of a fleeing deer, the way shadows lie under the spruces. Only the ineducable tyro can fail to sense the presence or absence of wolves, or the fact that mountains have a secret opinion about them.

My own conviction on this score dates from the day I saw a wolf die. We were eating lunch on a high rimrock, at the foot of which a turbulent river elbowed its way. We saw what we thought was a doe fording the torrent, her breast awash in white water. When she climbed the bank toward us and shook out her tail, we realized our error: it was a wolf. A half-dozen others, evidently grown pups, sprang from the willows and all joined in a welcoming mêlée of wagging tails and playful maulings. What was literally a pile of wolves writhed and tumbled in the center of an open flat at the foot of our rimrock.

In those days we had never heard of passing up a chance to kill a wolf. In a second we were pumping lead into the pack, but with more excitement than accuracy: how to aim a steep downhill shot is always confusing. When our rifles were empty, the old wolf was down, and a pup was dragging a leg into impassable slide-rocks.

We reached the old wolf in time to watch a fierce green fire dying in her eyes. I realized then, and have known ever since, that there was something new to me in those eyes—something known only to her and to the mountain. I was young then, and full of trigger-itch; I thought that because fewer wolves meant more deer, that no wolves would mean hunters' paradise. But after seeing the green fire die, I sensed that neither the wolf nor the mountain agreed with such a view.

* * * * *

Since then I have lived to see state after state extirpate its wolves. I have watched the face of many a newly wolfless mountain, and seen the south-facing slopes wrinkle with a maze of new deer trails. I have seen every edible bush and seedling browsed, first to anaemic desuetude, and then to death. I have seen every edible tree defoliated to the height of a saddlehorn. Such a mountain looks as if some-



Current River below Round Spring by Dorothy Hawksley

THE IDEA of National Rivers is one which is long overdue, and we may yet see a few free-flowing streams preserved without commercial development if this new concept of recreational and scenic resource preservation can be put into practice. The best chance for implementing such a program, at present, is offered by Senate Bill 16, introduced in the 88th Congress by Senators Symington and Long of Missouri. The bill would establish the Current and Jacks Fork rivers in the Missouri Ozarks as the Ozark National Rivers.

The Current and Jacks Fork are unquestionably two of the most unique and unspoiled clear-water rivers left in the eastern U. S. Located in Missouri's Big Springs Country, they are not only fed by gigantic, scenic springs, but in the immediate area provide the possibility of numerous ecological preserves, historical and archaeological sites, notable karst attractions such as caves, sinks, and natural bridges, and excellent opportunity for family camping.

Most of the 43 canoeable miles of the Jacks Fork are near-wilderness. Floaters who "put in" at the "Prongs" or at Buck Hollow (Mo. 17) bridge, find that fast, clear water carries them through short pools and numerous riffles in sections where Venus-hair fern and other unusual flora line the intimately close banks. Even rare lady's slippers cling to inaccessible places on over-

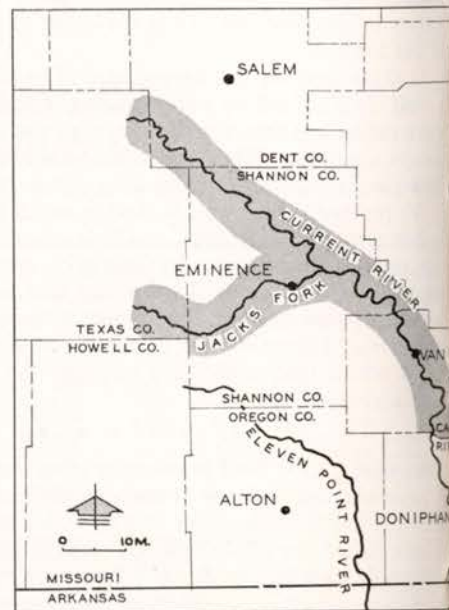
hanging bluffs. Place names along this stream have a special lure: Chimney Rock Cave, Blue Spring, Jam-up Bluff, Lost Hollow, Lick Log Hollow, Ebb-and-Flow Spring, and others. Below Alley Spring State Park, civilization is a little more evident but the water is still fine. An easy canoe run from the spring to the town of Eminence, seven miles downstream, takes only an hour.

The most scenic and most often canoed part of the Current River is the 52-mile section between Montauk State Park and the confluence with the Jacks Fork. There are 38 more miles of attractive river before the largest single spring in the world is reached at Big Spring State Park. The trip from Montauk to Big Spring makes an ideal week-long canoe trip even for the family with small children. Provided that the youngest wear life jackets, there is almost no serious danger on this river in normal water.

Let us assume that a canoe party "puts in" at the Cedar Grove "low water bridge" below Montauk. A few miles downstream they would find added water from Welch's Spring, the fifth largest in the state, issuing from the base of a bluff. The spring actually comes from a unique cave which we once traversed by canoe with carbide lamp light for a distance of a quarter of a mile. At Akers Ferry, one sees a real Ozark "downstream ferry," current and cable operated, just as they all were in pioneer days. A few

miles beyond, Cave Spring makes a wonderful camp or lunch spot which provides fresh watercress for salad or sandwich. One may paddle to the rear of this short cave where the great spring wells up from a depth of 120 feet. Recent diving and geological studies at this spring system have revealed

Map by Allan Macdonald



onal ivers

By Oz Hawksley

vationists felt, was that it would have placed the area under the jurisdiction of the Forest Service rather than the National Park Service and emphasized "scenic easements" rather than land acquisition. Since overdevelopment and commercialization of National Parks in recent years has angered many conservationists, the Curtis bill received early support out of all proportion to the size of the special interest groups behind it. This support was largely lost after it became obvious that the bill was a "road block" measure designed to suggest that Missourians were so divided on the question that it did not warrant action by Congress. Unfortunately, the "campaign of obfuscation" was successful in delaying action and in reducing the size of the area to be protected.

The most important changes in the new bill are:

1) The loss of the Eleven Point River; about 45 miles of prime quality canoe stream in Missouri plus Greer Spring, the only *wild*, first magnitude spring left in the Ozarks. The present owner of Greer Spring maintains it as a preserve but there is no guarantee for the future. Letters from both Senator Symington and Congressman Ichord indicate that the deletion of the Eleven Point was made at the request of Congressman Paul C. Jones whose 10th Missouri Congressional District includes Ripley, Oregon and Howell counties. Congressman Jones last year conducted a poll which indicated that a majority of his constituents were opposed to setting aside any land in their counties under the National Park Service. Mr. Ichord points out that the House of Representatives "will not pass legislation setting aside land for public ownership in a member's district where the member himself is opposed to the legislation." It is encouraging to note, however, that residents of the 10th District are also reported to show no significant support for the proposed Water Valley Dam in Arkansas which would back water up on the lower Eleven Point in Missouri. It is possible that the Eleven Point may yet be saved if action is taken in the near future.

2. Omission of the lower Current River. This section (in Ripley County) should never have been included in the first place as it does not have the high quality of the upper sections; it is bigger and slower and subject to outboard motor traffic. The Current is primarily a canoe and john boat stream and should be retained as such. Mechanized travel will destroy its semi-wilderness quality and charm.

Paddling on the Greer Spring Branch of the Eleven Point River, a section left out of the present National Rivers proposal. About 500 cubic feet per second come from a single spring here. Photograph by Ron Oesch

3) Including the scenic easements as one means of protecting the shoreline while provision for acquisition of lands is retained.

4) Permitting hunting which would not interfere with public safety. Since the area would be more nearly a "recreation area" than a National Park and since I have never seen a hunter along the banks of these rivers in years of floating them, I cannot see any threat to National Park "integrity" or to public safety.

4) A provision which would strengthen the bill would be the inclusion, in the Ozark National Rivers Commission, of a member to represent the *paddle* boat interests, since the rivers are primarily suited to canoe, kayak and john boat travel. If noisy "air boats" and other mechanized craft continue to invade these rivers, "preservation" will have been thwarted.

All things considered, Senate Bill 16 is sound and reasonable. If it passes in the 88th Congress, it will not only save a unique river system for high quality recreational use, but may encourage the preservation of other such rivers. The ORRRC studies showed that there are few such rivers left in the United States. If it does not pass, we may lose the Current and Jacks Fork forever because the inroads of commercialism and mechanization have been greatly increased by "National Monument" publicity.

its connection with the Devil's Well, a cavern over 220 feet deep, partially filled with a lake 120 feet deep, and have greatly increased our understanding of the functioning of large springs.

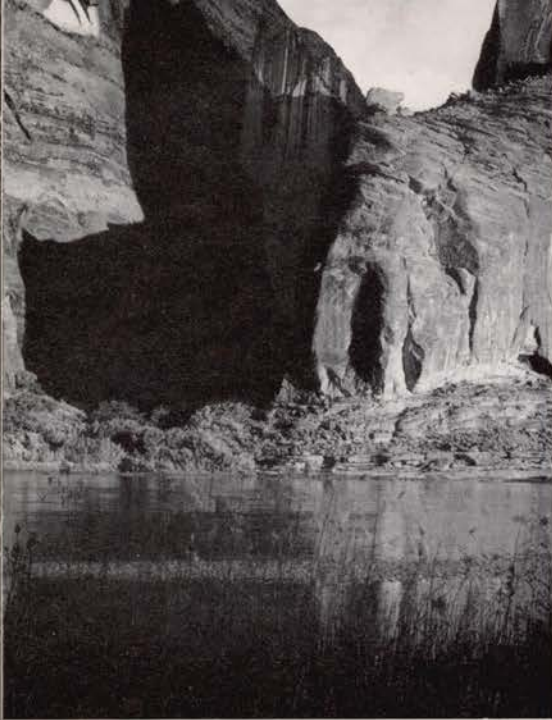
Springs, caves, and bluffs continue to appear along the shores of the Current. Notable among these are Pulltight Spring, Round Spring Caverns (commercial), Bee Bluff, the Blue Spring at Larkin Ford, Paint Rock Bluff, and Gravel Spring. Just above Round Spring, Sinking Creek enters the Current. Its name derives from the fact that the stream takes a short cut through a hill via a cave known as The Sinks. Seven miles of the creek below The Sinks are often floatable, past valleys successively named Happy Hollow, Mail Route Hollow, and Sugar Tree Hollow. Clean gravel bars, nearly insect free, make convenient campsites all along the river. Only rarely does one notice domestic stock or other signs of habitation near the river.

In 1962, Senator Symington and Representative Ichord introduced bills which proposed an "Ozark Rivers National Monument." This included the Eleven Point River and parts of the Current River not included in the present bill. The Symington-Ichord bills were opposed by local factions who supported a bill introduced by Representative Curtis. A principal difference and weakness of the Curtis bill, many conser-



Numerous large springs keep water open for year-round floating. Photograph by Dorothy Hawksley





Side canyon near Hidden Passage and Music Temple bar in Glen Canyon, Utah. Black and white reproduction of a color photograph by Eliot Porter from *The Place No One Knew: Glen Canyon on the Colorado*, © 1963 by Sierra Club

Silent River

IT WAS NOT an outdoor amphitheater performance in any ordinary sense. There was a symphonic quality to the simple recorder notes and the accompanying voices. As Dick finished playing and the resonance died in Music Temple, everyone was silent.

The mood of the place and the knowledge of what was about to happen to it were combining to create deep feelings—nostalgia, regret, anger, desperation, and for some, resignation. Just a few hundred yards down the gently sloping side stream, the big river—architect of all we were seeing, feeling, enjoying that afternoon—was silent. Already the first impact of the reservoir had come to Music Temple bar and to the mouth of Hidden Passage on the facing shore. Next day on the river our rafts would run on still

Glen Canyon dam and bridge in northern Arizona (just below the Utah-Arizona boundary line) as it looked from the air on April 7, 1963. When completed in 1964, it will rise 580 feet above the river bed to a crest elevation of 3715 feet. Photo by Bruce M. Kilgore



water—the water backed up by Glen Canyon dam. We were having our last look at Glen and its world of side canyons.

Silently, a few at a time, our party left, glancing back for a last look at this chamber of sandstone. But not just sandstone, as Powell knew nearly a century earlier:

The chamber is more than two hundred feet wide. Through the ceiling, and on through the rocks for a thousand feet above, there is a narrow, winding skylight; and this is all carved out by a little stream, which only runs during the few showers that fall now and then in this arid country . . . Here we bring our camp. When "Old Shady" sings us a song at night, we are pleased to find that this hollow in the rock is filled with sweet sounds. It was doubtless made for an academy of music by its storm-born architect; so we name it Music Temple.

As the last notes died in Music Temple on that day in mid-April, 1963, many of us resolved that never again would we allow careless, unknowing men to flood and destroy and damage such places. In Grand Canyon—whether the section called Marble Gorge, or Granite Gorge, or Bridge Canyon—this *must* not happen. But too few men knew about Music Temple. And Glen

Canyon, with its natural, living river, is nearly gone.

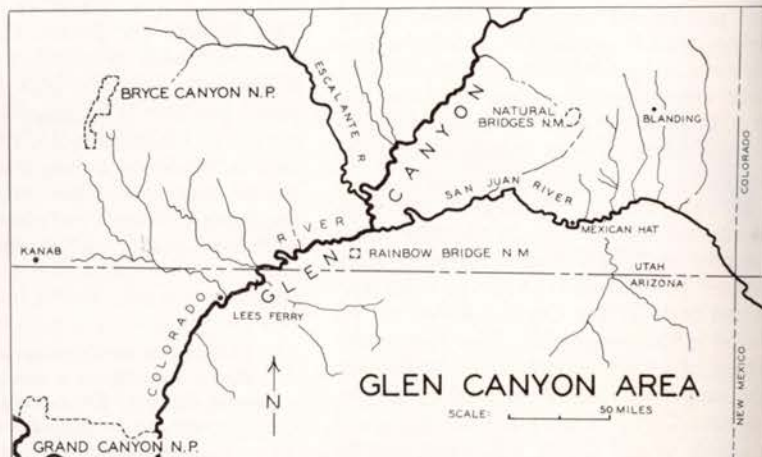
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On the Colorado River in south central Utah, Glen Canyon was one of the natural scenic marvels of the world. The closing of the diversion tunnels of Glen Canyon dam (see January and March *SCB's*) is changing all this. The dam is creating a fluctuating reservoir which will reach 186 miles up the Colorado, and approximately half of that distance is already flooded by the rising waters. By Easter, the river was silent at its junction with Aztec Creek and even at Music Temple bar (just below the junction of the Colorado and the San Juan).

Bureau of Reclamation stories have promised a fabulous new recreational resource for power boats in the new reservoir—Lake Powell. The burden of the Sierra Club's new book, *The Place No One Knew: Glen Canyon on the Colorado*, is to show what price in irreplaceable wilderness scenery and living space has been paid for a second—and premature—Lake Mead.

With one stroke this engineering marvel will obliterate, first under the reservoir itself and later under silt and sediment, al-

Map by Allan Macdonald





Living space for people, as well as wildlife, is vanishing as the new reservoir in Glen Canyon floods former bars such as Music Temple bar (left). A 1962 Sierra Club river trip camped beneath the now nearly submerged trees in the center photograph. Further down the reservoir (right), one sandstone cliff drops sharply into Lake Powell with little chance for shade and campsites at its base. Photos by Bruce M. Kilgore

most 150,000 acres of wilderness river, habitat, and wildlife unequalled anywhere else on earth. It will also end the opportunity for wilderness experience some distance back from the 3300 miles of reservoir shoreline made accessible to the roar of power boats. It does this primarily to produce kilowatt hours of electricity, which could have come from alternate sources. *The Place No One Knew* describes Lake Powell as "a huge reservoir, absolutely not needed in this century, almost certainly not needed in the next, and conceivably never to be needed at all."

Glen Canyon was lost because too few people had any idea about what was there. The book reminds the public of a needless loss, and does it with taste and reserve. It also warns of a major threat to the best of the nation's remaining wilderness rivers, especially the Colorado itself, including Grand Canyon National Park and Monument. The Bureau of Reclamation is pressing plans, in the face of present water-losing overdevelopment of the Colorado, for a Marble Canyon dam immediately above Grand Canyon proper, for a Bridge Canyon dam that will back water into the monument and park, and for additional power installations "wherever else such plants on the Col-

orado may prove feasible," in the words of Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall. The Bureau has already gone back on its promise to keep the waters behind Glen Canyon dam from encroaching upon Rainbow Bridge National Monument and endangering the unique bridge itself, in spite of the clear requirement of law, reinforced by a court ruling, that the national monument should be protected.

Citizens of the United States would do well to watch what the monolithic dam-building bureaus are up to. As Editor David Brower points out in his foreword in the book: "Progress need not deny to the people their inalienable right to be informed and to choose. In Glen Canyon the people never knew what the choices were. Next time, in other stretches of the Colorado, on other rivers that are still free, and wherever there is wildness that can be part of our civilization instead of victim to it, the people need to know before a bureau's elite decide to wipe out what no man can replace. The Sierra Club has no better purpose than to try to let people know in time. In Glen Canyon we failed."

* * * * *

As we left our hot, silty lunchstop on the final day of the trip, we saw a beaver swim-

ming around the tops of some cottonwood trees that apparently had been his private domain a few days earlier. We wondered how long he would swim, whether he would try to seek out a new unflooded place for himself soon enough, or whether his natural instinct would only tell him that "this must be a temporary high in the river and it will pass." Later, as we approached the Kane Creek takeout point, we watched a lone heron on a barren sandstone cliff looking vainly for natural river shoreline and food.

On arrival at Salt Lake City the next day, we read of the "World's Newest Lake—A Top Tourist Lure" with a photograph of a motorboat in Labyrinth Canyon, five miles downstream from Kane Creek. The accompanying caption told of "a huge, almost covered anteroom, cool and dark . . . [that] will be one of the scores of Lake Powell attractions." We thought of Music Temple and wondered how many more exchanges of this sort—in Grand Canyon and elsewhere—mankind will let happen before he recognizes the value of wildness.—*B.M.K.*

Footnote on *The Place No One Knew*

The club's latest book on Glen Canyon is far more than a pretty picture book and far more than crying over spilt milk. We hope many *SCB* readers can be persuaded to go off somewhere and work their way through the book for two hours—just about the minimum careful skimming time. If you do this, we think you will perceive your own role in awakening your friends and neighbors, your local editors, your representatives in Congress, and leaders of organizations to which you belong before our land gets any further unnecessary clobbering simply because clobbering is economically or engineeringly feasible. Time is running out rapidly on too many places that can and should be saved. One of the most important

places the Glen Canyon book can help is Grand Canyon—not just the part in the park and monument, but all of Grand Canyon from Lees Ferry to the Grand Wash Cliffs. A nation fortunate enough to have a Grand Canyon is also well enough endowed in other ways to protect it—including the Marble Canyon beginnings of the Grand Canyon complex, now threatened with three separate hydroelectric developments that would destroy the force that created the canyon and much of its beauty. An adequate, comprehensive Grand Canyon National Park may be the answer, if the American people are bold enough to want it so.—*The Editors.*

Music Temple wall by Eliot Porter from The Place No One Knew

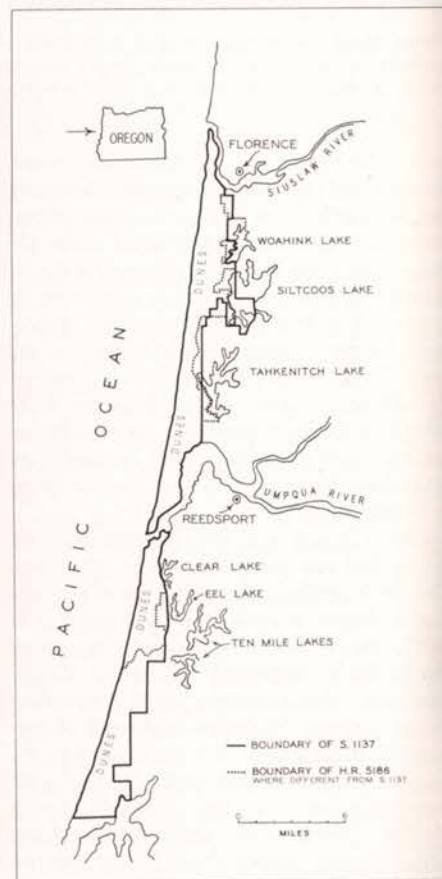


The Oregon Dunes

The Sands That Time Will



Aerial view of the South Umpqua dunes looking south along the Pacific. Photo by Ward Robertson



Allan Macdonald

SAHARAN DUNES, large and longitudinal, are normally found on deserts. But on Oregon's coast they are, anomalously, piled high by humid Pacific winds in a land dense with vegetation. These dunes, between Florence and Coos Bay, are the highest coastal dunes on the North American continent, nearly 300 feet high and reaching almost three miles inland.

The winds and currents of time created these dunes, but man has already begun to take them apart. They are the product of geological time—of a cycle of balance between moving, eroding sand and natural stabilizing vegetation. The cycle built them and it also controlled them—but man in his first fifty years of knowing them has not cared. He has logged up to their edges, encroached on their drift path, and planted exotic sand-binding grasses to stop their movement. In his brief acquaintance with them, he has profoundly disturbed the balance of forces which created them. The leading authority on these dunes, botanist William S. Cooper, foresees that man's activity

may have already "changed significantly the character of the whole dune complex."

But man has also begun to perceive that he can act to save these dunes. In its 1959 Pacific Coast Recreation Survey, the National Park Service adjudged the Oregon Dunes to be of national importance, warranting "permanent preservation." The Park Service said there is no area on the Pacific Coast "possessing a comparable association of dunes, seashore, freshwater lakes, and forest." It proposed establishment of a 32,000-acre national seashore. The late Senator Richard L. Neuberger promptly introduced legislation to establish such a seashore. His wife, who succeeded him, introduced similar legislation in the following Congress, but failure to gain House sponsorship and lack of united support in Oregon left the proposal without the impetus that carried other companion seashore proposals—Cape Cod, Massachusetts, Point Reyes, California, and Padre Island, Texas—to enactment.

ot Save

By J. Michael McCloskey

But now, with a new congressman representing the district, House sponsorship has been assured, as well as support of the state administration. In an inter-departmental agreement in late January (see page 10 of the January, 1963 *Sierra Club Bulletin*), the departments of the Interior and Agriculture agreed that the seashore should be established and the proposal has now been made a part of the administration's program. Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall is reported to be more optimistic about its chances than he was about the prospects for the seashores established by the last Congress.

Two bills are now before the 88th Congress, S.1137 by Senator Maurine Neuberger, and H.R.5186 by Congressman Robert Duncan. Senator Neuberger's bill would establish a 40-mile-long seashore of some 42,000 acres, while Congressman Duncan's bill would establish a seashore of about 30,000 acres.

Hearings were held on Senator Neuberger's bill on May 4 in Oregon and on May 8 and 9 in Washington, D.C. Senate action on her bill is expected some time this summer, with House hearings in Oregon expected this fall. The Senate is expected to act favorably, the main question being whether or not to include the southern nine miles, an area with an industrial water supply (now within S.1137 boundaries—see map). In a preliminary master plan presented at the Senate hearings, National Park Service officials regarded inclusion of this section as highly desirable. The House bill does not contain the southern area.

Both bills, however, will accomplish three important objectives for conserving the natural features of most of the area. First, they will put management in the hands of the National Park Service which will make preservation of the natural cycle of dunes activity, for public appreciation, a paramount aim. Much of the area is now under the administration of the U.S. Forest Service, which is conducting an extensive program of dunes planting and stabilization. (In response to criticism from conservationists, the Forest Service recently cut back its planting program from the originally planned 6,622 to 3,300 acres.)

Second, by putting management in the hands of the Park Service, the bills will make it possible to preserve more of the wild mood of the dunes, for the Park Service has indicated that it is not likely to build as many roads through the dunes as the Forest Service, and it will be likely to exercise more control over cross-country dunes vehicles.

Third, both bills will restrict cluttered private developments along the dunes. However, Congressman Duncan's bill (H.R. 5186) provides less protection of this sort. His bill protects only 17,100 acres of dunes while Senator Neuberger's bill protects 24,077 acres of dunes, and Senator Neuberger's bill also provides more of a protected scenic corridor along Highway



Transverse dunes northwest of Woahink Lake (above) prior to being planted and an aerial view of similar dunes along Tahkenitch Creek (right). Fresh-water ponds formed by sand-damming abound in the area. Photos by Edwin J. Dolan



101, which runs along the area (14¼ miles of corridor in comparison to 5½ miles). Moreover, her bill has more forest area for moving space for the dunes and for seashore facilities (12,180 acres in comparison to 8,320 acres). Congressman Duncan's bill has excluded much abutting private land and provides for a seashore only about 30 miles in length.

Both bills, however, will save the sands that time is no longer saving—no longer since man has intervened to subdue them. He can now, equally as well, intervene to protect them—to restore their natural freedom to move southerly with the longshore currents of summer and with the cross-winds of the seasons, carrying the sands of interior rivers back onshore, building the patterned piles of transverse dunes and the high ridges of oblique dunes running inland, meeting the undergrowth on ancient dunes, the barriers of ponding streams, and the persistent push of pioneering shrubs, continuing the timeless circle of advance and overgrowth and reawakening. This can all exist again in an Oregon Dunes National Seashore.

Your Washington Office Report

By William Zimmerman, Jr.

The Northern Cascades

The special Study Committee appointed by Secretaries Udall and Freeman has had two meetings in Washington. A third meeting is planned for May 24. After that meeting, Chairman Crafts hopes to issue a public statement, which may include a commitment as to the area to be studied.

The committee will probably hold public hearings, perhaps one on each side of the mountains. The committee has indicated its intention to make at least one general inspection completely "on its own," that is, unaccompanied by departmental employees or interested outsiders. Individual members of the committee and staff assistants will probably be assigned to study critical or controversial spots. Interested persons may be allowed on occasion to travel with the committee or with individual members.

In the meantime, Chairman Crafts has invited suggestions from any source, either about procedures, or on any substantive matters. Letters should be addressed to Edward C. Crafts, Chairman, Northern Cascades Study Committee, Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, Department of the Interior, Washington 25, D.C.

Even before the appointment of this Study Committee, strong representations had been made to Secretary Freeman, urging that there be a moratorium on logging, road building, and other development in the Northern Cascades area until a determination is made about its future status. These representations seemingly did not reach the Secretary, but were answered by subordinates who stated, in substance, that the Forest Service program, as planned for a five-year term, must proceed. Finally Representative Pelly of Washington and Representative Saylor of Pennsylvania, senior minority member of the Interior committee in the House of Rep-

resentatives, in response to their insistent letters, received a lengthy letter signed by the Secretary.

The Secretary reiterated the Department's position that the 485,000-acre Glacier Peak Wilderness Area and the 801,000-acre North Cascades Primitive Area provide a "substantial acreage in this part of the Cascade Mountains in which scenic and wilderness values are being fully protected." The area between these two, the Cascades Pass-Ruby Creek sector, is to be managed "for preservation of scenic values, to develop it for use by large numbers of people, with utilization of other resources, including timber harvesting," to the extent such use "can be properly integrated with the recreation and scenic objectives."

Secretary Freeman explained in detail that in ten of the areas indicated on the map (see below) published in the September 1962 *Sierra Club Bulletin*, no developments involving the construction of new roads, or the making of new timber sales are planned in the four-year period ending in the fiscal year 1967. These areas are 1, 3, 6, 8, 11, 12, 13, 17, 18, and 19. In these areas, he wrote, "we agree to not commence developments or initiate changes in the existing plans, during the next two years unless the occurrence of fires or insect, or blowdown problems makes necessary action not now contemplated."

Regarding area 15 (about half the length of Lake Chelan), and an indefinite south portion of 14, the Secretary refused to make any "deferment of plans and activities."

In the remaining eight areas (2, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10, 16, 20), and in the north part of 14, the Secretary said that no new activities would be started, but that sales contracts in effect would be carried out, and sales plans for this year would be carried out.

The Secretary added that he would have another look at the situation in January 1964. It is fervently to be hoped that by that time the Study Committee will have made progress so that its urging would be added to the many pleas the Secretary has already received. Common sense and official integrity should dictate to the Forest Service that it take no actions which would foreclose independent, impartial conclusions by the Study Committee.

The Wilderness Bill

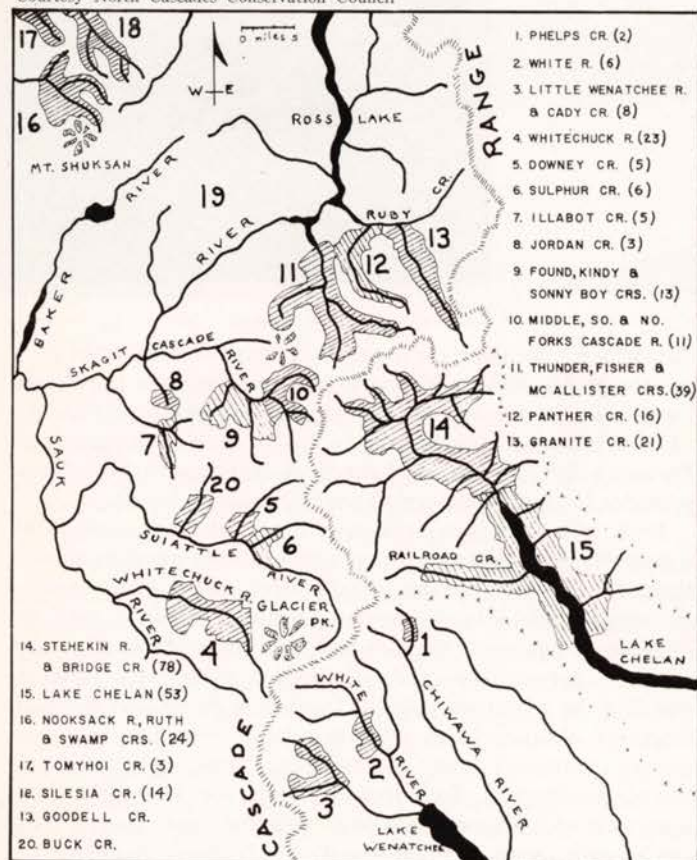
The Wilderness Bill passed the Senate by the large margin of 73 to 12. Twelve additional senators were announced as for the bill, but they were either absent or were paired with senators in opposition. On the various Allott-Dominick amendments, proposed during the debate on the floor, the votes were closer, 26 to 56, 21 to 61, 35 to 49. The closest vote was on the question whether the bill should leave to the Congress the right to veto a Presidential establishment of a Wilderness Area, or should be amended to require an affirmative concurrent resolution approving the establishment. Obviously this was not a wilderness issue: the opposition alleged that it is a constitutional issue.

Now the Wilderness Bill is again before the House Interior Committee. Unfortunately the chairman of the committee, Wayne Aspinall of Colorado, has just been ordered by his doctors to restrict his activities for several weeks because of a cardiac weakness. Any prediction at this time would be foolish, but it seems unlikely that the committee will act on the bill in the near future.

Land and Water Conservation Fund

One bill which is likely to have priority, because it is being pushed strongly by the administration, is the Land and Water Conservation Fund bill (S.859, H.R.3846 and seven others). This is an attempt to provide funds for land purchase and development for recreational uses, without putting a direct burden on the federal budget. It would place in a special fund the receipts from

Courtesy North Cascades Conservation Council



user and entrance fees to be charged for recreational use of federal lands, including the parks and forests; from a special tax of four cents a gallon on motor fuel used in recreational boating; and the proceeds from the sale of surplus federal property. It would also authorize loans from the Treasury for a period of eight years, beginning with the third year of operation, of not more than \$60 million a year. At the end of the ten-year period, one-half of the Fund revenues each year would be paid to the Treasury to apply on these loans. Money in the Fund would be subject to appropriation each year by the Congress. Sixty per cent of the moneys would be available to the states, and 40 per cent to federal agencies, with the proviso that the President could change these percentages either way by not more than 15 per cent.

Available moneys would be apportioned among the states: one-fifth equally among the states; three-fifths on the basis of population; one-fifth on the basis of need. One of the announced purposes of the legislation is to encourage the states to enlarge their recreation programs. The total sum authorized by the bill is estimated at not less than \$150 million a year.

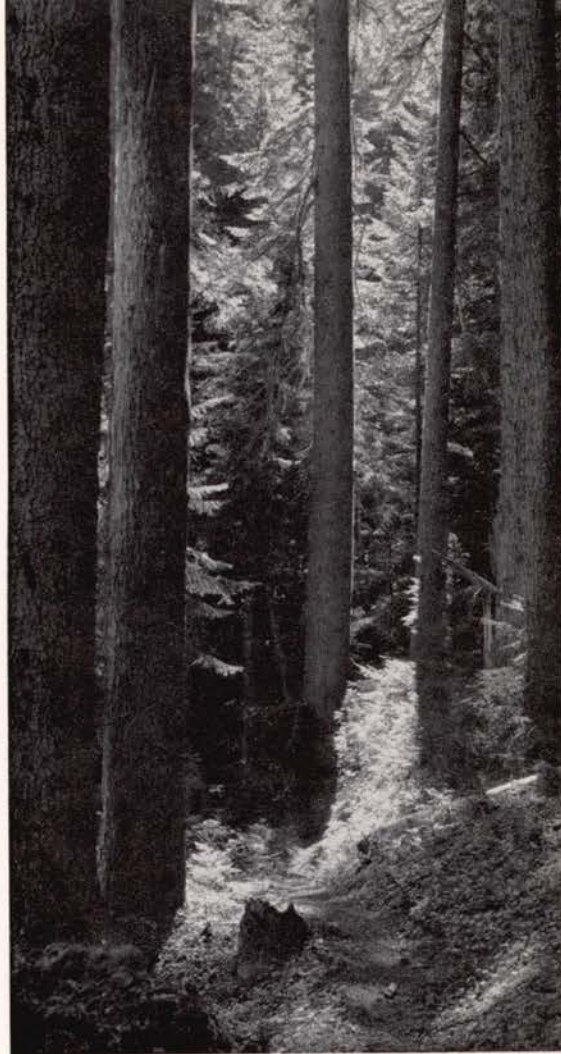
National Recreation System

On April 10 Secretary Udall announced that the President's Recreation Advisory Council had approved the establishment of a system of National Recreation Areas. Such areas, according to the Interior release, would "include areas of above average natural endowments but with less significance than unique scenic and historic elements of the national parks and national forests."

The Council included in this new category areas formerly proposed as National Seashores, Lakeshores, Riverways, and Recreation Demonstration Areas. Evidently Cape Cod, Padre Island, and Point Reyes would be in this category. Numerous bills pending in Congress would be affected, including the Oregon Dunes, the Sleeping Bear Dunes in Michigan, the Indiana Dunes, the Ozark Rivers, and probably the Ice Age Scientific Area in Wisconsin sponsored by Sierra Club member Representative Henry Reuss. Bills to establish three such areas in northern California (Whiskytown, Shasta, and Trinity) have already been introduced. All such areas would be established by act of Congress.

Among the criteria set forth by the Council are: 20,000 acres as a desirable minimum size; high carrying capacity and accessibil-

The Whitechuck forest is in area 4 on the map on page 10—an area in which Region 6 of the Forest Service plans to continue "timber cutting, road construction and other required activities for timber contracts already entered into." This valley was itself once proposed as a national park by The Mountaineers.
Photo by Philip Hyde



ity, not more than 250 miles from urban population centers; recreation as the dominant purpose; only to be established where other programs, federal or non-federal, do not fulfill high priority recreation needs.

Bulletin Board

Ozark National Rivers

Subcommittees of the House and Senate conducted hearings in early April on S.16 and H.R.1803, proposals to designate 140 miles of the Current and Jacks Fork rivers (94,000 acres) as the Ozark National Rivers, to be administered by the National Park Service. Appearing on behalf of the proposals were Secretary of the Interior Udall, Senator Stuart Symington, and Missouri Representative Richard Ichord, Missouri State Parks Director Jaeger speaking for Governor John Dalton, and a 14-member delegation from the Ozark Rivers National Park Association.

Other New Parks and Seashores

The following bills have been introduced and referred to committee: S.1143 (Hart and McNamara, Mich.), Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore, Michigan; S.650 (Douglas, Ill.) and H.R.4734, Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore; S.986 (Pearson and Carlson, Kan.) and H.R.4424 (Avery, Kan.), Prairie National Park, Kansas; S.1303 (Engle, Calif.), Channel Islands

National Seashore, California; H.R.4999 (Ryan, N.Y.), Fire Island National Seashore, New York; S.47 (Anderson, New Mex.), Valle Grande National Park, New Mexico; S.77 (Beall, Md.), C. and O. Canal National Historical Park, Maryland.

Committee hearings were held April 25 on S.27, Canyonlands National Park, Utah, and March 28 on S.792, Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore, Michigan. The Subcommittee on National Parks reported favorably March 21 on H.R.1096, the Ice Age National Scientific Reserve in Wisconsin.

Highway Damage to Recreation

S.468 (Metcalf, Montana, and Moss, Utah) and H.R.4488 (Dingell, Mich.) would minimize damage to fish, wildlife, and recreation from Federal-aid highway construction by requiring the Secretary of Interior's approval of highway plans.

Water Pollution

H.R.3166 (Blatnik, Minn.) and S.649 (Muskie, Maine, and Humphrey, Minn.) would strengthen the Federal Water Pollution Control Act. One change sought is a firm statement of

policy that establishes a national goal for keeping waters as clean as possible rather than the present laws which permit filth to be added to a stream up to its ability to assimilate it by natural processes.

The House Natural Resources and Power Subcommittee has announced public hearings on the nation's water pollution control problems beginning in mid-May. The Subcommittee will conduct field inspections and additional public hearings in various parts of the country.

At the Annual Meeting of the Sierra Club Board of Directors on May 4, 1963, the following policy resolution was adopted:

"The Sierra Club recommends that the Grand Canyon National Park and Grand Canyon National Monument be extended to include the Grand Canyon of the Colorado River between Lees Ferry and the Grand Wash Cliffs, or that this area be protected by other suitable means, to preserve unimpaired this outstanding scenic part of the river in its natural state, and the Sierra Club opposes any further dams or diversions in this area."

Briefly Noted

Grand Canyon Uranium Mine

Western Equities, Inc., has deeded its twenty-acre patented Orphan Mining Claim on the South Rim of the Grand Canyon in Grand Canyon National Park to the federal government, subject to certain reserved rights, the Department of the Interior announced in November.

The claim—one of two private holdings remaining in Grand Canyon National Park—was originally patented in 1906, two years before the establishment of Grand Canyon National Monument. Uranium ore from the Orphan Mine is processed in a mill in Tuba City, Arizona.

The company has the right to remove, for a period of twenty-five years, ore underlying park land adjacent to its claim. All mining operations will be conducted so as not to disfigure the scenic park terrain.

On termination of the Company's mining operations, the claim will be cleared of developments and returned to its natural state.

Association Fights for Bodega

In a memorandum filed before the California Public Utilities Commission in early May, the Northern California Association to Preserve Bodega Head and Harbor continued its battle to prevent the Pacific Gas & Electric Company from building the controversial nuclear power plant at Bodega Bay, just north of the Point Reyes National Seashore on the California coast (see April 1961 and June 1962 *SCB's* for earlier stories). The Association charged that PG&E has given the State PUC false testimony and the Atomic Energy Commission false and altered documents in applying for permission to build the plant.

The PUC had authorized PG&E last November 9 to proceed with the \$61 million project. Although preliminary work is

now under way, final Atomic Energy Commission approval must still be obtained—after AEC hearings are held in Santa Rosa sometime in the next few months.

A PG&E spokesman immediately denied any misleading testimony in the hearings held last year (see June 1962 *SCB*) and said that all PG&E consultants' reports had been reviewed by the PUC before its decision. He also maintained that all the facts about the plant have been presented to the AEC.

In a 49-page memorandum with numerous photographs, maps, drawings, and other documentation relying on two public documents, the Association seeks to prove several main points: (1) that PG&E testified that the San Andreas Fault is more than one-fourth mile from the atomic reactor while knowing that it was only approximately 1,000 feet (federal regulations state that a reactor must be more than one-fourth mile from a known active earthquake fault); (2) that recent borings into the foundations (by the firm of Dames and Moore of San Francisco) show there is no solid rock at the reactor site, but rather badly decomposed "quartz-diorite" which is mostly clay and that the associated structures will be founded on more than 50 feet of water-saturated sand, silt, clay, and decomposed wood; and (3) that the reports of PG&E's earthquake hazard consultants (Dr. D. Tocher of the University of California, assisted by Dr. William Quaide of Claremont, a geologist) showed the site to be so unsuitable that the company has altered some of their conclusions and has failed to submit the most recent and damaging information to the Atomic Energy Commission.

The Association's memorandum asks the CPUC to "retrace its steps in granting Application No. 43808" and to deny it.

Association headquarters are at 2731 Durant Avenue, Berkeley 4, California.

In 1958, the Sierra Club Board of Directors voted that Bodega Head should be acquired as a State Park. In 1961, the club reaffirmed this belief and opposed establishment of the proposed power plant on Bodega Head. That position has not changed.

Logging the Cascades

If you skimmed lightly over Bill Zimmerman's report on Secretary Freeman's North Cascades decision, better look again (page 10). For while the interdepartmental committee begins its study of the best public use of the area (see also p. 10 of the Jan. *SCB* and p. 15 of the March *SCB*), here's what will be happening to those parts of Washington's Northern Cascades which David Si-

mons noted long ago needed scenic-resource protection:

1. Regular multiple-use activities—including logging, mining, and recreation—will continue in the upper half of the Lake Chelan area and in Stehekin Valley below High Bridge Guard Station—including lower Agnes Creek.

2. Any timber cutting, road construction, and other required activities for timber sale contracts which have already been entered into will continue in the Whitechuck River valley leading up to the west side of Glacier Peak; the Stehekin Valley above High Bridge Guard Station—including Park Creek and Bridge Creek (nearly all the area shown in the Sierra Club film *Wilderness Alps of Stehekin*); the middle, south, and north forks of the Cascade River—the river leading to the most popular west-side entrance to the range; plus a sizeable group of areas bordering the present Glacier Peak Wilderness Area, including White River, Downey Creek, Illabot Creek, Found. Kindy, and Sonny Boy creeks, Panther Creek, and Buck Creek. In these same areas, Secretary Freeman also states, "We will continue timber cutting, road construction,



Photo by Fred Gunsky

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and other necessary actions involving timber sales that have been listed in the sales plans of individual National Forests for this year and which consequently have become a commitment by the Forest Service on which an established unit of the forest products industry has based plans for operations for this year or next." In addition, mass recreational plans are given preference over any possible future national park hopes: "We will continue small road construction projects in connection with planned recreational developments and the carrying out of such planned recreational developments. Necessary activities involving the cross-state highway will continue. With the above exceptions," the Secretary's letter concludes, "we will start no new actions during this period that would involve road construction or timber harvesting operations."

While conservationists will be happy to hear of the Secretary's decision not to develop the Thunder Creek and Granite Creek drainages at this time, they will certainly question whether the results of the study committee's efforts can be of much consequence unless the Secretary—in spite of his Region 6 national forest advisors—changes his present plans and decides to also place a logging moratorium on the critical Whitechuck, Stehekin, and Cascade River drainages.—B.M.K.

Editors Are Saying



Karts in the High Country

Business Week, July 14, 1962

"More and more, campers who like to rough it in principle but not in fact are going up and down mountains the easy way. . . . The coming of . . . trail buggies on top of the popularity of mountain scooters, chiefly in the West, is arousing hard-core nature lovers to protest against noisy invasion of the wilderness. Some park areas have outlawed such vehicles. . . . there are many commercial applications . . . so the manufacturers aren't worried, even about the conservationists' protests. Revving up his bright red Terra-Gator, President Andy Stewart shouted in the ear of a reporter last week: "The horse

people hate us, but we're just like some of those early autos—we go where nobody went before. They resent us, but they'll get used to us."—Reprinted by special permission.

Wonderful 1992

San Francisco Chronicle, June 4, 1962

" . . . Dr. Glenn T. Seaborg, chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission . . . in a speech . . . at Northern Michigan College, . . . suggested some of the things he believes science may have brought about [by 1992].

"The peaceful uses of nuclear explosives may include deepening the Straits of Gibraltar or opening up the Sierra Nevada passes."

Cascade Park Opponents Organize

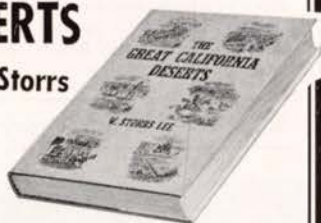
The Totem, State of Washington, Department of Natural Resources, January, 1963

The Washington Forest Area Use Council has been organized to serve as a study and advisory group on uses of forested and mountainous areas of the state. In a joint statement, Governor Rosellini and Commissioner Cole said: "It is essential that our judgment be based on objective, unbiased study—not the highly emotionalized arguments that have characterized both extremes in the continuing controversy over use and development of wilderness-type areas."

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Book Reviews

HIGH TRAILS: A GUIDE TO THE CASCADE CREST TRAIL, by Robert H. Wills. University of Washington Press, Seattle, 1962. 157 pp. Illus., index. Paper, \$3.

The 2,000-mile Pacific Crest Trail system, when completed, will extend from the Canadian to the Mexican borders, traversing the length of the Cascade mountains in Oregon and Washington and the Sierra in California. This knapsack-size, attractive book, packed with concise and detailed information, is a guide to that portion of the trails within the state of Washington, the Cascade Crest Trail.

The material is arranged in fourteen sections, from north to south, with detailed directions to the access roads and their facilities, a description of trail conditions, and remarks on the wonders and beauties to be found; then a mile-by-mile trail log, with notes on campsites and shelters, side trails, fishing waters, viewpoints, flowers, wildlife, and warnings of difficult terrain.

There are introductory notes on fishing and wildlife, a short history of the Trail, first aid, camping equipment, emergencies, and what to expect in the way of weather and trail difficulties, plus especially valuable tips on clothing and boots, backpacking, finding firewood, and what to do if lost. Bob and Ira Spring have contributed thirty photographs and several pages of text on mountain photography.

—GENNY SCHUMACHER

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Letters

One Area . . . Natural

Dear Emily (Haig):

Olaus wants me to tell you that he feels there has been a misapprehension about the Alaska areas—at least the Arctic Wildlife Range. The Fish and Wildlife people were disturbed because they didn't get more money to administer it—they felt they should have campgrounds and patrol cabins, etc. Olaus feels strongly and so do I, that the area is one which should be absolutely left alone. They fly over it whenever they want anyway—there is already a science camp of a sort (Arctic Institute) on the Arctic side at Lake Peters. There are enough lakes both sides so they can land for investigation. Let's have one area in the world *entirely* natural. That is the spirit of the place. Parties of more than 6 at a time should not be in there. I find it hard to put this strong feeling into words. Maybe one day we can talk about it. I have *tried* to express it in my book *Two in the Far North* which is just published (by Knopf).

MARDY MURIE
Moose, Wyoming

Positive Thoughts and Controversy

Dear Mr. Kilgore:

I have just finished reading "A Noisy Reaction to Silent Spring" by Clarence Cottam (Jan. *SCB*). As a serious member of the Sierra Club and a member of the agricultural chemical industry I cannot help viewing this type article

with some alarm both for the future of the pesticide industry and for the future of the Sierra Club as a leading influential force in furthering objectives of conservation.

Mr. Cottam presented a thesis that is a literary success from any point of view. His conclusion and his attitude of becoming alert to real problems are commendable. However, the development and presentation of his facts are subject to the same objectional lack of objectivity that places Dr. Carson's book in the category of saleable fiction rather than in the realm of worthwhile scientific literature.

There has never been any doubt that all chemical compounds like all machines can and will be abused to the detriment of their creators. There also never has been any doubt that manufacturers, distributors, dealers, agents, salesmen, and consumers are aware of the powerful tools of agriculture and public health that are available to them. The federal government, states, and counties are also highly enlightened, aware and subject to several complete sets of restrictive and worthwhile regulations which are carefully designed to anticipate and avoid areas of misuse and possible error.

Mr. Cottam's comments which suggest that protection of profits of the pesticide industry is the only reason for the industry's objections to the "Silent Spring" are ridiculous. They, like you and I, are entitled to defend themselves against slanderous, inaccurate, or incomplete statements pertaining to their position in the free world's industrial complex. The Cottam comments are at the best negative and at the worst possibly socialistic. I believe that it is time organizations such as the Sierra Club insisted upon positive thoughts from its contributing writers which might help us become better informed about the regulatory laws that we now have and how we can improve them. At the same time it would be highly interesting to hear the full story of industry's contribution to these regulations and of its own self-imposed rules and regulations.

If the weight of your publication is often thrown towards scholastic and general condemnations as this, soon it will exert little force in the specific pointed fields where this type influence is so badly needed.

ADRIAN L. HALE
Fresno, California

• We have asked Mr. Hale to send along specific references to "slanderous or inaccurate statements" either in Dr. Carson's book or in Dr. Cottam's article. None have been called to our attention so far; should they be sent in, we will be happy to try to learn what Dr. Cottam and Dr. Carson may have to say in rebuttal. We feel sure that use of any substantial part of the *Bulletin* for an exposition of the chemical industry's contributions to agricultural production would be a misuse of a conservation organization's publication space. Few readers will feel, we are sure, that multi-million dollar industries need our help in selling this fact to the public.

We do not want to be unfair or inaccurate—as Mr. Hale implies we have been. But neither do we intend to avoid controversy when that

controversy is at the very heart of the purposes for which the Sierra Club was founded.—Ed.

Directors and Officers Elected

The Election Committee has announced the results of the April 13 elections: Ansel Adams, Edgar Wayburn, and Lewis F. Clark were re-elected, and Alex Hildebrand and Fred Eissler were newly elected to the Board of Directors of the Sierra Club. At the annual meeting of the board on May 4, Dr. Edgar Wayburn was elected to a third term as president. Three past presidents were elected to other offices: Bestor Robinson, Oakland attorney, vice-president; Richard M. Leonard, Berkeley attorney, secretary; and Lewis F. Clark, Alameda engineer, treasurer. George Marshall, Los Angeles economist, was elected as fifth officer.

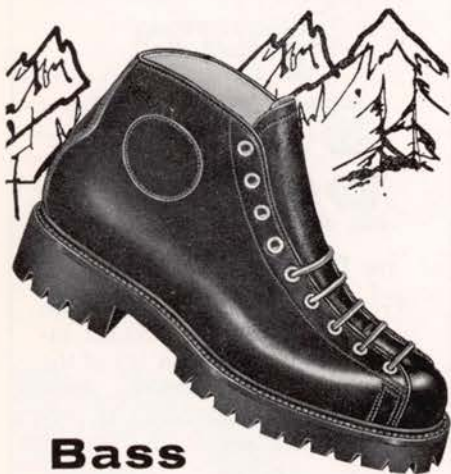
SUMMER OUTINGS

A new chance for a Wilderness Threshold experience awaits families who were not able to get on one of the other family camps.

Wilderness Threshold Trip 5c, August 24-31, with details similar to trip 5a and 5b in the February *SCB*, has been added.

If this does not meet your needs, please check the February *SCB* for details of other types of club trips.

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Mountain Talk

HOLLYWOOD finds more colossal ways of telling us how the West was won, and television desperadoes bang away on the old clichés with ever more deadly aim. Yet here we are, a stubborn band, still insisting that no one knows who won and who lost.

Wilderness conservationists refuse to go the way of the tribes who bowed before the relentless force of land-hungry settlers and U.S. cavalry, or the buffalo who could not withstand the railroaders and their riflemen. We regroup and march on Washington 25, D.C., every session.

We also keep on scouting the canyons, badlands, and mountain fastnesses. The commodity men do the same, but we just may outflank them, occasionally, and persuade the sovereign people to establish a park or forest or seashore wilderness for the greater good.

From the beginning, "to explore" has been the first purpose of the Sierra Club. John Muir never ceased exhorting his readers and fellow club members to get into the back country, and the farther back the better. Year after year, the *Bulletin* published travel accounts of those who explored new regions and new routes. Solomons and LeConte located a trail to make accessible the scenic High Sierra. Six decades of outings have staked out the claim of wilderness recreation.

That claim, however, has not yet been definitively explored. What Lewis and Clark, Pike, Long, Fremont, and others did for the pre-Civil War expansion, and the great surveys of the 1860s and '70s for science and resource development, remains to be completed in our way and for our purpose. The Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission merely set some standards and sketched the outlines of the problem in its study report issued last year.

So the Sierra Club's Outing Committee and Conservation Committee are about to

launch a new enterprise. It will start on a modest scale, but if successful it will help tremendously to collect useful data on the portions of the West that have not been won—or lost.

Exploration and Reconnaissance Trips, three of them, were announced in the February *Bulletin*. But they are no ordinary summer outings. The small parties of backpackers who enroll in them will do more than travel for fun and share filmstrips and reminiscences at a reunion. They will try to do a serious job of description and analysis, to gather the facts, maps, and pictures needed to arm conservationists for important preservation battles in the years ahead.

George Marshall, in his appeal for a series of such expeditions, baited the hook with a reference to opportunities for "vigorous wilderness experience" in small groups. His emphasis, however, was on "the urgent need for more information than we have on a number of areas of wilderness which must be classified as Wilderness now or be lost forever."

A high degree of expertise is desirable, and apparently will be forthcoming in the work on the Idaho Primitive Area by this year's E&R Trip 1, led by Larry Douglas. Besides an unusual amount of experience in compiling reports and preparing photographic materials, the six of us who are going include a geologist who has spent seven summers studying formations in Idaho, a water resources planner whose special field is the Columbia River Basin, and others well qualified to evaluate what they see during a stay of two and a half weeks in the Salmon River Mountains, even though the reserved area there is almost equal in acreage to the total now reserved in the High Sierra.

The two other E&R parties were still being recruited when this was written. Forestry, botany, wildlife, and minerals were among the specialties sought by Merrill Hugo and Dr. Kurt Munchheimer, leaders of the trips to the Salmons and the Siski-

yous of northern California. At \$35 for eight days and \$50 for ten days, these were average-cost knapsack trips—with exceptional satisfaction offered in return for post-season research and report writing.*

Randal Dickey, Jr., the club's conservation chairman, and others including Fred Eissler and Bob Braun, knapsack chairman, have been enthusiastic in their support of the idea of Exploration and Reconnaissance Trips. The list of regions for possible future study is a genuine challenge. It includes Wyoming's Wind River Range, Idaho's Sawtooth, all thirteen of the Northwest limited areas, the major wildlife ranges and national parks and monuments in Alaska, and the island of Kauai. Kurt Munchheimer has nominated a baker's dozen of little-known areas in northern California and southern Oregon.

Adequate standards for the program, well-considered priorities, and acceptable methods of cost-sharing and administration, must be worked out. It is not too soon to begin lining up interested and qualified members for next year's trips. And, as Fred Eissler says, most areas cannot be inventoried satisfactorily in a week or two. Weeks, months, or even years of investigation may be necessary before an E&R trip is scheduled, and a good deal of additional work will go into the preparation of each report and photo file.

None of this is really new to the Sierra Club, unless it is the plan of systematically organizing one task force after another in a combined conservation-outing operation.

The words "exploration" and "reconnaissance" are not new either. But in this context they have a certain semantic (or romantic) aura. Let's hope they will help to mobilize our best talent for a series of rugged field studies and reports as significant for wild America in our time as the great surveys of the past were for the "winning" of the West.

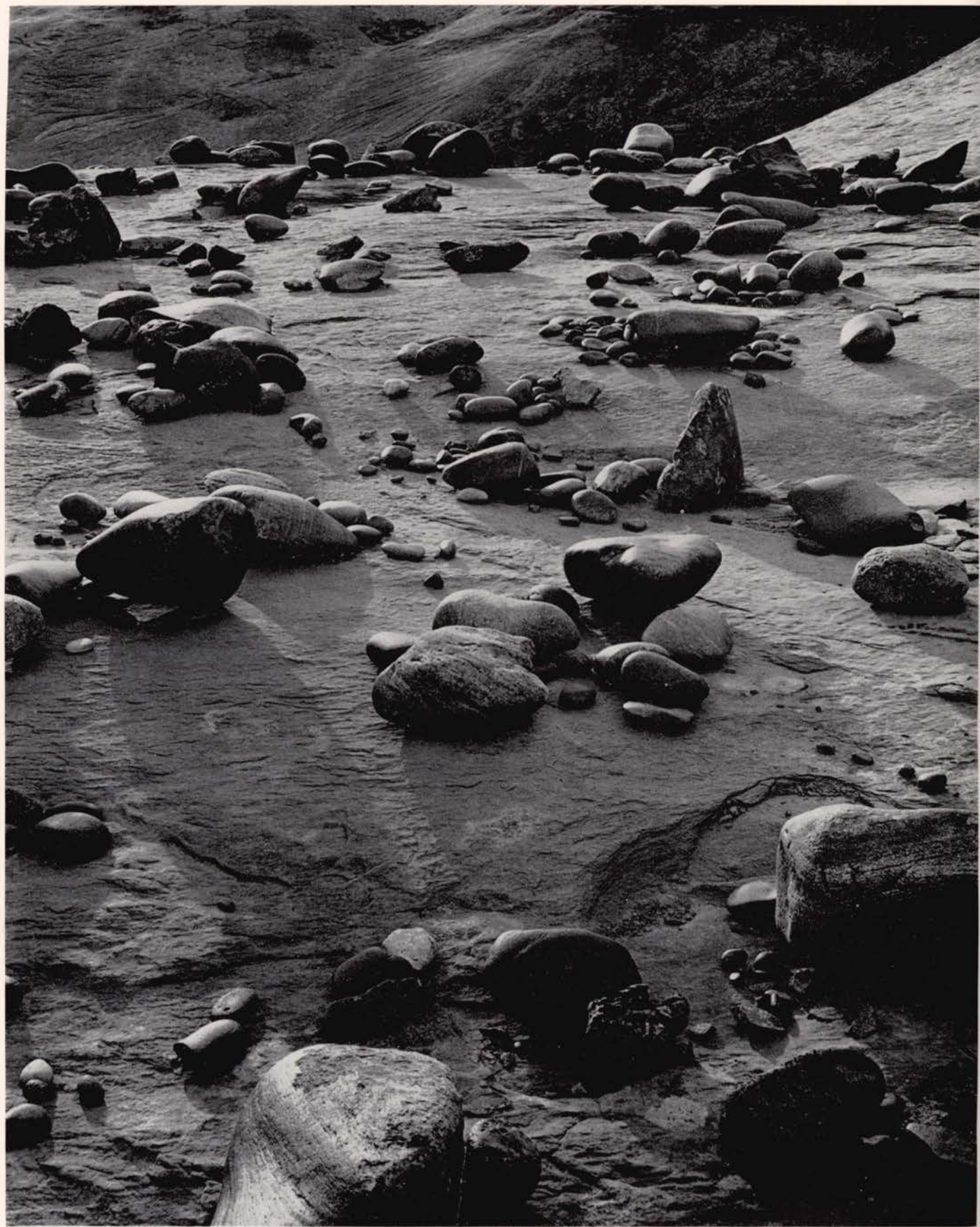
FRED GUNSKY

* Applications and inquiries should be sent directly to the trip leaders. See Feb. *SCB*.



BACK COVER: *Near Balanced Rock Canyon. A black and white reproduction of a color photograph by Eliot Porter from The Place No One Knew: Glen Canyon on the Colorado, Sierra Club, 1963. In early April, 1963, Eliot Porter (left) makes final adjustments before taking another photograph in the same area. The Colorado River deposited the rocks on this ancient bar in some earlier era. Since then, winds have been at work, eroding away the sandstone on which the rocks sit, sometimes leaving them on one, or two (right), or three-point pedestals. Photos, Bruce M. Kilgore*





"... he saw the wind endlessly polishing and eroding stones on the high flanks of the world."

—LOREN EISELEY