



NEWSLETTER



ISSUE NO. 20 AUGUST 1981

EXPAND CSPRA ?

The following Resolution was presented at the 1981 General Executive Council in Ventura. Your Board of Directors asked that arguments for and against be printed for the membership's review.

RESOLUTION 1981-1

WHEREAS, The objectives of the California State Park Rangers Association include, "to provide a medium of exchange of professional thought, to provide the interpretation of our natural and man-made environment, and to promote sound judgement, high quality and economy in the planning development, operation and maintenance of facilities and services offered the public by the Department of Parks and Recreation." And...

WHEREAS, there are many current and retired, permanent or permanent-intermittent employees of the Department of Parks and Recreation in virtually every civil service class used by the Department who share the philosophies of the Association and would like to promote its objectives. And...

WHEREAS, Active and Active Retired membership in the California State Park Rangers Association is limited to current or retired employees of the Department who are or will have been employed in the State Park Ranger, State Park Technician, State Park Manager, State Park Maintenance or District Specialist classification. Now therefore be it...

RESOLVED, that a ballot be submitted to all voting members asking that the constitution of the Association be amended to expand the Active and Active Retired Membership classes to include all current and retired, permanent or permanent-intermittent employees of the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Ideas presented in these arguments are not necessarily the opinions of the Board. They are presented to stimulate discussion of this major proposal which will go to full membership vote. You are invited to write the Newsletter directly to air your opinions,

MONO TUFA RESERVE

by Paula Pennington

Some interesting and positive things have been happening for Mono Lake recently. S.B. 83 has finally traveled most of its way through the necessary government tangle and Mono Lake Tufa State Reserve should become a reality in January of 1982. All relicted land up to the 6,417 foot level owned by the state will become reserve. Concern has been expressed because according to the bill preexisting activities incompatible with Reserve status such as commercial brine shrimping, camping and dirt biking may be allowed to continue.

CSPRA has just become a "sponsor" of Mono Lake, donating \$25.00 to the Mono Lake Committee to help with their relentless efforts to save the lake. The Tufa Reserve will just protect natural features not help restore the lake level as the Committee is trying to do.

To assist further efforts to restore lake level CSPRA is looking for a bike rider or riders to sponsor a 10¢ a mile in the Los Angeles to Mono Lake Bike-A-Thon. The ride starts September 1 in L.A. and 350 miles later ends September 6 at Mono Lake. Individually, as park units or Areas it would assist efforts to save Mono Lake and encourage our rider if more pledges were made. Anyone interested in riding all or part of the way or for more information on the ride or pledges please contact either of the following people.

Paula Pennington
P. O. Box 188
Markleeville, CA 96120
home phone (916) 694-2380
work (916) 694-2248

John Mott
2975 Graham Hill Rd.
Santa Cruz, CA 95060
home phone (408) 438-6763
work (408) 335-4598

from pg 1

before September 15, 1981. Member comments will then be printed in the October issue. Ballots should be mailed in November.

ARGUMENT FOR THE RESOLUTION

Resolution 1981 - 1 will be coming before the membership for consideration very soon. I want to urge that you strongly consider the issue and, after so doing, I'm sure you will vote to adopt the proposal.

What the resolution will do is expand active membership in CSPRA to include any permanent member of the Department of Parks and Recreation. With collective bargaining for state employees a reality and with the changes CSPRA necessarily made in it's purpose and objectives, we have found that the scope of interest has been by our membership. If we expand active membership as proposed in Resolution 1981-1, it would admit such people as Planners, Interpreters, Landscape Architects, Clericals and Administrators to active membership. We would see a broadening of interests brought to the Association by these new members.

People in classifications other than Rangers, Managers and Maintenance Workers share our concerns and interest in the State Park System. Through CSPRA we can work together to promote the finest State Park System in the world.

Ron McCall

ARGUMENT AGAINST THE RESOLUTION

CSPRA membership is dwindling, participation is eroding, G.E.C. was only lightly attended even though it was held in the southern half of the state, in 1981. Further cut backs are now being considered. Now comes the final blow - a proposal to diffuse the organization. In order to improve communication within the Department and increase our membership, the idea is to let any employee of the Department join CSPRA who professes to share our goals. There already is a movement to change our name to the California State Park Rangers and Park Professionals Association. I believe that Since Rangers are Park professionals the organization's name will soon be changed to simply - The State Park Professionals Association. At that point CSPRA will be dead.

What has made CSPRA effective in the past was our common beliefs and goals. These stem directly from the commonality of our occupation. We have opened our doors to other classes in the past, such as life guards and maintenance, and the rush of new members has not been overwhelming. Anyone in the Department who shares our goals may participate as an associate member. No other professional organization has open door membership. If you do not believe me try to join the American Medical Association or the American Bar Association on the grounds that you share their goals for better medical care or justice.

If the Department can benefit from greater communication between its employees then lets help the various employee groups form associations which can be brought together as the DPR-employee Professional Group to which CSPRA can belong as an affiliate, but let's not rip up the last bonds that hold us together by losing our identity and commonality.

In summary - CSPRA has made several decisions in the past few years that have not proved successful in terms of generating participation or increasing membership. Any decision to diffuse the organization further will continue this trend. Other alternatives to improve communication within the various Department employee groups exist and will allow CSPRA to maintain its integrity. Opening our membership to any Department employee who professes to share our goals is neither wise nor necessary.

Steve O'Brien

* FORWARD COMMENTS TO NEWSLETTER BEFORE SEPT. 15 *

TOXIC WASTE CONVERTED INTO HARMLESS SUBSTANCE

Chemists at the University of California-Riverside have found a way to change much of the poisonous industrial chemical waste, which has concerned the nation's environmentalists for years, into a substance as harmless as baking soda.

Much of the nation's chemical waste results from the wide use of a class of compounds called halogenated hydrocarbons. Halogenated hydrocarbons resulted from a series of discoveries by chemists during the past half century. Large volumes of these substances were used in aerosol sprays, cleaning fluids, certain plastics, clothing, and many containers for household products. These substances have the potential to harm our health and the environment.

Since most of these compounds are poisonous and not biodegradable, they have accumulated ever since they have been used, causing a potentially hazardous situation.

Waste disposal of these substances was either by dumping on land or by incinera-

tion. Both methods pose health or ecological problems.

Dr. Donald T. Sawyer, a professor of chemistry at UC-Riverside, and Dr. Julian Roberts, of the University of Redlands in California and visiting researcher at UC-Riverside, reported that they have discovered that a negatively charged form of oxygen called "superoxide" has an unpredictable, almost magical property. As long as water is absent, "superoxide" will break tenacious carbon-chlorine bonds of these compounds. The discovery was made during a basic research study of the electrochemistry of oxygen in special inert solvents. The study was supported by the National Science Foundation.

A simple pollution eradicator could be no more than "a black box larger than a breadbox and smaller than a refrigerator." When an electric current is passed through chemical waste in a water-free solution, the dissolved oxygen is transformed into a superoxide, a form of the oxygen molecule that contains one extra elec-

tron. The toxic halogenated compounds are converted by this superoxide into harmless substances, such as carbonates.

The University of California has applied for a patent on the process, which could be used at industrial sites to remove the persistent, chlorine-containing organic compounds from waste. The new process could be readily implemented at industrial and commercial sites if it was to be further developed.

Dumping is the least expensive disposal method, but if dumping is banned or restricted then industry will need a disposal method that is less expensive than incineration. The new method is thought to be cost-competitive with incineration. While it uses an electrical current, an expensive form of energy, this extremely efficient process would save the cost of transporting and concentrating these halogenated wastes. Removing halogens from chemical waste also may make it possible to recover a significant supply of petrochemicals. . . . *National Science Foundation News Release.* ✕

Tern vs Train

by Rick Parmer

On June 6 CSPRA Environmental Issues Committee filed a notice of violation with the Coastal Commission on a substantial grading operation along a railroad berm near a Least Tern nesting and habitat area. The work was done without a permit at Batiquitos Lagoon in north San Diego County by AT & SF. The Coastal Commission may fine the responsible railroad administrators and/or compel it to carry out mitigating action designed to protect the lagoon from the adverse impact of the additional sediment load.

Please fill out this coupon and send to:

MONO LAKE COMMITTEE
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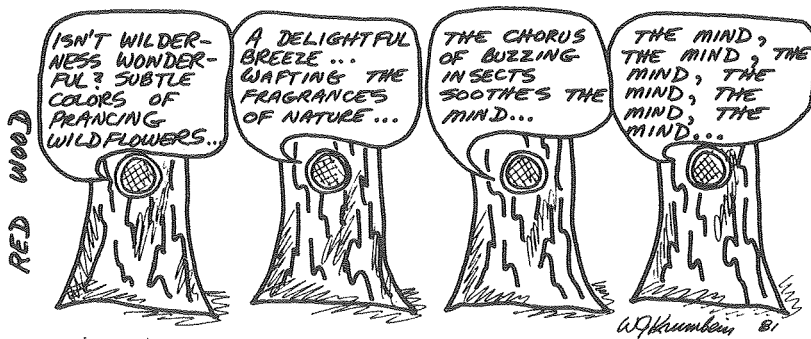
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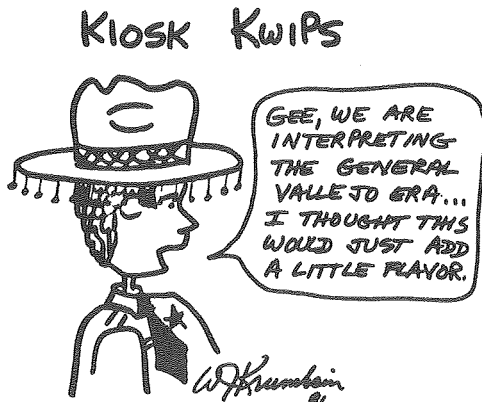
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- ☐ I am willing to write letters

CSPRA NEWSLETTER

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by John Mott



Louis Wakefield
P.O. Box 87
Tehachapi, CA 93561
Home 805 822-3498

Coastal Watch

by Rick Parmer

An EIC representative testified at a June 12 public hearing before the Regional Coastal Commission in San Diego. The Commission received comments on the City of San Diego North City Land Use Plan (LUP) and subsequent Commission staff recommendations pertaining to compliance with the Coastal Act of 1976.

CSPRA interest was in plan components affecting Los Penasquitos Natural Preserve, and Torrey Pines State Reserve. The LUP will have a profound impact on future development and regional growth within the Los Penasquitos lagoon watershed. Major points made by CSPRA at the hearing were:

- *No new projects should be allowed on the 100 yr. floodplain until a cooperative (local gov't/State Parks/Fish and Game) lagoon management strategy was developed.

- *Lower residential dwelling unit densities were necessary in the North City West project to protect the environmental integrity of the lagoon-wetlands area.

- *Residential, commercial, and transportation elements should address the potential impact on resource management and visitor services in the nearby parks.

CSPRA was supportive of Commission staff recommendations which expressed concern that, "...LUP language would suggest that all LUP policies are subordinate to future management schemes". The final staff report found several pokicy groups (i.e. recreation and visitor-serving facilities, water and marine

resources) inconsistent with the Coastal Act.

Prior to the final yes or no by the Commission, staff was directed to attempt further reconciliation on disputed issues raised by the City of San Diego and public testimony. Toward this end staff was to work with City planners on possible implementing ordinances and environmental quality standards to be acheived.

Though the City of San Diego made a good effort to outline the environmental impacts on Los Penasquitos Lagoon, the LUP lacked the muscle of specific ordinance proposals and quality standarda to guarantee an adequate level of watershed protection.

On June 26 CSPRA attended the final regional public hearing adding further testimony to its June 12 statements. The EIC supported most of the rivised LUP policy language suggested by Commission staff to ensure compliance with the Act. The City of San Diego took issue with some of these recommendations but was essentially agreeable.

The Commission voted to accept the overall staff recommendation to disapprove most portions of the Torrey Pines and North City West LUP's. The City must now return to the drawing board and attempt to incorporate these recommendations in some fashion.

This marks another small victory in CSPRA's effort to support long-range protection of Torrey Pines State Reserve and encourage responsible planning that will prevent the "Los Angelization" of North San Diego County. Several of the few remaining coastal wetland habitats are located here making these endeavors all the more critical.

1981 COMMITTEES

CAL RANGER, Enforcement

Lloyd Geissinger
7561 Mirabel Road
Forestville, CA 95436
Work 707 865-2391
Home 707 887-1657

Interpretive

Bill Krumbein
6201 Channel Drive
Santa Rosa, CA 95405
Work 707 539-3911
Home 707 539-2979

Education & Training

Bill Beat
P.O. Box 65
Castella, CA 96017
Work 916 235-2684
Home 916 923-3526

Historian

Al Salzgeber
3950 Via Real Space 18
Carpenteria, CA 93013
Home 805 684-4700

Nominations

Ron McCall
73 N. Hill Rd
Ventura, CA 93003
Work 805 648-7793
Home 805 644-4332

Environmental Issues

John Mott
2977 Graham Hill Rd
Santa Cruz, CA 95060
Work 408 335-5858
Home 408 438-6763

Del Mar Loses First Round

The City of Del Mar lost its suit in Superior Court which would have delayed construction of the 40,000 person residential community near the Los Penasquitos Lagoon Natural Preserve in north San Diego County. The case will now be appealed to the 4th District State Appellate Court with a decision expected within six months.

CSPRA contributed \$75.00 to the City of Del Mar toward waging its legal campaign to force the City of San Diego to re-examine the regional impacts of the development on nearby communities and services. CSPRA contends that the impact on visitor services and resource protection within nearby Torrey Pines park units was not adequately addressed either.

More details in the September newsletter.

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P.O. Box 28366

Sacramento, CA 95820



This wooden post used to stand along Main Street at Bodie. Do any of you know it's riddle or use?

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california state park rangers association

NEWSLETTER



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