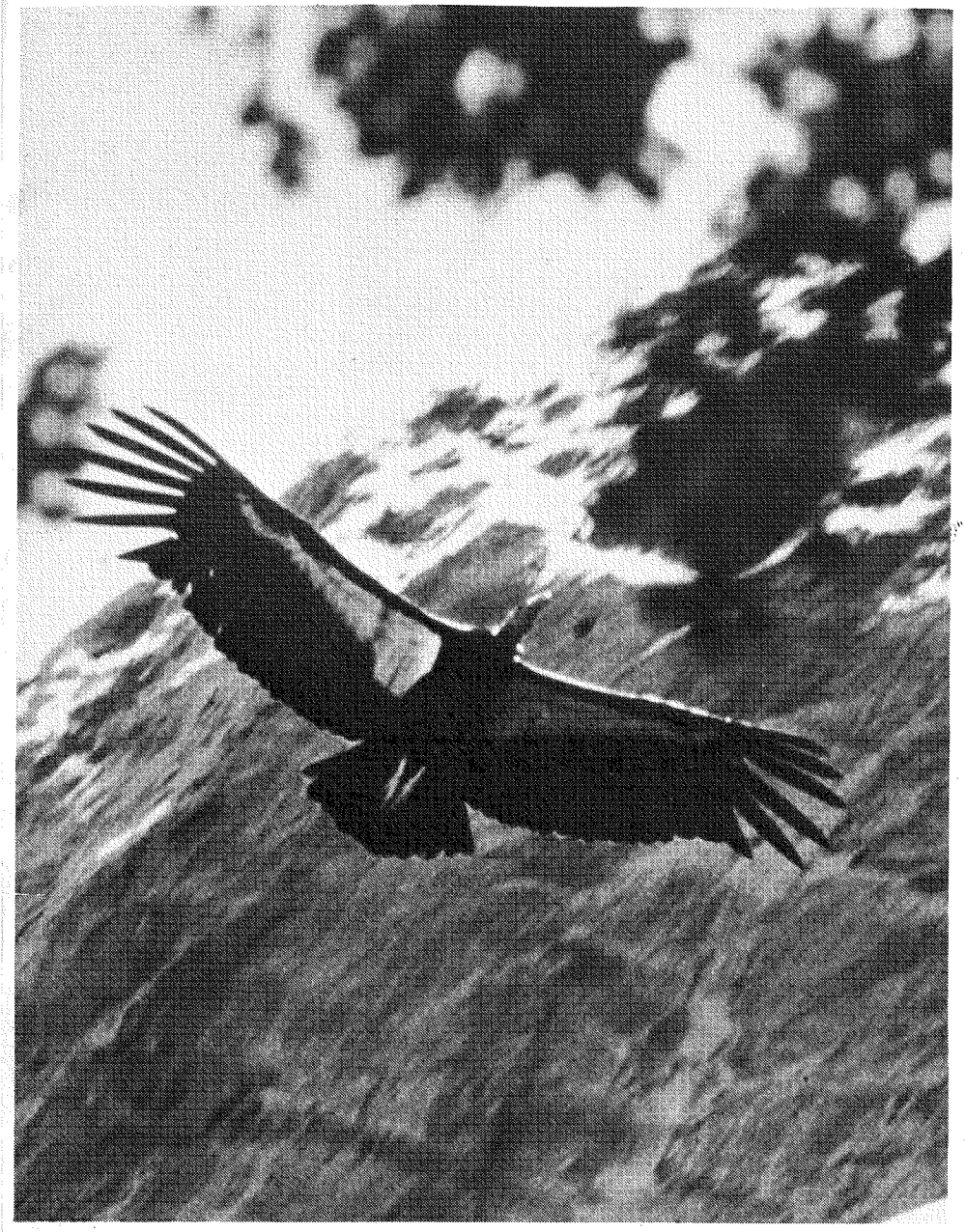

Keith Axelson

The California Ranger

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The California condor with its spectacular nine-foot wing span is one of the rarest and most endangered species of birds in the world. There are only about 30 condors alive in California today. Due to intense efforts to perpetuate the species, the condor provides a fitting introduction to the issue of The California Ranger which focuses on resource management programs.

The California Ranger

A JOURNAL FOR PARK PROFESSIONALS

Volume III Number 2 Summer 1982

IN THIS ISSUE

THE CALIFORNIA RANGER is the official publication of the California State Park Rangers Association (CSPRA) and the Park Rangers Association of California (PRAC). Manuscript guidelines can be obtained by writing: Heidi Doyle, Editor, *The California Ranger,* 2451 South "M" Street, Oxnard, CA 93033.

FROM THE

WHAT CAN CSPRA DO FOR ME?

The answer depends on what you are willing to give.

For the past several years, CSPRA has been defining its professional identity and mission. With Board ratification of our 1982/83 Action Plan, we have moved toward establishing our goals and objectives for the next few years. What does this mean to you?

First, we must realize why CSPRA exists. **It exists to promote the professional ideals and concepts which built and are maintaining the California State Park System.** It does not exist to serve or represent us as individuals.

Most of us joined the Department of Parks and Recreation for unselfish reasons: to protect the resources we care for, to awaken an appreciation for the parks in others, and to serve the public. Of course, we want to live decently, and employee issues should be negotiated effectively. But we became rangers because of a devotion to protecting people and resources, a devotion which cannot be purchased.

To me, **devotion is the basis of professionalism.** If we are dedicated professionals, perhaps the question is not, "What can CSPRA do for me?" We should be asking, "What can I do to advance the objectives and ideals on which the State Park System was founded."

With that question in mind, the benefits of being a member of CSPRA are many. Through your dues, CSPRA provides a forum for communication with other professionals, an alternative to the chain of command within the Department, and a means for lobbying on behalf of our ideals.

Publications: The *Newsletter* and the *California Ranger* offer a method for members to communicate with each other. They also alert members to issues affecting our goals and objectives. You can use the publications to deal with common problems, promote change, and advance the profession. When you write an article, it will be read by fellow rangers, the Director, Regional Directors, Park Commissioners, and other State Park employees, as well as local, regional, and national park rangers, and colleges and universities. Through the publications, you can move outside the chain of command and communicate directly with the Commission or the Director, anonymously if necessary. Largely unhindered by personnel regulations or restrictions, CSPRA's forum will become increasingly important as collective bargaining rules tighten.

Lobbying: An organization wields more clout than individuals in the political arena. CSPRA lobbies for our ideals, but it is expensive. For example, as of May 1, CSPRA had spent over $220 lobbying against the bill to abolish the Park Commission.

The potential for communication, resource protection, and political action are endless. I am only one person, but with your help and commitment, we can make the potential into reality.

"What can you do to help CSPRA?"

Plenty. Please call or write if you want an answer to that question.

John D. Mott, President
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PARK OFFICE

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Sincere thanks go to those die-hards who stuck with the organization since our conception on June 2, 1976 and remembered the important historical data. We must not forget the former secretaries and treasurers who maintained accurate records to account for our development. It was not easy to draw up a list of names, addresses, and phone numbers of every officer for the last five years, especially with the turnover and drop-out rate of our fledgling association (not to mention Prop. 13 giving us a setback during our formative years).

Our tax exemption status falls under a revised category called "Mutual Benefit Association." Essentially we're here to improve ourselves and our profession, but not society as a whole. This means that although the corporation is exempt from tax on **its** income, individual donations to our treasury are **not** deductible from the income of the donor as a "Charitable Contribution." However, annual dues, conference and workshop fees, and publications are deductible from members' gross income at tax time under the broad heading of "Miscellaneous Deductions." The IRS requested that we pass along that little tidbit for your CPA to review prior to next April 15.

Patrick E. Hayes, Secretary

In our travels to national and state parks, my husband and I have heard many amusing questions asked of rangers, and we are always eager to see how they handles them. The answer that tops our list occurred while we were at the California ghost town of Bodie one summer. A woman asked, "What was the population, I mean, after everybody left?" With a straight face, the ranger looked her in the eye and replied, "Not too many."

—Alice Kraus, San Pedro, California

Reprinted from Ford Times

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

The Endangered Species Act adopted by Congress in 1973 was the nation's first comprehensive endangered species protection program. The 1973 Act recognized that economic activity, by affecting habitat, could pose as much a danger to the extinction of a species as could direct predation. The Act was amended in 1978 to allow exemptions to the protection process as well as burden the listing process with excessive requirements. The results of the changes are obvious. Some 65 species were listed in FY 1979—before the amendments took effect. After the new requirements were enacted in 1980, the number dropped to 15. Now under the Reagan administration the listing process has virtually come to a complete halt.

For wildlife, 1982 is a year of reckoning as Congress again is hearing testimony for reauthorization of the Endangered Species Act. As park professionals we must embrace ourselves for a long and bitter battle on behalf of wildlife whom we have dedicated our careers to protecting and interpreting. The issue is economics; and the questions surround the rhetoric of how much an animal and/or plant species is worth. I urge the membership to become conversant on the Act and present your views to your Federal representatives requesting a strengthened law. With the "get government off my back" syndrome that is now prevalent—wildlife needs our support.

The feature articles in this issue of The California Ranger focus on resource management programs. Like wildlife, careful management is needed in our parklands to insure our ability to maintain environmental integrity while at the same time meet the ever-increasing demands for use and development. I trust the information will assist you in achieving these goals in your park units.

Heidi Doyle

FUTURE THEMES

FALL 1982

The Parks Profession in California - past and current trends, job evolution, unionization, ranger role debate, future parks, private sector involvement.

Deadline for receiving articles: August 15, 1982

WINTER 1982

Concessions in Parks - alternative funding sources, concession management, maintaining park integrity, contract negotiation, private vs. public sector management techniques, failures, successes.

Deadline for receiving articles: December 15, 1982

SUMMER, 1983

Private Sector Involvement - volunteers, docent programs, court work furlow, legal commitments, training, innovative ideas, community focus.

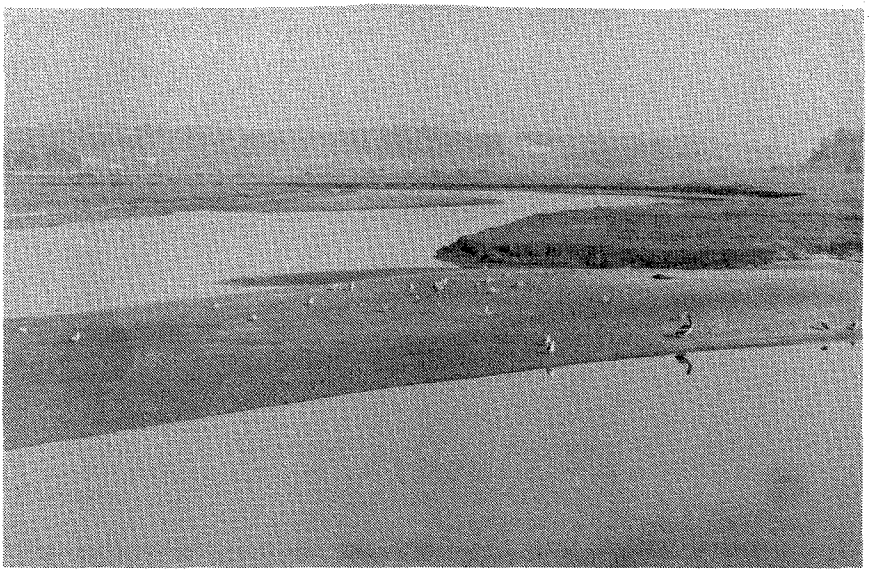
Deadline for receiving articles: April 15, 1983

FEATURE ARTICLE

Protecting A Local Gem . . .

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT VS. OUTSIDE LAND DEVELOPMENT

by Rick Palmer



Los Penasquitos Lagoon threatened by sedimentation from development.

The brochure says no eating, drinking, or smoking is permissable in the Reserve. Protecting the resource is, indeed, serious business here. Torrey Pines is one of sixteen State Reserves where the lands have been acquired for the purpose of preserving unique features of California's natural heritage. And because of its proximity to rapidly growing urban San Diego, resource protection issues pose many challenges in long-term management.

At a state-wide level, "Mission 1990"—the 1982 Update of the State Park System Plan—has targeted the wise stewardship of natural resources as one of three major concerns of the future. Fortunately, this concern is now receiving considerable attention from State Parks staff since San Diego Coast Area—of which Torrey Pines is part—is undergoing General Plan preparation. A General Plan is the blueprint for park development up to 20 years in the future. This article will focus on how Torrey Pines is affected by this planning process.

The cornerstone of environmental protection within a unit of the State Park System is a sound General Plan, the objectives of which are being implemented. The "Resource Element" of the Plan details: ". . . the specific long-range resource management objectives and policies necessary to protect and perpetuate the resource values for which the park system unit is established."[1] To accomplish this, staff must determine, in great detail, what those resources are. A team of specialists from the Resource Protection Division is

Continued on Next Page

charged with this formidable task.

They prepare species inventories, vegetation maps, and surveys of archaeological sites, geologic features, soils, and hydrology among others.

DESCRIPTION AND HISTORY

Torrey Pines SR encompasses a diverse array of distinctive coastal habitats, ranging from tidepools to mature pine forests. A series of upland coastal ridges to the south give way to the salt marsh and lagoon of Los Penasquitos Valley to the north. Heading east across the Coast Highway, the Reserve drops down onto the Sorrento Valley floodplain, terminating in a riparian zone adjacent to a high-technology industrial area. Despite its relatively small 1100 plus acre size, animals such as bobcats and coyotes still survive in the wild. Periodic sightings of mountain lion have even been reported. The fact that this wild parkland exists within a thirty minute drive of 1.5 million people today, gives credit to the foresight of early philanthropists and citizens who fought to preserve this unique area. The stark beauty of the rare Torrey Pine tree in its coastal home was a prime motivator behind these efforts near the turn of the century.

But acquisition didn't stop then; several additional parcels were bought, prior to and after transfer of the land to the State Park System in 1957. The most notable conservation effort was a six year battle to acquire more than 200 acres of mixed Torrey Pine woodland to the north of Los Penasquitos lagoon. Against incredible odds, over $700,000 was privately raised to match a $900,000 state contribution for the purchase. This was completed in 1970 during an era of rapidly rising land prices and intense housing development. Today, that parcel is referred to as the "Extension" property. Unfortunately some of the land between the Los Penasquitos boundary and the upslope woodland could not to acquired, leaving the Extension an island of itself—separated from the existing park by a private condominium project.

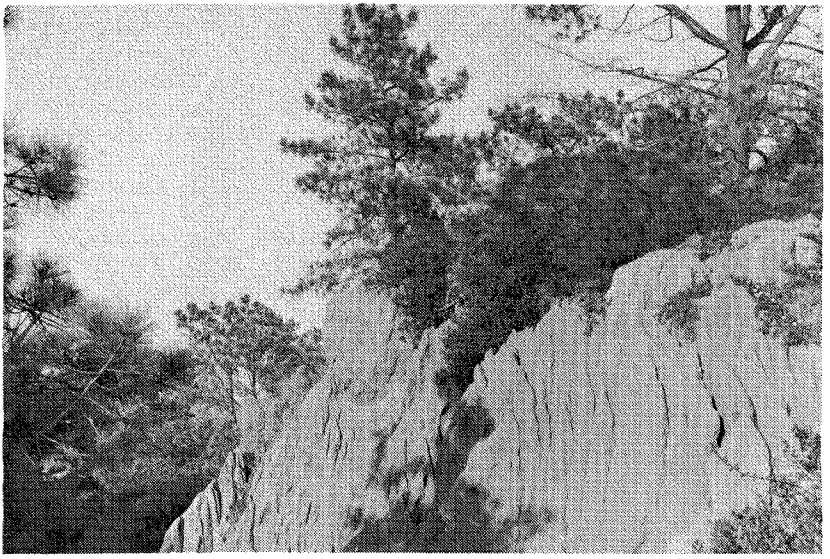
In September 1983, 28 years after the Reserve was dedicated, the General Plan for Torrey Pines will be presented to the State Park Commission for approval. To complete the Plan, a team of landscape architects from the Development Division will analyze information gained from the Resource Protection Division's work on the Resource Element to prepare **final** designs for trails, roads, and other facilities. During preliminary investigations the following problem areas were identified: 1) parking areas and drainage; 2) erosion on and off trail; 3) trail development; 4) wetlands restoration; 5) marsh management.

"During the past two decades numerous land use decisions on lands near Torrey Pines have been made causing significant adverse impacts on Reserve resources."

During the past two decades numerous land use decisions on lands near Torrey Pines have been made causing significant adverse impacts on Reserve resources. Without the benefit of a General Plan, State Park's response to these issues have been necessarily piecemeal. As previously mentioned the Resource Element contains a detailed inventory of resource values worthy of protection. A key component of this "Inventory of Features" is a comprehensive vegetation map of the park. Though many specialist resource studies have been undertaken at Torrey Pines over the yers a map of this sort was not prepared until now.

For reasons such as this the General Plan is a crucial comprehensive management tool. It tells planners and government officials alike what park

Eroded sandstone bluff in the main Reserve.



resources there are and how they are to be protected.

". . . the General Plan is a crucial comprehensive management tool."

One of the land use decisions which will impact Torrey Pines is North City West, a planned residential development of 40,000 people within one mile of the Reserve boundary. It lies within the watershed of Los Penasquitos Natural Preserve. Though it was initially subject to resource protection requirements of the 1976 Coastal Act, developers and City of San Diego officials were able to convince local Assemblyman, Robert Frazee, to sponsor a bill eliminating the project land from the coastal zone. The bill passed. Several experts testified before the City Planning Commission that road improvements, sedimentation in the wetlands and air quality deterioration, would result in unmitigable adverse impacts on nearby areas including the Reserve. An environmental impact report was prepared but official Parks departmental comment was never submitted.[2]

The advent of the Coastal Commission enabled the State to exert some control over the environmental standards for development within the Torrey Pines watershed. This planning control passes to the City of San Diego in the near future when their local land use plan is approved consistent with Coastal Act provisions. Due to the highly erodable nature of sandstone bedrock in the region grading by developers requires preventative mitigation measures to ensure sedimentation does not ruin the wetlands within the park. In the past, these measures were largely ineffective.

Current population within the Los Penasquitos watershed stands at about 78,000 with regional growth forecasts for the year 2000 estimated at nearly triple that number.[3] The recession has stymied that growth somewhat for the time being but the pace is bound to pick up again with further inevitable impacts on the Reserve.

The Department of Fish and Game views Los Penasquitos as one of the most productive remaining coastal wetlands from a fish and wildlife stand-

Continued on Next Page

point. In 1974 they ranked it among the top ten wetlands acquisition priorities state-wide.[4] Half of the wetlands still lie outside the park boundaries under the ownership of San Diego Gas and Electric Company. Though the utility initially intended to turn the land over to the State, anger over Governor Brown's opposition to the Sun Desert nuclear power plant proposal postponed that action indefinitely.

Despite the high value attributed to this area the last ten years has seen the quality of the Los Penasquitos wetlands diminish appreciably. The industrial park expansion in Sorrento Valley has caused the bulk of sedimentation problems. A visiting soil scientist recently commented on the delta effect taking shape. He explained that the flat water lagoon is becoming increasingly channelized while the wetland portion elevates. Nor does the future look bright for rehabilitation. Senate Bill 1220, sponsored by William Craven, would remove all sections of the watershed east of Interstate 5 from the coastal zone. Like the Frazee North City West bill this action will eliminate Coastal Act protection from a burgeoning residential and industrial region—particularly Sorrento Valley. These political actions are more understandable in light of a recent report by the public interest group, Common Cause. Land developers doubled their campaign contributions to legislative candidates between 1978 and 1980. In a recent United Press International interview, Walter Zelman, Common Cause executive director, said: "There is a great deal of money involved and, unlike many other public policy areas, it all seems to be one one side of the issue."[5]

"Why has it taken 27 years since the acquisition to complete a General Plan crucial to the long-range protection of Torrey Pines?"

Given the history of adverse development impacts on resources within Torrey Pines State Reserve the question emerges—Why has it taken 27 years since the acquisition to complete a General Plan crucial to the long-range protection of it? The answer for the past is not readily apparent; however, more recently the delay stems from: 1) A priority system which requires new units to have a General Plan prepared at acqusition time; 2) A Sacramento planning team that is too small to prepare new acqusition Plans and catch up on existing parks.

The monitoring of land development near State Park units is critical to the Department's preservation mission—especially for those designated Reserves where resource protection is top priority. If a General Plan cannot be completed at acquisition time extra effort should be expended to compile an adequate resource inventory. Armed with this knowledge staff should be committeed to taking an active on-going role in local land use decision-making processes affecting the parks.

Years down the line, the Parks Department should not be saddled with unresolvable resource management problems due in part to lack of past involvement at the local planning level. A regional resource ecologist and a small Resource Protection Division staff cannot possibly keep up with the innumerable resource management needs or local planning agency actions affecting State Parks. There are many field employees with specialized skills and academic qualifications capable of carrying out this work but due to personnel classification restrictions are not afforded the opportunity.

To make this possible, the Department is preparing a proposal to establish a resource management technician as part of a Resource Ecologist series. Last year the State Park Peace Officers Association surveyed rangers concerning their position on this concept. A slight majority voiced preference for incorporating these resource management tasks within the current ranger series.

Regardless of the method it is high time serious discussion began on solving the resource protection dilemma in our State Parks. Where development pressures are greatest, expedient commitment of additional staff resources is essential. In the case of Torrey Pines State Reserve the preparation of the General Plan is a step in the right direction . . . but is it too little too late?

FOOTNOTES

[1]California Department of Parks and Recreation, Resource Protection Division, *Guidelines for Resource Documents* (July, 1980), p. 33.

[2]City of San Diego Planning Department, *Environmental Impact Report for Carmel Valley* (October, 1979).

[3]San Diego Association of Governments, *Penasquitos Lagoon Watershed Management Plan* (October, 1981), p. 2.

[4]*A Proposal to Open Los Penasquitos Lagoon to Tidal Action* (January, 1982), p. 4.

[5]*San Diego Tribune,* 7 April 1982, sec. 1, p. All.

Rick Palmer, State Park Ranger in the San Diego Coast Area, is currently the Environmental Issues Committee chairperson for CSPRA.

FEATURE ARTICLE

RECREATION REGULATIONS—WHEN ARE THEY NEEDED?

by Robert C. Lucas

Recreation and visitor regulations are inherently contradictory. Recreation is a voluntary, pleasurable, rewarding activity, based on free choice, while regulations are designed to restrict free choices. Deregulation is the order of the day for many activities, and should be considered in recreation management also.

Some recreation regulations are usually necessary, however. Safety concerns lead to essential regulations that reduce hazards (e.g., no skiing in an avalanche hazard zone), although a degree of risk is an essential part of some activities such as mountain climbing. Regulations are needed to protect resources on which recreational opportunities depend (e.g., hunting bag limits or bans on cutting standing trees). Still others seem necessary to define recreation opportunities, especially where conflicting types of use must be separated (e.g., prohibition of snowmobiles on downhill ski slopes or trail bikes in wilderness).

In many cases, however, the regulatory, direct management approach can lead to strains between visitors and managers. With direct management, visitors' freedom of choice is limited. Some decisions are made for them by managers. Use and behavior are directly regulated. Examples are rationing of use, prohibitions on camping in meadows or near water, rules against building campfires, bans on pets, and limits on party sizes.

The major alternative is indirect management. Indirect user management is basically "soft" and benign. Managers seek to shift use patterns and alter visitor behavior, but the final decisions are left to the visitors. Examples include providing information to visitors and modifying access and trail systems. Direct and indirect management, of course, are the ends of a continuum, and specific actions vary in their degree of directness. For simplicity, I will treat them as two distinct categories.

Indirect approaches are rarely controversial. Clearly, the indirect approaches are preferable, and direct regulation is only justifiable if it is the least that is necessary—the minimum-regulation principle (Hendee et al. 1978). The main question with indirect management is effectiveness, but sometimes it is possible that actual visitor behavior can be modified as much by suggestions and explanations as by regulations and with much gain.

Recreation involves the production of pleasurable experiences on site by visitors. This process is based on the setting available, which includes physical-biological, social, and managerial conditions. Regulations are part of the managerial setting and can affect the other settings by modifying the number and type of users and their environmental impacts. Thus, regulations strongly modify the production process; they can potentially increase recreational outputs in quality or quantity, or both, but they also can reduce them. This article expresses concern about possible excessive regulation and

presents an approach for analyzing management problems to develop solutions that employ only such regulations as are necessary to avoid reducing recreation benefits.

Recreation managment planning is a broader process than such analysis. My purpose here is limited to the place of regulations and their alternatives.

EXCESSIVE REGULATIONS ARE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE

Following the seven steps suggested below would produce a satisfactory analysis of most recreation management actions. The goal of the analysis is effective recreation management, with regulatory approaches a part of that management, but only when clearly needed. My position is that close calls should go to nonregulatory approaches. The burden of proof should be on the need for regulation. This principle is not new, and some good managers arrive at decisions by a procedure similar to what I present. However, examples of overregulation still exist.

Step 1: Identify the Problem

How do conditions differ or threaten to diverge from management objectives and standards? Obviously this is the logical first step, but sometimes a regulation may be considered as a starting point; at times it almost seems as if a solution is in search of a problem. This is particularly true for regulations that are currently fashionable and have developed a bandwagon effect. In such cases it is essential to back up and be sure that one is clear about what the problem is—or if there really is a problem.

Step 2: Identify Cause(s) of the Problem

Continued on Next Page

Step 3: Identify and Evaluate Potential Nonregulatory Approaches

Could indirect, nonregulatory approaches be expected to deal with the causes? For example, through an information campaign, could some of the lakeshore campers be encouraged to go to less used places, visit at offpeak times, choose campsites screened by terrain and vegetation, and use dull-colored tents? Four determinations must be made.

A. Estimate feasibility and effectiveness

B. Estimate costs to visitors and managers

C. Estimate benefits

D. Compare costs and benefits

Step 4: Accept or Reject the Proposed Nonregulatory Action

In light of the estimated costs and benefits, the problem, and the management objective, should the nonregulatory action be accepted or rejected? If the decision is for acceptance, the rest of the steps can be skipped, except number 7, implementation and monitoring. If not . . .

Step 5: Identify and Evaluate Potential Regulatory Approaches

What regulations might be effective? In the example, use could be rationed to reduce the number of camper parties at the trouble spots, camping within some distance of lakeshores could be prohibited, camping could be limited to authorized sites, or parties could be assigned to specific campsites. The analysis here should follow the same lines as for nonregulatory approaches but should, if anything, be more careful and rigorous.

A. Estimate feasibility and effectiveness

First, is application feasible?

—Can almost all visitors be informed of the regulation?

—Can they understand what is and is not permitted?

—Can conscientious, informed visitors obey the regulation with few exceptions?

—Can if be enforced?

—Is the manager willing to enforce it? (If not, maybe a recommendation would be more appropriate than a regulation. A poorly enforced regulation that is often violated can undermine the manager's credibility.)

Second, will the regulation be effective?

—Does it relate logically to the causes of the problem?

—Is knowledge of conditions and their causes adequate to expect the regulation to improve conditions?

—Will most visitors obey it? (Too often, compliance is assumed as though regulations were self-enforcing.) Can compliance be measured or estimated? If compliance is likely to be poor, would an education-suggestion campaign perhaps be just as effective?

If the proposed regulation does not pass these tests, the manager must reconsider indirect management, and try to develop additional possible regulations.

B. Estimate costs to visitors and managers

For any regulations that pass the feasibility and effectiveness tests, the manager needs to measure or estimate at least three items:

—Effect on amount of use. Will use be reduced because certain types of

Recreation Regulations continued on Page 18

INTERPRETATION AND BACKCOUNTRY MANAGEMENT

by Peter Womble, Gordon Bultena, Donald Field

Backcountry managers have traditionally used interpretation as a vehicle to help visitors, especially those who remain in the frontcountry, gain an appreciation for the backcountry resource. Recently, however, there has been much interest in learning how interpretation, or the dissemination of information, can be used to ameliorate management problems. In this regard, Sharpe and Gensler (1978) have proposed the notion of "interpretation as a management tool," by which interpretive activities are used to deal with such problems as vandalism, feeding of wildlife, traffic offenses, and fire prevention.

Most of the efforts of backcountry managers and researchers have been focused on the role of interpretation in educating hikers on how to minimize their impacts upon the natural environment and in dispersing them away from congested areas. Fazio (1979), for example, has studied the role of information and education in reducing human impacts on wildlands. He has been particularly interested in determining which methods are most effective in educating hikers on wilderness ethics (Fazio and Gilbert, 1974). Fazio, along with Wall (1976), believes that knowledgeable visitors will hold appropriate values vis-a-vis the backcountry resource, which in turn, will translate into proper behavior. Lime (1969) has argued that managers should make better use of information to encourage people to use forest land adjacent to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area, thus alleviating pressure on BWCA. As an example of such an effort, Brown and Hunt (1969) have shown how signs can stimulate use of a previously unsigned roadside test area.

The purpose of this paper is to continue this investigation as to the role of interpretation in backcountry management. Some findings from a recent survey of hikers at Mount McKinley National Park in Alaska will be presented to show how interpretation (i.e., the dissemination of information) might be used by backcountry managers to assist them in meeting certain management objectives. Specifically, interpretation can assist managers to:

(1) reduce instances of failure by hikers to comply with mandatory permit systems:
(2) lessen the chance that hikers will feel crowded; and
(3) improve the chances that hikers will enjoy their backcountry trip.

It is not within the scope of this paper to discuss ways in which information might be disseminated to backcountry users, although this is an important issue.

THE STUDY

An extensive survey of backcountry campers at Mount McKinley National Park in Alaska was conducted in 1978 and included two research instruments. The first was a mail questionnaire distributed at the permit desk to all persons obtaining a permit. This questionnaire was returned, either on site or by mail,

Continued on Next Page

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We hope this has just been an oversight on your part or an error on ours. We have waited to send you this notice so that you could see our latest issue of the CAL RANGER. There will be one more issue this year in October. Next year there will be 4 issues if CSPRA members decide they want to pay the added dues it will cost them. We are already planning with CSPRA for our convention in Reno in March, 1983.

This will be the last issue of the CAL RANGER and SIGNPOST that you will receive until you renew. With our very low dues schedule we must have everyone paying their dues.

Thank You,

Diane Blackman, President

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PARK PROFESSIONALISM THROUGH UNITY

crowding occurs when there are too many people in a park. Consequently, the typical approach to the prevention of crowding has been to limit the number of hikers in the park, by using a permit system. Although density is a necessary condition for the perception of crowding, there are other factors which can contribute to these perceptions. In analyzing data from the McKinley survey, it was learned that hikers' preferences and/or expectations for density, regardless of the number of parties actually seen, contribute to crowding. That is, those who saw more parties than preferred or expected were more apt to have felt crowded while in the backcountry. Another contributor to crowding was seeing resource impacts. That is, just knowing that other people had been in the backcountry by seeing the evidence they left behind brought about a crowded feeling for some hikers .

These findings suggest several management strategies for minimizing crowded feelings. Managers could provide hikers with a variety of recreational experiences based on different levels of density, thus allowing hikers to select experiences that best fit their preferences. For this to be effective, managers would need to inform hikers as to where and when different levels of density could be found. In the case of McKinley's backcountry, the 34 zones could be managed with different capacities. Hikers would choose zones which had the density level they preferred. Furthermore, hikers who preferred low density environments would be encouraged to hike in McKinley's backcountry in May, June, and September when visitation is slack. The key to this effort is that hikers are provided, at all times, with current, correct, and detailed information about density levels in the backcountry. The same approach holds true to resource impacts (e.g., litter, human waste, trampled vegetation, compacted soil). If hikers are informed about the relative condition of backcountry zones in terms of the severity and types of resource impact present, those finding these impacts bothersome could select more pristine areas in which to hike.

Another strategy would be to have managers assist hikers in developing more realistic expectations for density in the backcountry. Before entering the backcountry, hikers would be given the most current information about the number of hiking parties they could expect to see, thus lessening the chance that they might feel crowded. Of course, even with realistic expectations, hikers may still experience crowding either because their preferences for density were exceeded or because density was too high.

SUMMARY

We argue in this paper that information provided by backcountry managers is of value for more than just interpreting the resource to visitors. Among other things, provision of information could aid permit compliance, lessen the likelihood that hikers will feel crowded, and reduce potential sources of trip dissatisfaction. These ideas are based on scientific data obtained from a survey of hikers at Mount McKinley National Park.

An important issue, which is outside the purview of this paper, is how this information might best be communicated to hikers (Wagar, 1971). It is one thing to provide information, but another to insure that this information is absorbed and satisfies the objectives for which it was intended. Obviously, attention must be paid both to the content of the message and to its mode of dissemination.

Research for this article was funded by the National Park Service and was carried out by Cooperative Park Studies Unit, College of Forest Resources, University of Washington, Seatttle, WA. Reprinted from the Journal of Interpretation; September, 1981.

FLASHLIGHT PHOTOGRAPHY

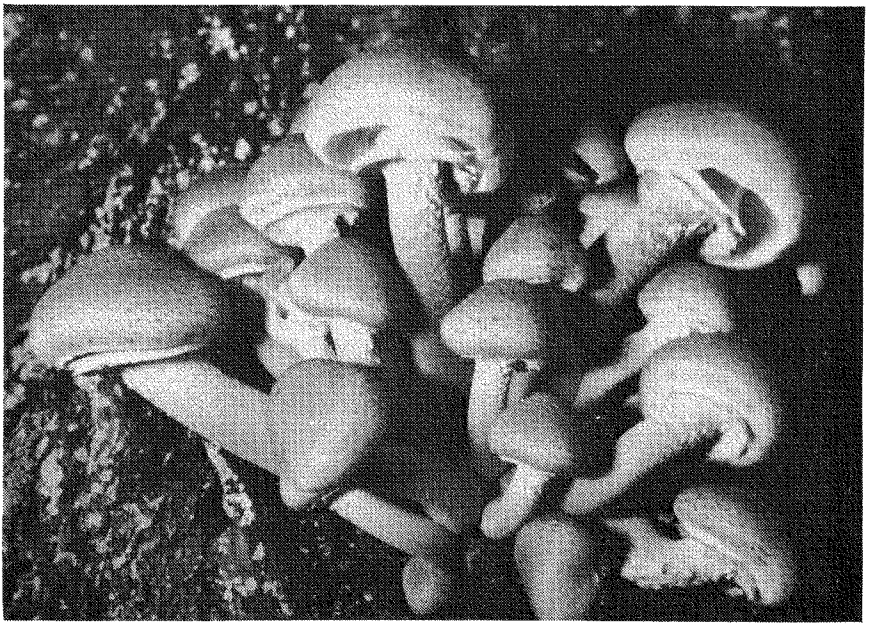
. . . Well, not exactly, but it helps . . .

by Bill Krumbein

Can you believe it? A flashlight will help you to take better pictures?

In down-close macro photography—flowers, salamanders, mushrooms and ferns—lighting is often critical, so my strobe becomes a necessity. But the strobe can still leave matters in a predicament. What effects will my strobe light instill upon my subject? Where will the shadows and highlights fall? All-too-often, we won't learn the outcome until the film is processed. I wondered, it would sure be nice to have at leaset a clue as to what things might look like. And then it came to me, like a *light* in the dark (actually it was kids in a tent with a flashlight). Why not? So easy! Just shine a flashlight *all over* and *around* the subject until the perfect cross-lighting is reavealed. That's where you aim your strobe!

Now almost any flashlight willdo, as long as the light is pretty bright; but there are these *mini* lights on the market that are GREAT for the task. They produce a bright light for macro subjects; and are so tiny, you can take them with you anywhere. One could also light your gadget bag to find that certain roll of film in the dark.



Honey Mushrooms

Continued on Next Page

They're inexpensive—around three dollars apiece or 3 for less than eight dollars. Mind you, they are disposable, but last quite a long time. You'll find them advertised in catalogs of outdoor type companies, under different names:

"Firefly"
The Yak Works
2030 Westlake Ave.
Seattle, WA 98121

"Lightning Bug"
Early Winters, Ltd.
110 Prefontaine Place South
Seattle, WA 98104

"Mite-Lite"
Eddie Bauer
Fifth & Union
P.O. Box 3700
Seattle, WA 98130

Sure, I bracket my shots much of the time; but with the price of film and developing, it's nice to be able to cut down the number of shots for that just right image—and a flashlight can reveal your clue to the outcome of that perfect shot.

ALUMINUM CAN CRUSHING CONTEST

by Philip Rovai

Here is a great way to get people thinking about recycling.

Introduction: Mention the importance of recycling and then lead into the contest by saying "we have a good way to illustrate how we would like the cans brought to us."

1. Line 5 or 7 cans along the stage leaving a few feet between each.
2. Select 5 to 7 people from the audience (a good cross-section).
3. One at a time each person gets **one** chance to flatten his/her can.
4. When all have "given it their best shot," the audience then judges who has the flattest can.
5. As each can is held up, the audience claps, shouts, stomps feet (boo's don't count) for their favorite flat can.

The **Applauseometer** can be used to determine winner. (Right or Left arm pivoted from elbow to act as meter gauge.)

1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners can receive "metals" (crushed cans with string to hang around neck).

Oly Gold makes a nice 1st place; Coors Light 2nd; Pepsi or whatever 3rd.

Recreation Regulations, continued from Page 11

use will be eliminated, restricted, or diverted, or because use will be rationed?

—Effect on visitors' experiences (costs to visitors). Will visitors have to give up experiences that some value highly, such as camping near a lake, having a wood fire, or traveling with a dog for companionship? Will they have to put up with inconveniences or spend extra time (as in getting a permit, or passing by no-camping zones)? Is there any information on visitor preferences from public involvement or research?

—Additional managerial costs for efforts to inform visitors of the regulation and to enforce it.

C. Estimate benefits

Predict benefits, in terms of the likely changes actually produced on the ground as they relate to the problem identified, in terms of environmental conditions and visitor use and quality of experiences.

D. Compare costs and benefits

Again, this cannot be a simple exercise in arithmetic, because the costs and benefits cannot be expressed in the same units of measure. An attempt to weigh the costs and benefits subjectively but fairly must be made, however. It is better to do this explicitly, with the estimates of effects on the environment and on recreational use and experiences described even roughly, than to do it in a vague, implicit way.

Step 6: Accept or Reject Proposed Regulatory Action

A. Review the estimated costs and benefits

B. Reconsider the problem

How important is the management objective? Is the objective reasonable?

C. Determine if the regulation is the minimum, least restrictive way to solve the problem

Does it overcorrect? Is there any less restrictive alternative?

If the cost-benefit comparisons indicate the regulation is worth it and the manager can answer "yes" to questions *B* and *C*, regulation is acceptable. If not, it should be rejected. If it is rejected, the process should be gone through again.

Step 7: Implement and Monitor the Decision

Whether the decision is for a nonregulatory or regulatory act, the manager must plan to put it into effect, to inform people of it, to explain the need for it, and to monitor effectiveness and costs. If the action is regulatory, enforcement must also be planned. Depending on results of monitoring, the decision may be revised (the regulation changed, for example), the information campaign altered, or, for regulations, enforcement increased.

GOLDEN RULE FOR REGULATIONS

A regulation that is adopted after this analysis should be useful and justified. No one should need apologize for it. But recreation managers need to remember that recration should be enjoyable and rewarding for people. Regulations should contribute to enjoyable experiences in the long run, rather than be for the convenience of administrators.

Robert C. Lucas is principal research scientist for the U.S. Forest Service, Intermountain Range and Experiment Station. Reprinted in part from the Journal of Forestry, March 1982.

MOMENTS IN STATE PARK HISTORY

"Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it."
—G. Santayana

ABOLITION OF THE FIRST CALIFORNIA PARK COMMISSION

by Denzil and *Jennie Verardo*

As contemporary as the current State Park Commission prides itself on being, its heritage is as old as the California state park idea itself. Following the creation of Big Basin Redwoods as California's first state park in 1902, a commission was appointed to oversee the administration of the park. The California Redwood Park Commission was actually the forerunner of today's State Park Commission which was itself created by law in 1926. The Commission was an attempt on the part of the state government to make sure that this new "public park" was indeed managed in the best interests of all the public.

Just as the park was preparing to receive its first visitors, tragedy struck twice. First, in September 1904, a devastating fire raged through the park, sparing only a few acres near present-day headquarters. As valiantly as Warden Pilkington and his men fought, all of their efforts proved fruitless. When the fire was finally extinguished by a welcome rain, the extent of the destruction was evident. The Big Basin had suffered a great loss.

The next year, in a somewhat less visible manner, the second blow was delivered to the park. The State Legislature voted to abolish the California Redwood Park Commission. Since there was yet no State Department of Parks in 1905, the Redwood Park was placed in the charge of the State Board of Forestry. This Board consisted of the Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General, Secretary of the State Board of Examiners, and the State Forester. In 1907, an action by the State Forester, G. B. Lull, tied the two tragedies together. Lull, seeing the opportunity to "clean up" the debris remaining in the park from the 1904 fire, and quite possibly also some personal gain, entered into an agreement with W. M. Elsom to cut the "dead timber" in the park and process it into rails, shakes and posts. Elsom could then market these timber products. The agreement, on the surface, allowed only the use of dead trees, especially those destroyed by fire. What the State Forester failed to recognize was that redwood trees can be gutted by fire and survive. Eventually, Lull and the Park Warden and Assistant Warden allowed Elsom to cut not only "dead trees" but also redwoods which were obviously still alive. Contemporary sources cite the lack of a public overseer in the person of the commission as one reason for the delay in the knowledge of the cutting reaching the public. However, rumors did circulate to the Sempervirens Club and several local newspapers. The Club sent "spies" into the park, and a local newspaper sent a photographer accompanied by a timber cruiser and lumber expert to report on what had occured. Within a week of this visit, word of the cutting spread throughout the state. The Grand Jury of Santa Cruz County, chaired by J. B. Holohan, held meetings and sent a protest to the Legislature. As one local writer of the day put it: "No words can express the atrocity of this crime

against Nature, against the State, against Posterity." At the State Board of Forestry meeting held in 1908, public testimony decried what Lull was allowing to happen. Governor Gillett did stop the cutting in the park, but stood in defense of Lull's actions. Meanwhile, a bill had been introduced to re-establish a park commission. This put sufficient pressure on the Governor to finally admit to wrongdoing on the part of Lull, but no punitive actions were taken against him. In fact, when the park commission bill reached Governor Gillett's desk in 1909, he vetoed it! Pressure for reform continued to grow and with it the clamor for a public commission. Finally, with the election of the Progressive Governor, Hiram Johnson, Lull was removed as State Forester, and another bill introduced to re-establish the park commission. State Senator Holohan authorized the bill—the same Holohan who chaired the Santa Cruz County Grand Jury investigation into the cutting. This time the bill was signed into law. Governor Johnson selected a California Redwood Park Commission in 1911, and one of the Commission's first duties was to "accept" the resignations of Park Warden Rambo and Deputy Warden Creed. Thus ended the years of graft and mismanagement which occured while there was no Park Commission. The concept of a park commission to facilitiate direct public input to, and oversight of, the park administration became so integral that it was made a permanent part of the State Park System. In 1926, bills were passed in the Legislature creating not only a State system for parks, but also a permanent, State Park Commission.

Editor's note: Abolition of the Commission may again become a reality. AB 2910 (Richard Lehman, Fresno) is now being considered by the State Legislature. This bill proposes to abolish the California State Park Commission and transfer its power to the Director of DPR.

BUSINESS AS USUAL

1982 CONFERENCE/G.E.C. PROCEEDINGS

PARK RANGERS ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA

Tom Smith opened the meeting at 1200 hours. Twenty-two members were in attendance. Mr. Smith announced he will assume the responsibility as editor of the Signpost. The Signpost will become more of a newspaper format. Publication will be monthly with the exception of a combined July/August issue.

Tom Smith presented an update on the Fall Training Workshop at West Valley College. Twenty-one participants attended a program on Coastal Mountain Rescue Techniques. Proceeds to the treasury were $78.83. The 1982 Fall Workshop will be a repeat of the highly popular "Law Enforcement Without Weapons" and is tentatively set for November.

The 1983 Annual Conference will be in Reno as a joint venture with PRAC, CSPRA, and the Nevada State Park Rangers.

The following 1982 operational budget was presented by Pat Hayes and approved by the membership:

Income:	Membership Dues	$1200.00
	Annual Conference Registration	400.00
	"T" Shirt Sales	90.00
	Training Seminar Registration	450.00
		$2140.00
Expenses:	Executive Manager	$ 200.00
	Annual Conference	400.00
	Executive Board Operation	200.00
	"T" Shirt Production	40.00
	Training Seminar	300.00
	Publications (California Ranger, Signpost, Brochure)	1000.00
		$2140.00

Tom Smith presented an idea for discussion and development. He will be trying to organize a form of Ranger Olympics, similar to Police Olympics or Lifeguard Olympics held in other areas.

Tom Smith gave a final president's message and thanked the membership for their support and input during the past three years.

The meeting adjourned at 1300 hours.

CALIFORNIA STATE PARK RANGERS ASSOCIATION

ACTION PLAN 1982/1983

I. **Strengthen the Resource Management/Interpretive Roles of the members**
   a) CSPRA Education & Training Committee (ETC) to conduct a training session in Northern & Southern California to improve members' field resource management skills.
   b) ETC to conduct Northern and Southern California training sessions to enhance field interpretive skills.
   c) ETC to prepare a *Resource Management Handbook* by soliciting articles from members on specific issues.

II. **Promote and Facilitate Professional Communication**
   a) Improve the Newsletter and the Cal Ranger
      1) Strive for impartial and balanced reporting on controversial issues.
      2) Insure articles deal with all roles/aspects of assn. activities (Visitor Services, Maintenance, Enforcement, Resource Management, Environmental Issues, Interpretation).
      3) CSPRA offices/committee chairs to submit no less than one article every two months for Newsletter/Cal Ranger publication.
      4) Promote "appropriate" advertising in each issue of the Newsletter and Cal Ranger. Coordinate ads with GEC.
   b) Sponsor Meetings and Training Sessions to Improve Field Visibility
      1) Official meetings and seminars to be held throughout California as much as possible.
      2) Regularly scheduled meetings to be held at Asilomar.
   c) Encourage Interaction With Other Professionals
      1) Send copies of Cal Ranger to colleges, Universities, other State Park systems. Solicit articles from these sources as well as members.
      2) Hold more joint activities and conferences with other professional organizations.
   d) Improve liaison with Director's Office/Regional Offices and the State Park Commission
      1) Maintain and enhance exisiting positive lines of communication.
      2) Invite the Director (or his representative) to all Board meetings.
      3) Have a CSPRA representative attend State Park & Recreation Commission meetings.
   e) Maintain High Standards for Annual Convention (GEC)
      1) Encourage discussion through open forums and simplifying the resolution process.
      2) Develop greater continuity from year to year in personnel and planning. Have past present, and future GEC Chairs work together as much as possible.
      3) Strive for low costs to attend for members and cost effectiveness to Association.
      4) Begin publicizing the convention one year in advance. Have programs finalized by September of preceeding year.
      5) Develop a handbook on "How to Plan and Deliver a GEC."

III. **Maintain and Strengthen CSPRA's "Environmental Watchdog" Function**
   a) Continue involvement in important environmental issues.
   b) Encourage members to seek CSPRA's clout when faced with local environmental threats.
   c) Actively support the passage of the '82 Can and Bottle Initiative on the November '82 ballot.

A TRIBUTE TO JOSH BARKIN

WE SHARE A DIFFERENT VIEW OF THE WORLD WITH HIM

We lost a very close friend recently. Joshua "Josh" Barkin, 63, passed away April 18, 1982 at his home in El Cerrito, CA, following a long illness.

Josh is perhaps best remembered for his highly effective style of interpretation blending enthusiasm, humor, natural history, poetry, ethics, world religions, philosophy and lots of love. Many of us had the pleasure of having Josh instruct us in our Asilomar interpretive training classes. I remember one class when we were outside and Josh suddenly scuttled along on his heels, his body rigid, in a quick, stiff-legged manner.

"That's how a quail walks," he told our laughing class.

"How does a robin walk?"

Soon we were hopping around with notebooks flapping and arms waving.

Josh's talents were also in high demand by the U.S.F.S., N.P.S., numerous colleges, not to mention the thousands of school children who enthusiastically followed him along the trails of Tilden Regional Park in Berkeley.

In 1979 we dedicated the WIA/CSPRA/PRAC Conference in Santa Cruz to Josh stating:

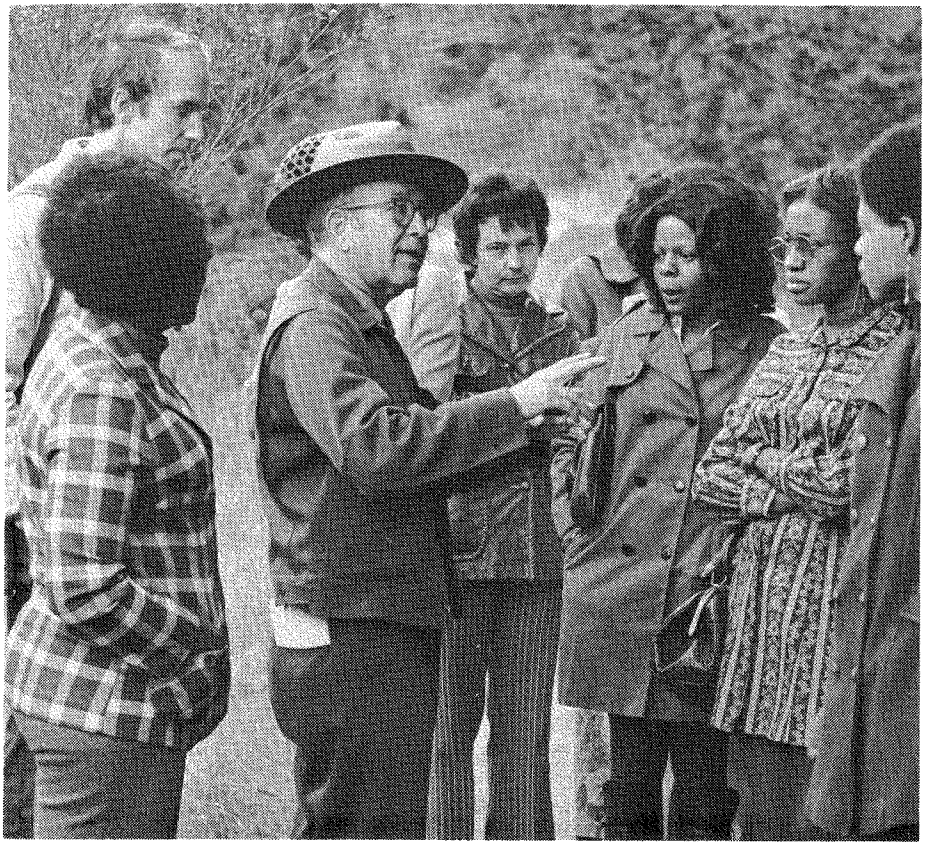
> "The impact that Josh Barkin has made upon the field of interpretation has been felt around the country and particularly here in the West. As a naturalist with the East Bay Regional Park District for the last twenty years, Josh has become a model for interpreters, constantly introducing new ideas with puppets, gadgets, poetry, and other media and concepts that have since been adopted by many interpreters. His greatest contribution has been the sincere, personal style which has served as an inspiration for those who have been able to work with him or observe his "magic" with an audience . . ."

As a Student Intern at Tilden, I was fortunate to see Josh's "magic" work on many groups of diverse social and economic backgrounds. I also vividly remember Josh's beaming face at the Santa Cruz GEC banquet when the entire Conference honored him with an enthusiastic standing ovation.

Not only was Josh a master interpreter, but he also mastered the art of living an extremely productive and rewarding life. Despite incredible demands on his time and energy, he delighted in playing cello in a string ensemble with close friends. I am told Josh was an excellent cello teacher never losing his patience, no matter how many harsh notes his pupils were playing. During one especially exasperating session Josh couldn't take it anymore and exclaimed "Quick, somebody kiss me!"

On May 19th I attended a Memorial service at the Tilden Nature Area to honor Josh. His family, friends and associates reminisced with poems, memories, jokes, and common experiences. Josh's wife, Pearl, delighted all of us with her cherished memories and stories about her husband, a man we all greatly missed. At the end of the ceremony, a large California Bay Laurel was planted on a bluff overlooking the Tilden Nature Area where Josh devoted so many years training young Naturalists and interpreting to the visitors.

As I sat on the sunny lawn during the Service, I was amazed at how much Josh had accomplished since he joined the East Bay Regional Park District



(EBRPD) in 1960. Where once 3 Naturalists worked in a cramped "Nature Hut," there is now a spacious 5+ room, multimillion dollar Environmental Education Center with a staff of several interpreters. His professional qualifications and willingness to share and teach attracted and inspired the quality Interpretive staff that continues to work today in the numerous visitor centers, museums, and nature trails throughout the park district.

Because of Josh's interest in training students, **The Barkin Scholarship Program** has been started by his family and friends to assist in training EBRPD student naturalist aids and interns. Donations toward the program may be made through the Inter-County Parks Foundation, 11500 Skyline Blvd., Oakland, CA 94619.

"From little acorns, mighty oaks will grow." We often wonder if such a comparison can be made with people. Josh Barkin is proof that such miracles do occur!

John D. Mott
CSPRA President

LETTERS

A RESPONSE TO *MANAGING PARKS FOR PEOPLE* BY WILLIAM PENN MOTT

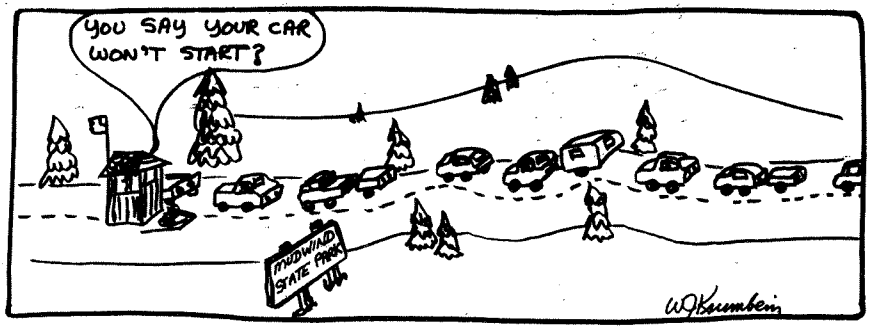
I read your article in the winter 1982 edition of ***The California Ranger,*** initially with great interest. After completing the article my interest and enthusiasm had faded to dismay. I find points of disagreement which I feel compelled to share with you.

My principal disagreement occurs where you contrast two park situations, East Bay Regional Parks "dynamic selling program" where Kaiser Aluminum adopted a regional park (Roberts) where "everyone benefited," with an "abandonment" by an unidentified "parks and recreation department of two of its parks," "the excuse being . . . Proposition 13." With the second example it occurred to me that if person did not look beyond the surface there was a situation in our Parks and Recreation Department here in Oakland that might seem to fit the example. I checked with a close acquaintance of yours with disbelief that you might have been writing inaccurately about our Rotary Day Camp and McCrea Park. Your acquaintance told me that you had indeed been citing these park areas in your example; he had proofread the article for you.

For clarification, our Rotary Day Camp has continued to serve day campers and others continuously right through Proposition 13 to present. The Police Department is not, and has not been running the camp. We have only asked that day camp groups assist us with some light maintenance at the start of each season to offset the fact that we have one part-time worker to maintain 520-acre Joaquin Miller Park along with the other undeveloped parks in Oakland; our Day Camp is but a small 20-acre portion of Joaquin Miller Park. Groups have been more than cooperative in sharing some of this responsibility; they are well aware that we have resisted establishing fees for the use of our Day Camp. Many of the community groups and agencies that refer their children to our park are on low budgets, or no budget, and cannot afford to use facilities where a charge is levyed.

The Rangers, Police, and the Rotary Club for the past several years have cooperated on a first camp experience for inner city youth at the Rotary Day Camp. Police refer kids from their community group contacts to the Ranger Division; the Oakland Rotary Club assists with funding the program. Rangers hav donated extra time, and the Metropolitan Horsemen's Association and City Naturalists have worked had along with us to enrich the camp experience. Two years ago we worked to gain the support of Woodminster Productions, and it paid off with seating at the summer musicals for kids camping on evenings coincidental with the productions. Developing this kind of support has been an ongoing attitude with our Department; we have especially realized the importance of this attitude since Proposition 13.

The trout pond at McCrea Park has been shut down for years; the Park, however, has remained open. The trout pond was not closed because of Proposition 13, and Police are in no way responsible for keeping the park open. The original concessionaire who built the pond was not able to keep it operational at a profit; the City has not been able to locate a responsible individul to



take his place. There were environmental difficulties beyond the control of the concessionaire that worked to subvert the pond's becoming a success. McCrea Park continues tothis day to serve day camps and is open to the general public year round for picnicing, barbeques, and just plain lounging on the benches, lawns, or amongst the beautiful native oaks.

The trout pond was cleaned up last year for a special program for the disabled that was conceived by a volunteer group of Oakland Police Officers (Police Activity League). This program had the full support of our Office of Parks and Recreation and the California State Department of Fish and Game; incidentally, our Director, V. Hap Smith, is a Police Activity League Board member. The Ranger Division assisted with tools and manpower made available through our coordination with a nonprofit organization. We assisted with the back breaking work of cleaning up the ponds of silt that had accumulated several feet thick. We plan to continue with this coordination and support; the fishing program was a great success.

There are many other cooperative relationships that the Office of Parks and Recration in Oakland has developed, and there have been significant donations made to support many worthwhile programs that were placed in jeopardy by Proposition 13.

Mr. Mott, I am sure that a man of your reputation would not intentionally mislead a statewide group of park professionals. My feeling is that with your busy schedule you did not take the time to check beyond what appeared superficially to be the case. I urge that you take more time in future articles; workers putting in extra effort to make programs go with limited budgets are sensitive that if they are to get any recognition, that it be positive, constructive, and accurate.

Sincerely,
Richard E. Wirkkala

Editors note: Mr. Wirkkala is the Supervising Ranger with the City of Oakland Office of Parks and Recreation.

BACK PAGE

CALIFORNIA STATE PARK RANGERS GROVE

The professional Park Ranger is a person of strong commitment and dedication to the conservation ideal. Instead of commanding high salaries, the personal rewards stem from progress in improving the quality of life both on and off the job. In dedication to the commitment and achievements of California State Park professionals a prestine grove of old growth Redwoods is the latest addition to Jedediah Smith Redwood Park in Del Norte county. The grove is located at Highway 99 and Walker Road.

The five acre grove has been donated by Mr. and Mrs. David Fesler of St. Paul, Minnesota in conjunction with Save the Redwoods League. An ardent conservationist, Fesler is a retail lumber merchant with several outlets in Wisconsin and Minnesota. Save the Redwoods League was founded in 1916 to serve as a catalyst in establishing redwood groves and rescue from destruction representative areas of our primeval forests. The grove represents a donation of $50,000, of which Fesler contributed $25,000.

Wording for the dedication plaque exemplifies the spirit of the donation:

CALIFORNIA STATE PARK RANGERS GROVE
Dedicated in 1982 to honor the people of the California State Park System.
These trees exemplify their efforts.
By Mr. and Mrs. David Fesler and Save the Redwoods League

CSPRA bows its Stetson to the commitment made by Mr. and Mrs. Fesler and Save the Redwoods League. Not only the financial commitment but, more importantly, their dedication in fostering a better understanding of the value of the redwood forests of California as natural objects of extraordinary interest to present and future generations.

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