



**The California Ranger**

# WHAT IS CSPRA?

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## OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the California State Park Rangers Association, according to its constitution, are to represent, advance and promote the interests and standards of the profession of California State Park Rangers, to provide the interpretation of our natural and man-made environment; and to promote sound judgement, high quality and economy in planning, development, operation and maintenance of facilities and services offered the public by the California Department of Parks and Recreation.

## CODE OF ETHICS

Park professionals as members of the California State Park Rangers Association shall be dedicated to preserving of prime examples of California's natural and cultural heritage and to providing quality recreational experiences to the people of California. To exemplify this dedication, members shall be guided by the following principles:

- Constantly strive to identify and preserve current and future Park values.
- Respect people as individuals and willingly serve them impartially.
- Through self-discipline, develop individual competence in order to represent the park profession in a manner that brings credit to themselves and all other members of the profession.
- Accept the moral responsibility for the safety and well being of the park visitor.
- Promote the future of the Park and Recreation profession by inspiring promising young people to prepare for it.
- Establish close working relationships with allied professions & citizen groups to meet the recreation and park needs of the people of California and to strive to influence future improvement of our total environment.
- Actively promote the purpose and objectives of the Association.

**Adopted 1978**



## ABOUT THE COVER:

*Since the late 1960s, park professionals in California have been debating whether park rangers can effectively serve the dual role of interpreter and cop. The California Department of Parks and Recreation, along with numerous local agencies, believe the answer is "yes". The National Park Service still maintains the separate roles. The feature article, "Is There a Case for the Interpreter-Cop?" takes another look at this issue. Photo by Tom Doyle.*

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## **A JOURNAL FOR PARK PROFESSIONALS**

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# FEATURE ARTICLE

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## IS THERE A CASE FOR THE "INTERPRETER - COP?"

by Christian Nelson

*Editor's Note:* The following article was written by Christian Nelson who is currently the Chief of Parks and Interpretation for the East Bay Regional Park District. This unique park system covers two counties on the east side of San Francisco Bay (Alameda and Contra Costa). The system contains 45 parks totaling 58,000 acres.

The article was written in the spring of 1973 and appeared in *The Interpreter*, the journal of the Western Interpreters Association (W.I.A.). At that time, the East Bay Regional Park District had an interpretive staff of four persons and the Public Safety Department also had four full-time officers. Today there are 18 interpreters and 33 public safety officers.

The article appeared during the "anti authority age of rebellion", as perfectly expressed in the Yosemite National park riots. In reading the article and looking back, how do you think the two (or one) professions fared? What style or mode of operation did your system end up with? Is it working? Is it working well?

Mr. Nelson will be a speaker at our March Reno conference where we will get an opportunity to better evaluate the EBRPD's distinctly dual approach to interpretation and law enforcement.

**JOB OPEN: INTERPRETER-COP.** To work in a large park system performing such duties as conducting nature study classes for preschool children and environmental education school tours; interpreting local and natural history of the area to the general public; serving citations for law violations and assisting in quelling riots.

**TRAINING REQUIRED:** Must love children of all ages and enjoy working with adults in an educational capacity to teach the love of nature. Ample education background and three years of field experience. Black belt in judo, karate. Weapons training and riot control required. One year of "Green Beret" service may be substituted for the required three years of police work.

In some areas of our country, any uniform and any kind of badge solicits immediate hostility on the part of many persons. As more and more agencies which employ interpreters experience growing levels of crime, antisocial attitudes, riots and attacks upon uniformed employees, there has been a tendency to expect interpreters to share police training, including hand-to-hand combat and use of weapons.

Individual and gang attacks on park rangers are becoming commonplace. In the Yosemite Valley riots, they produced a new epithet—"The Green Fuzz". The employer and the public generally assume that an interpreter has been trained in skills and is dedicated to causes that enable him to express interest, concern and love for nature, children and all of his fellow men. One might wonder then if he would also be able to take off that person, put on a riot helmet, grab a baton and a can of mace, and go out and 'enforce the laws'.



Will law enforcement responsibilities be written into the job specifications for interpreters or "catch-all" ranger positions? Do we run the risk of finding a new breed of cat replacing this formerly gentle-mannered profession?

Should uniformed interpreters wear badges? At a previous W.I.A. Conference Workshop, this question was put to the membership. It was expected to serve as a bellwether question which could lead towards an eventual "white paper" report and recommendation for the Association, related to the overall question of interpreters assuming significant police duties. The results were inconclusive and so no position was taken. Fifty percent voted in favor of the elimination of badges; fifty percent voted to retain the badge, or felt the matter was of no consequence.

However, when asked "should interpreters be expected to be police?", only twenty percent felt that they should or that they would not mind doing so. An interesting perspective on this matter was put forth by a young lady in the audience who is seeking to enter the interpretive profession. She reminded the audience that trying law enforcement responsibilities into an interpretive job would be certain to eliminate women from being considered.

Will future interpreters have to be sent to a police academy for six months in order to hold their jobs? Will the college training of an interpreter soon require a law enforcement minor (or major)? How many universities turning out interpreters are also able to provide law enforcement courses?

During recent oral interviews for a naturalist position with our park district, a ranger with the State of California informed the interview board that he had been given 200 hours of police training and only 40 hours of interpretive training. Perhaps a stronger professional association will lead us to at least a 50% share of such priorities in the future.

I don't wish to leave you with the impression that I am anti-police, since nothing could be farther from the truth. I back our park rangers (who are peace officers and carry guns) and recognize that our park system could not function effectively or serve and protect our park visitors properly without them. Their Chief feels as I do, however — that under our particular set of circumstances, his men would not be effective as "Jacks of all trades and masters of none."

With budgets tightening everywhere, it is easy to understand why administrative authorities see advantages in having their personnel able to wear many hats. Perhaps our societies — the Western Interpreters Association and the Association of Interpretive Naturalists, should decide now whether we, as a profession, and the work we are pledged to do, will suffer if we are asked to change our Smokey Bear hats for riot helmets. It is easier to change hats than it is to change the personality and the human nature of the man or woman under the hat. What should be our position? What is your position?

## THE D.P.R. NEW FELONY ARREST TECHNIQUE

by Randy Hawley

*Editor's note:* The cover letter which accompanied the following article serves as an appropriate introduction. "Enclosed you will find something I wrote in the heat of passion after a defensive tactics training session last week. The introduction of the new felony arrest technique got a varied reaction. Even our Area Manager was a little shocked at it. Sorry it's not typed. I don't have access to a typewriter. But the lack of one won't keep me from jumping on my soapbox any time I get the chance."

### THE PLAYERS:

Parents of John Smith

Mr. Ranger vs California Dept. of Parks & Recreation and the State of California

**CHARGE:** Wrongful Death

**SCENE:** Court in session

**PROSECUTOR:** Mr. Ranger would you please explain the events of the evening in question?

**MR. RANGER:** Yes sir. We were checking on a loud gathering at campsite #10 and we found both minors and adults drinking with loud music. We broke up the gathering but one individual was very uncooperative. He appeared to be under age and he refused to show us any identification. He was very belligerent and very big. He looked like he was on PCP or something.

**PROSECUTOR:** Objection. The autopsy reports that the victim had amounts of alcohol and methylqualude in his sytem but no PCP.

**JUDGE:** Objection sustained. Continue.

**MR. RANGER:** He had been tending the fire when we arrived and was still holding a log in his hand.

**PROSECUTOR:** Did he swing at you or threaten you with it?

**MR. RANGER:** No, but he could have used it as a weapon.

**PROSECUTOR:** 'Could have'...go on.

**MR. RANGER:** He started to walk away. We told him to stop and he just kept going. My partner went over and told him he was under arrest. He turned quickly, lifted the log and said "Oh no I'm not." He was pretty rattled at that point. We interpreted his action as hostile toward us and we drew our weapons. My partner and I felt we had to take this guy into custody, because of his size and state of mind we felt that the Modified Felony Prone would provide us with maximum control. With our guns drawn he became slightly more cooperative and followed our commands to lay on the ground, spread his right arm out to his side and put his left hand in the middle of his back. We told him we would shoot if he moved. I approached from the front, my partner was off to the side. I knelt at his head, placing my knees firmly against his ears, my gun trained at his back.

**PROSECUTOR:** Please describe the suspect.

**RANGER:** He was kind of trembling and he kept clenching his fists. His breathing was kind of heavy.

**PROSECUTOR:** Any noise?

RANGER: I think he was sobbing.

PROSECUTOR: Continue with your account please.

RANGER: I could see something was tucked in his belt under his shirt. I was about six inches from his left hand. About that time his head started to life up against my pressure and he grabbed my P.O.P.E. gear with his right hand and tried to pull me off.

PROSECUTOR: Then what happened?

RANGER: My partner and I discharged our weapons.

PROSECUTOR: No further questions. Next witness, please.

BAILIFF: Mr. Dee Teese, representing the Dept. of Parks and Recreation.

PROSECUTOR: Mr. Dee Teese, did the rangers follow the guidelines set forth, and encouraged by your department?

MR. D.T.: Yes, that is the procedure as it is taught.

PROSECUTOR: The ranger called this particular method of restraint the Modified Felony Prone. Could you explain? What exactly has been modified?

MR. D.T.: To improve officer safety we have redesigned the technique of taking uncooperative suspects or felons into custody. The old technique involved a series of holds applied by the officer which put pressure on the suspect's wrist ligaments and shoulder socket. The new one uses a more effective form of compliance.

PROSECUTOR: In other words, with the old one, the officer could break a suspect's wrist or shoulder if he was uncooperative?

MR. D.T.: Yes.

PROSECUTOR: It seems that the new method doesn't allow your officers that option.

MR. D.T.: We feel it is safer for the rangers.

PROSECUTOR: But not the suspect?

MR. D.T.: He shouldn't have attacked the rangers, they felt threatened.

PROSECUTOR: Answer the question! Is it safer for the suspect?

MR. D.T.: No.

PROSECUTOR: Isn't it the responsibility of an arresting officer to provide the maximum safety for both himself and the suspect during the period of confinement?

MR. D.T.: Yes.

PROSECUTOR: The new method obviously reduces the types of control over a suspect. Your Department has eliminated implied physical force and applied physical force as methods of compliance and moved implied lethal force and applied lethal force up as the front line of defense for your rangers. May I remind the jury that the deceased was obviously irrational and emotionally unstable. We have submitted as evidence documents supporting the fact that the victim had a history of psychological problems. He had in his possession at time of death an altered I.D., presumably to purchase alcohol and a half pint of liquor in his belt. In defense of the rangers, it seems that they were reacting instinctively to the situation as had been taught to them. This does not however relieve them of the memory of their actions. But the actions of the Department of Parks and Recreation in encouraging this technique and ultimately the State for condoning this method cannot be excused. The defendants are responsible for their actions and must be held accountable. The prosecution rests.

# IN THE RUNNING

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## THE HEART OF IT

*by Loren W. Christensen*

With the possible exception of raiding a Hells Angels campout at Lake Peris, there isn't anything to match the fun and exhilaration of chasing a teenage burglar down the beach, over fences and across parking lots. However, it can also cause debilitation, exhaustion and to an unfortunate few—death. The condition of your heart and lungs can make a significant difference.

Cruising the parks in a new patrol vehicle with top of the line equipment, but with a poorly conditioned driver makes as much sense as trying to cross the English Channel in a leaky boat with new oars. You may look good driving to the scene, but how will you do wrestling a mental patient for five minutes or chasing a sleeping bag snatcher through the campground?

Heart palpitations, cold sweat, tightness across the chest, light headedness, and difficulty breathing are all symptoms you are pushing beyond the limits of your physical endurance. These are dangerous conditions that can lead to serious problems. However, they can be prevented if you are willing to spend a minimum of 12 minutes every other day, improving the condition of your cardiovascular system. Additionally, you will minimize problems of stress, high blood pressure and body fat—problems all too common with today's working park ranger.

A cardiovascular exercise is any exercise that stimulates heart and lung activity for a period of time. The exercise must elevate the heart rate and place stress on the lungs and arteries to a degree that is not "all out," but is carried out comfortably for a prolonged period.

The key to improvement through cardiovascular exercise is the body's use of oxygen. The body requires energy to function. It also requires oxygen just as it requires food. The oxygen burns, or metabolizes food that provides calories for energy. But unlike food, the body cannot store oxygen and must replenish its supply constantly by breathing in and out.

A body that has been trained through cardiovascular exercise has lungs that are conditioned to process more air with less effort. During an exhausting activity, a conditioned person may process nearly twice as much air per minute as a person who is not conditioned. The conditioned body is therefore provided with more oxygen, which produces more energy.

The cardiovascular-conditioned body increases its maximal oxygen consumption by improving the efficiency of the means of supply and delivery. By doing so, it is improving the overall condition of the body, especially the lungs, the heart and the blood vessels.

A body in good cardiovascular condition has a strong and healthy heart. This "athlete's heart" is a relatively large, extremely efficient, pumping more blood with each stroke and with less effort. Consequently, since it pumps a higher volume of blood with each stroke, it beats less often. A conditioned person who exercises consistently has a resting heart rate of around 60 beats per minute or less. A person who is not in condition may have a resting rate of about 80 or more. Look at the following comparison:

60 beats per minute x 60 minutes = 3,600 beats per hour  
3,600 beats per hour x 24 hours = 86,400 beats per day  
80 beats per minute x 60 minutes = 4,800 beats per hour  
4,800 beats per hour x 24 hours = 115,200 beats per day



So even at complete rest, an unconditioned heart is forced to beat nearly 30,000 times more every 24 hours. When activity is added, such as walking across the room or running up stairs, the deconditioned heart will beat considerably faster than the conditioned heart experiencing the same activity.

The third major benefit of cardiovascular fitness is the improvement of blood flow, or tissue vascularization. Vascularization is the most essential factor in increasing endurance and reducing fatigue in the muscles, saturating the tissues with energy-producing oxygen and carrying away waste.

Basically, vascularization in the conditioned person will result in an improvement in the existing blood vessels, which may result in a lower blood pressure. This is due to the blood vessels becoming more pliable and also, a decreasing resistance to the blood flow. A second benefit is an augmented blood supply; that is, an opening up of new routes to carry energy-producing blood to the tissues. The conditioned person, therefore, has a greater saturation coverage.

Cardiovascular exercise will improve the body in the following ways:

1. Reduces body fat
2. Increases blood to the heart
3. Increases blood volume pumped per heart beat
4. Increases strength of blood contraction
5. Reduces blood pressure if originally elevated
6. Increases functional capacity of lungs during exercise
7. Increases overall muscular strength and endurance
8. Better sleep

Because of a greater supply of oxygenated blood pumping through your body, you will enjoy greater stamina and thus end those busy shifts feeling strong and fresh. The chance of injury, which often accompanies fatigue, is minimized because you are in good shape physically and more mentally alert. Also, with an increased ability to relax, you will sleep sounder and therefore experience greater recuperation.

## KIOSK KWIPS



Excellent cardiovascular exercises include walking, running, jogging, swimming, and bicycling. Just about any exercise is good as long as you can make it fit the following requirements of a cardiovascular exercise:

Frequency—three to five days a week

Duration—12-60 minutes of continuous activity

Intensity—60 percent to 90 percent of maximal heart rate

Here is a simple formula to determine your maximal heart rate. Starting with the numbers 220 for men and 226 for women, subtract your age. The difference

is your maximum heart rate. Multiply the difference by the percentage desired and that gives you the heart rate you are after.

For example, a 30-year-old male would determine his heart rate in the following manner:

	220	Male
Subtract	<u>30</u>	Age
	190	Maximum heart rate
Multiply	<u>.60</u>	Percent of maximum heart rate
Total	114	Beats per minute

This male must elevate his heart beat when exercising to 114 beats per minute and maintain it at this level for at least 12 minutes. As his physical condition improves, he can either increase the duration or increase the intensity by moving up to 70 percent, 80 percent, or 90 percent of his maximum heart rate. It is important not to increase the intensity too soon. Remember, it is not an "all out" effort, but a comfortable pace.

Experiment to determine the best body site to take your pulse. In some sites the pulse is more prominent than others. The best locations are typically at the wrist, just below the base of the thumb; at the neck just over the collar line and to the right or left of the windpipe; and at the inside of the elbow, just above the skin crease. To find your pulse, simply press the tips of the index finger, middle finger and ring finger into one of the sites.

Immediately after exercise, count the beats for the first ten seconds only; then multiply this number by six to get a per minute reading. When first beginning this program you may have to take your pulse during exercise to establish your pace. Take your reading for six seconds only and immediately resume the exercise. Mentally multiply by ten and you have your per minute reading. If it is too slow, pick up the pace, if it is too fast, slow down the pace.

When taking a reading during exercise, never stop longer than six seconds. Stopping for a longer period will not give you an accurate pulse rate because the heart rapidly slows after the stress of exercise; the faster it slows the more fit you are.

Considering the large number of officers experiencing on-duty heart attacks and other physical maladies, cardiovascular fitness training should be considered an important officer survival technique. Combined with sensible eating and drinking habits, cardiovascular training may save your life. At the very least, you will benefit by an overall improved condition of your body, especially its most important parts—the heart, the lungs and the blood vessels.

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The Heart of It appeared in *Police Products News*, September 1982 issue. The "ranger" slant was added for your reading enjoyment.

*Headquarters is said to be staffed with persons who know very little about a great deal and keep knowing less and less about more and more until they know practically nothing about everything, whereas on the other hand Ranger l's are persons who know a great deal about very little and who go along knowing more and more about less and less until finally they know practically everything about nothing. Area managers start out knowing practically everything about everything, but end up knowing nothing about anything, due to their association with headquarters and park staff.*

—The Old Ranger

# **MOMENTS IN STATE PARK HISTORY**

## **Certainly Not a New Concept... CONCESSIONS IN PARKS**

*by Denzil and Jeannie Verardo*

The idea of an individual generating a profit by providing a service to the public within a State Park—the concessionaire—is almost as old as the first state park itself. In 1906, Mr. W.M. Elsom was running a daily stage line between Boulder Creek and the California Redwood Park at Big Basin. It left Boulder Creek just after the arrival of the 9 a.m. train from Santa Cruz and returned in time to connect with the 5:55 back to Santa Cruz. Waiting to meet the stage and provide food and lodging for park visitors was another early “concessionaire” Big Basin Inn-keeper Mrs. Elsom. A visitor, over from Los Gatos, wrote describing the accommodations in 1912 “The cuisine of the California Redwood Park is of the best quality and plenty of it. The sleeping quarters are clean and have good ventilation, the bedding clean and ample, and everything is first class camp style, fit for anyone.” It seems that even then “roughing it” didn’t appeal to everyone.

Then, there was the desire to take home souvenirs. In order to satisfy the demand with the least damage to the resource, the California Redwood Park Commission in 1916, decided to erect a concession stand to sell film and postcards for tourists. Run by Andrew Hill, the man who had led the fight to save Big Basin, the “Studio” soon became an important stopping place for park visitors. In addition to selling photos, “it was Mr. Hill’s custom and pleasure while spending his summer in the Park, to give lectures upon the redwoods of the Big Basin. At first, these talks were given at the camp fire, around which so many visitors have gathered, but his later habit was to give the talk each Sunday morning, and then to pilot all who desired such a trip, on an excursion or “hike”, which would thoroughly exemplify his remarks, and bring all a closer understanding of the subject,” thus satisfying another public need. (*The Acquisition of California Redwood Park*, F. and F. Hill, 1927).

By the 1920’s concessions (or non-park provided services) in Big Basin had mushroomed. As related in the *1924 Official Map and Guide*, they were:

**REDWOOD INN** offers first-class accommodation, sleeping quarters in well equipped cottages being afforded. Good meals are served in the attractive dining room, and the comfortable lobby with its great fireplace is one of the attractions of Governor’s Camp.

**SWIMMING AND BOATING.** A dam across Opal Creek creates a swimming pool, where swimming and restricted boating may be enjoyed. Swimming suits and boats are obtainable upon application at the box office.

**THE STORE.** Here may be secured groceries and campers’ supplies, etc. Prices are reasonable.

**THE STUDIO.** Pictures of all points of interest may be procured in the Studio, and advice in regard to taking pictures will be cheerfully given. The display in the Studio is well worth one’s while. The dark room is equipped with the latest electric machines for printing and enlarging. Visitors may have their pictures taken at any of the trees, by the photographer, at city rates.

**GARAGE AND SERVICE STATION.** The usual automotive services, including repairs as well as towing, are procurable here. In case of trouble on the road, word sent by a passing motorist will be responded to from Governor's Camp.

**AMUSEMENTS.** While the usual and appropriate amusement in Redwood Park is hiking, quoits may be enjoyed at the quoit pit, or tennis played at the tennis courts, across Opal Creek from Redwood Inn. A baseball field is also available.

The park had come a long way, hadn't it?

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*Moments in State Park History is a regular feature of the California Ranger. The Verardos reside at 10899 Palm Street, Castroville, CA 95012.*

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## **EQUIPMENT REVIEW**

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### **YOUR NONLETHAL WEAPONS ALTERNATIVES**

*Reviewed by Michael L. Curry*

The following article contains some very interesting information about the "state of the art" in methods of subduing a violent suspect without harm to both the suspect and Ranger. Some of the equipment looks like it came out of "Star Wars", some of it is in limited use with a few agencies, and all of it offers interesting alternatives to the baton and firearm. Of special interest is the *Dynamics of Altercations*\*. It reminds peace officers of the importance of not rushing into a situation without due consideration to the dangers, possibilities, and alternatives available.

#### **"Your Nonlethal Weapons Alternatives"** by Greg Meyer

#### **INTRODUCTION**

How does a peace officer handle a confrontation with an enraged, intoxicated man swinging a crowbar? A mental case who refuses to put down a baseball bat? A distraught woman slashing at the air with a butcher knife? A violent suspect under the influence of PCP? How do private security personnel respond to violence? What about corrections personnel in prisons and jails, who frequently must deal with violent inmates?

# INTERPRETIVE NOTES

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## WALKING THROUGH A BIRD'S FRONT ROOM

*by John Moore*

The following idea is offered by John Moore which he titles "Walking Through a Bird's Front Room."

"I had an idea a while ago about having a campfire program with sounds of park animals and birds included in the presentation. I purchased the Roger Tory Peterson three album, bird calls record and it started me thinking. Where are the birds that live in the park I work at? What type of habitat do they live in? What do they eat? Why do they live in only a small region in the park? These and more questions came to mind while thinking about the experience park visitors should have while hiking or camping."

The idea of showing a slide program that would incorporate a day-long nature hike along a hiking trail, that would start in the morning along a creek or marsh area, then continue uphill into an oak-woodland area, grassland and then back to the hikers campsite would end the program. Then, as each area is visited, starting with morning along a creek, slides of the bird life would be shown. As a slide is shown, a cassette taped call of the specific bird could be played. Each region of the park would include a specific species of bird life ending with the owl family back at the campsite.

The principle behind this type of program would establish vocal, visual and re-call of the bird life, along with its habitat, and provide the visitor with a source for remembering the bird seen or heard during their stay at the park. A nature hike the next day exploring one of the regions shown during the program would provide stimulation and interest for the visitor to get involved in the next day's activities. The ranger could pick a different region to explore throughout the week and also add new sounds such as animal calls. The interest level of the visitor would be high due to the many different birds that are around the park. People always want to know what the name of a certain bird is—if the ranger takes the opportunity to show the visitor its habitat, food supply, nesting material, territorial habits and reason for different calls, this could provide a park visitor with a new hobby or interest.

The same could apply to the fauna of the area in a program of this type. Show the visitor where these animals live, what they eat, how they raise their young and territorial habits and the scope of the visitors knowledge about why the animals need to be protected will be broadened.

The end product of this program will be to offer the visitor a chance to get in touch with the wildlife through sight and sound. Sounds sometimes stick in your mind over a picture of a bird or animal. Extending the program into the next day, after the slide program, will provide an extension for the visitor's who are really interested in seeing and hearing the real animal or bird. Providing the visitor with a chance to recall the information from the slide show will be used by the ranger to see if the visitor retained the information presented. Evaluation of our job as an interpreter is very important in order for us to become better at what we do.



# INTERPRETIVE NOTES

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## KIND BUT CURIOUS

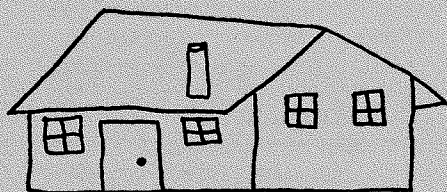
by Bill Krumbein

O.K., kids, are you ready with your imaginations? Let's go back to a different place, in a different time, where *you* are only one-inch tall.

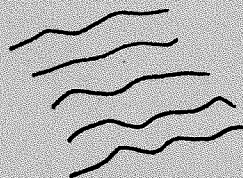
You'll need a place to live and I just happen to have with me a comfortable, cozy cabin.



You



Cozy Cabin



Vegetable Garden

And next to your cabin you have planted a garden of your favorite fruits and vegetables.

One day, you heard a thunderous noise outside! Peering from your window all you could see was a giant foot! It was a giant's foot! (Place *your* foot next to the window.) But he was a kind giant, and curious, too. Just wanting to look inside your cabin, he pulled the roof off, laying it on top of the garden!

At first you were afraid, but in a short time you knew the giant meant no harm. He just looked down at you for a few moments, smiled, then walked away.

Clouds were building up and a rainstorm was brewing—and you don't have a roof! "Wait!" you yelled to the giant, "Mr. Giant, please put my roof back."

Luckily the giant heard your yells. Turning around he said, "Huh?"

"There's going to be a big rainstorm tonight," you pleaded, "and without my roof, I'll get all wet. And if you leave the roof on top of my garden then no raindrops will reach my vegetables. They won't get their water. Fruits and vegetables need their water you know. Please help put things back the way you found them."

Remember, this was a kind, but curious giant. So he put your roof back on, then strolled away.

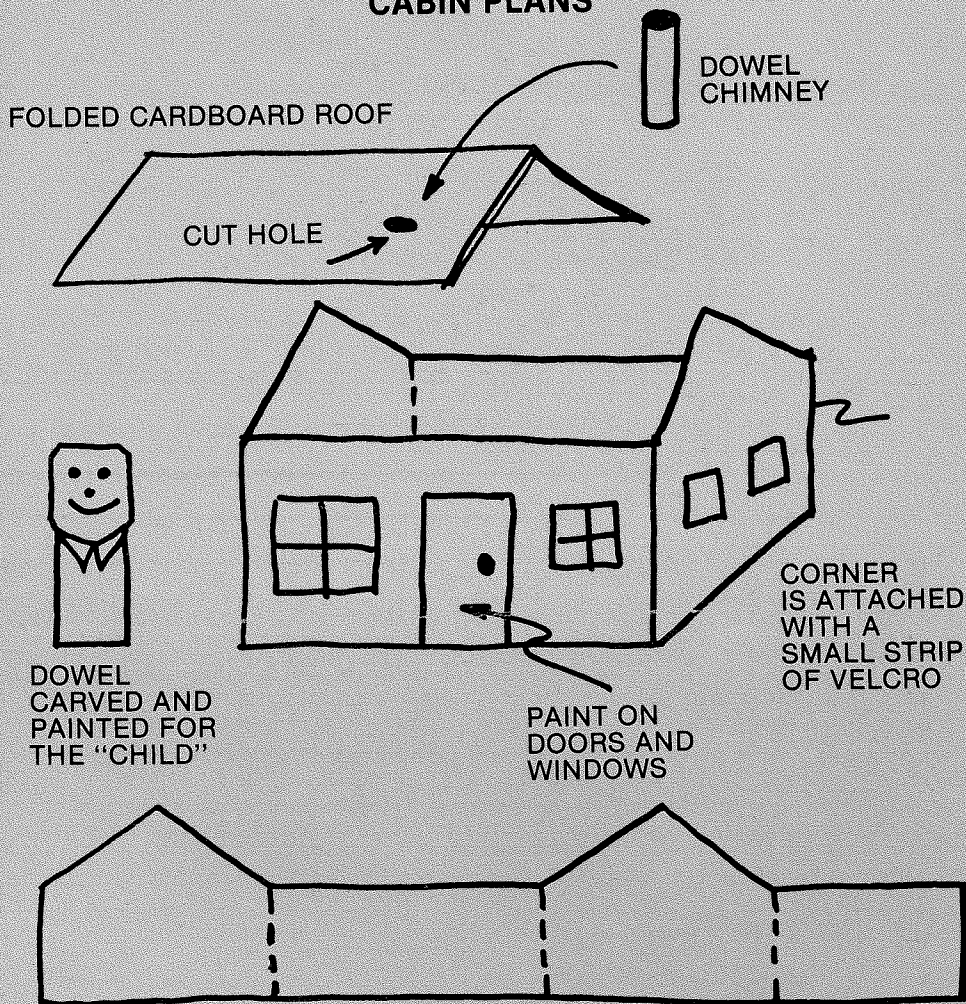
That night, the rains did come, and you were warm and dry and very comfortable; and your garden welcomed the raindrops.

\* \* \*

(Later, on your hike)

Hey kids, let's slowly turn this rock over to see who lives underneath. Wow! Sow bugs and pill bugs! This rock is like a roof, isn't it? It protects them and keeps them dry when it rains. Shall we put it back gently when we're through looking?

## CABIN PLANS



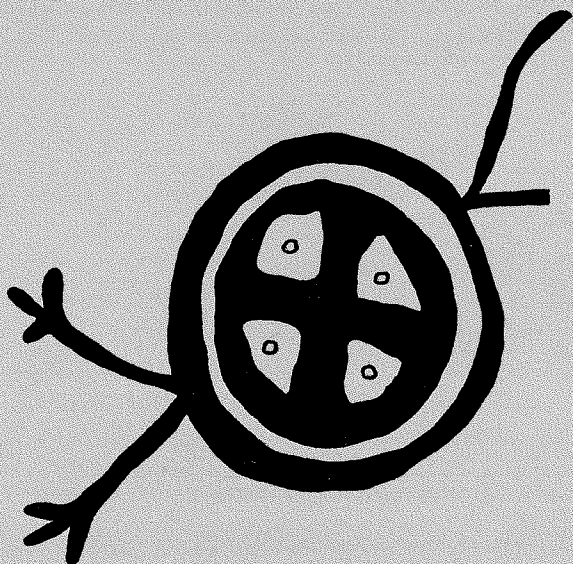


# BOOK REVIEW

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## THE TEMESCALS OF ARROYO CONEJO

by Dr. T. Maxwell



*The Temescals of Arroyo Conejo* is an historical novel covering 11,000 years of Chumash doings in the Conejo Valley, southern Ventura County, California. The story follows the lineage of a family named *Temescal* (after the Nahuatl word for sweathouse or sauna) which symbolizes purity of body and soul. The *temescal* was used daily by the Chumash for cleanliness and purification.

Much new data on the Chumash has become available in the past decade and this book draws heavily on the new material as well as the author's sixteen years experience in excavation and research concerning the Chumash. The work is extensively footnoted to document the archaeological and ethnohistorical record on which the story is based.

*The Temescals of Arroyo Conejo* is an excellent interpretive reference and would enhance both personal and park libraries where Native American history is being shared with park visitors. Not only does the book give us a look at the Chumash culture in particular, but also a greater insight into a lifestyle we seem to be constantly striving for, again, in the 1980's which stresses harmony with fellow humans and our environment.

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Price: \$8.50; Postage & Handling 63¢

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This article explores the dynamics of officer-involved physical altercations and the technology available to reduce injury and deaths of officers and suspects. The article's purpose is to offer solutions to the problem, not to criticize past practices (which seem to have had the blessings of the community as evidenced by the earlier lack of public outcry against them). In short, the purpose is to improve tactical response to meet the modern needs of the community and its protectors.

The article discusses the factors of time and distance in violent confrontations; recent research and development of nonlethal weapons; concepts of effectiveness and simplicity of the various devices; and criteria for selection of the weapons by agency administrators. The article is written by a police officer from a police point of view; but the concepts discussed are equally applicable to corrections personnel and private security agents.

## **THE DYNAMICS OF ALTERCATIONS**

In an altercation, the risk of death or injury increases as the time for planning and the distance between the officer and suspect decrease. In 1977 in Clayton, California, an officer was disarmed and shot in the face by a naked PCP suspect; that same year two Inglewood officers and two Los Angeles officers responding to a single incident suffered an assortment of broken bones and concussions at the hands of a naked PCP suspect; another officer shot and killed a naked man on PHP (a PCP analogue) who had twice taken the officer's baton and was about to overpower him.

Each of the above incidents was influenced by time and distance. When there was close contact between officer and suspect, the threat was immediate. When there was distance between the officer and suspect, there was time to plan tactics and time to talk. When talking had no effect or broke down, the suspect closed the distance by attacking the officer, causing the officer to respond quickly and decisively, or get hurt trying. So, we are examining two general situations: immediate, close-range attacks which allow no time for planning and which necessitate an immediate defensive response; and the standoff situation where it is apparent that moving in on the suspect will likely result in serious injury or death to an officer or suspect. Note that we are not discussing "gun battles," but we are examining situations where in a physical altercation a previously unarmed suspect may become armed, or a suspect armed with less than a firearm may eventually attack.

By rushing a PCP suspect without adequate back-up, or by rushing a mental case who has a knife, there is great likelihood of death or serious injury to either party. And by prolonging a standoff without adequate containment of the suspects and cover for the officers, there is the risk that crisis intervention techniques will break down and lead to a shooting or other force likely to result in death or injury. With nonlethal weapons technology, a third option is available: officers can maintain distances of from six to fifteen feet and aggressively take a suspect down without death or serious injury to either party.

## **THE PROBLEM**

After an adverse incident, weeks, even months of negative publicity rain down upon police administrators and their officers. Internal and external reviews are extensive, and can have destroyed the involved officers psychologically. Today, it is common for such an incident to cause intense pressure from such varied source as the media; organized groups of police critics; local elected government officials; prosecutors; federal civil rights

violation investigators; police commissions; civilian review boards; police administrators; and even street-level officers themselves, who weren't there and wonder how it could have happened.

No one pretends that adverse incidents can be eliminated. The nature of police work is that police will always confront violent people and police will always confront violent people and police will usually come out on top without injury to anyone. And there will always be crooks and crazies with guns to contend with. But, those incidents involving violent crooks and crazies *without* guns and can usually be handled without injury by nonlethal weapons and tactics that go with them.

## **THE WEAPONS**

As a general definition, nonlethal weapons are devices which may be used to aggressively take control of a deteriorating tactical situation prior to that point in time when control holds, batons or deadly force may become necessary; and when it is unsafe for an officer to move to within contact range of the suspect; and when attempts by officers to control the suspect by conventional means will likely result in serious injury to officers, suspects or both.

In 1980, the Planning and Research Division of the Los Angeles Police Department surveyed 73 law enforcement agencies and military departments in various parts of the world, including the fifty largest police departments in the United States. The intent was to learn what control devices besides firearms, batons and saps are available to field officers. At the same time research continued into the use of or potential use of eleven types of devices which had been suggested as nonlethal weapons for police. The suggestions came from citizens, inventors, officers, police critics and other sources.

Some of the devices were eliminated from consideration after preliminary research disclosed that they failed to be reasonably safe and/or failed to effectively address the time and distance considerations above. Eliminated were the following: the animal comealongs (used by zoos, but which rely on the choking force of a wire around the neck); beanbag guns (apparently no longer in production, and deadly at close range); rubber bullets (apparently only valuable in riot control, but deadly at close range); tranquilizing guns (used in animal control, but sometimes lethal even when the drug dose is adjusted precisely for the particular animal's known weight and dietary habits); and various close-range shock devices (which require one-on-one contact with the suspect).

The remaining devices were subjected to intense evaluation, including field testing by the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department. These devices address the time and distance concerns, are nonlethal, and used properly result in no lasting injury. The devices are bizarre, and cause lots of laughter among police and others unfamiliar with them. But the devices (and tactics to go with them) are on the street, and they work. Injuries and deaths to suspects and officers alike have been prevented. Here is information about the devices:

## **TASER ELECTRONIC WEAPON**

TASER is a handheld, flashlight-shaped device which emits a 50,000 volt charge into a suspect. One delivery mode consists of a cassette which expels two tiny darts which, when attached to the suspect from distances up to 15 feet, cause him to fall helpless to the ground. The other delivery mode is a cassette from which poles similar to a rabbit-ear antenna project the same

voltage into the suspect by touching him with the poles. In field testing, the device proved effective 80 percent of the time used: 21 times on violent PCP suspects and 5 times on mentally disturbed persons. The LAPD has successfully used the TASER Police Special model, using the dart cassette delivery mode, more than 125 times during the past year. Some agencies use the antenna pole system (called "Probe Pak") in jail confrontations to get violent persons in or out of cells. Administrative fear of the voltage possibly doing damage or inducing heart attack has been allayed by numerous medical studies and endorsement of the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission. Significant improvements were made on TASER in early and mid-1980 to overcome its previously tarnished field performance image. The device has wide acceptance among officers and members of the public who have seen it used.

## CS AND CN CHEMICAL IRRITANT SPRAYS

This article will not settle the months-long controversy about whether CS or CN is the better spray. There are several manufacturers and suppliers of both products. Both are certified as medically safe. The spray is directed to the suspect's face and causes tearing, burning sensation, eye closure, coughing and panic with different degrees of reliability depending on the spray itself and the person sprayed. These sprays have gained wide acceptance, and can be used up to about 15 feet. However, they do not have a good track record in subduing violent drug, alcohol or mental cases. The author has studied both types and has no opinion as to which is the better product for police use.

## COMPARING NONLETHAL WEAPONS

	One-Officer Operation	Incapaci- tation	Immediate Operation Without Set-up	Effective on PCP Suspect	Effective on Vio- lent Mental	Useful in Closed Area
<b>TASER Electronic Weapon</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>CS or CN Chemical Irritant Spray</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	? <sup>1</sup>
<b>Capture Net</b>	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	? <sup>2</sup>
<b>Leg Grabbers</b>	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	? <sup>2</sup>
<b>Immobilizer</b>	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	? <sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Beware of contaminating officers, bystanders in closed area.

<sup>2</sup>Difficult to operate indoors without large open area.

Various competing commercial interests and widespread distortions of the facts in the media have not yet resolved the issue.

## **NETS**

The Los Angeles Sheriff's Department successfully developed the Capture Net, which is a modified lion net with draw cords. It is thrown over a suspect by two officers, while two others distract the suspect and hold him at bay with long sticks, and another officer distracts the suspect by spraying a harmless chemical into his face from a fire extinguisher. The media has reported four or five successful field incidents in a year's time. When a suspect is trapped in a stand-off situation, the net is rolled out from the substation while the team responds. A disadvantage is that the net is difficult to employ in close quarters.

## **LEG GRABBERS**

Leg Grabbers are scissor-like clamping devices affixed to the end of a pole. A control mechanism on the pole handle allows the officer to open and close the clamps. Leg Grabbers are about eight feet long and resemble tree trimming devices. They were invented by LAPD patrol officers Alex Cook and Joseph Pau, who were seeking a way to control violent suspects from a distance. Leg grabbers require a three-officer team: two to operate the grabber devices and one to use a long stick to distract the suspect, hold him at bay, and knock any dangerous object from his hand. They have been successfully used several times in field use. (In one locally celebrated case, a suspect armed with a knife held back responding officers for two hours. When the leg grabbers were employed, the mere sight of the unusual devices caused the suspect to panic, then drop the knife and surrender.)

## **THE IMMOBILIZER (Formerly: The Action Chain Control)**

The Immobilizer is a device made of two seven-foot poles connected by a mesh of three-foot long chains. It was invented by a Los Angeles area martial arts expert. Using martial arts techniques, officers can wrap the suspect's legs and/or body in the mesh. As with the net, the Immobilizer requires trained teams to use sticks to hold the suspect at bay and spray a fire extinguisher at him. Immobilizer tactics have been developed by the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department. The author has attended numerous demonstrations, but is unaware of results of field use.

*"Would you step out here for a moment, please?"*

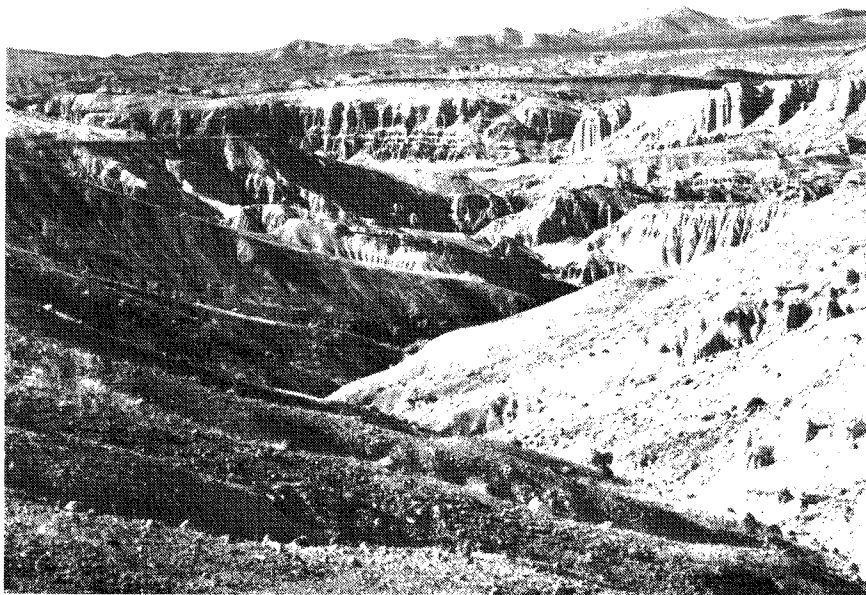


# EXPLORING CALIFORNIA

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## REDROCK TO RANDSBURY

*by Stuart Weiss*



*Canyons of the Red Rock State Recreation Area. Stuart Weiss.*

The prospector's face was the color of desert varnish. His gold pan lay next to a small pool of brown water in a foot deep hole he had just dug. "Plenty of springs just below the surface—if you know where to look." He sized me up as a harmless tourist, and his calloused fingers proudly thrust forth a vial of sand speckled with gold dust.

Seldom in the history of California mining days could a prospector resist leaking the news of a find, and this contemporary desert rat in an obscure wash near Red Rock Canyon was no exception. But John Goller was.

A forty-niner from Germany, he discovered rich diggings on the southern slope of the El Paso Mountains which lie south of the Sierra Nevada. Goller kept his secret too well, and, on the way to purchase mining equipment, he forgot the precise location of the mine.

It took almost 45 years for Goller's find to be rediscovered. This time the word did get out. Within a week, hundreds of gold-hungry prospectors were crawling over the desolate hills of a town called Randsburg named in honor of the famous gold district in South Africa.

It was 1894 and there was a depression in California. Desperate miners rushed to the scene from near and far. Randsburg grew from 13 shacks in 1895 to 300 buildings by 1897. The Red Rock-Randsburg Road left the railroad at Mojave. Traffic was heavy with wagons, burrows, miners and tenderfeet carrying packs to and from this obscure, new "El Dorado."

### **Fortunes and Folklore**

Daniel Kelsey, a mule team driver hauling lumber between Randsburg and Mojave, found what would become the "Blue Daisy Mine". He soon sold the mine for \$170,000 and took his family on the Grand Tour of Europe. An outlaw who frequented Randsburg saloons was buried in the town cemetery with a bottle of whiskey in each arm. A popular booze-loving judge was said to have selected juries of cross-eyed men to frustrate lawyers who couldn't tell whether they had their attention or not.

The Rand Mine operated for 47 years producing more than \$20 million in gold. More millions came from chromium, tungsten and silver as well as gold in later years. Today this unrenowned, most colorful gold rush town is one of the best preserved in California.

The Randsburg folk are still "sittin' and sippin' a cola" at the honest-to-goodness soda fountain in the cozy general store. The barber pole outside the Rand Barber Shop is a faded peppermint stripe after almost a century of desert sun. Indeed, all of Main Street looks like a western movie set.

But it was Red Rock Canyon that brought out the stars. In 1931, Spencer Tracy galloped through the canyons in "Big Country." You have seen the moon-scape rock formations in everything from a 30s serial, "Comander Cody and Rocket Men of the Moon" to "Planet of the Apes" and "Battle Star Gallactica." And T.V. commercials shot here include the Mercury Cougar and The Wells Fargo Bank Stage crossing in front of the Red cliffs.

For thousands of years, Red Rock Canyon has been used as a thoroughfare between the Sierra and El Paso Ranges. The Chemehuevi were here when the Europeans came and Piutes used the Canyon as an escape route after stealing horses from the Los Angeles area.

A few million dollars in gold were found in the area, but it was slim pickings compared with Randsburg. Randolph Hagen, a German immigrant, became a successful miner and landowner, founding the little town of Ricardo. It was named after his son, Richard, who died at a young age. The Park Headquarters is located on the site today.

Desert cliffs eroded into turrets and temples of chocolate browns, chalk white and vivid reds—these colorful rock formations have been alluring to all who traveled here.

Just north of Mojave, Highway 14 crosses Highway 58 and continues northeast following the Garlock Fault zone. This major fault forms the boundary between the Mojave Desert and the Great Basin provinces as well as the Sierra Nevada massif to the north. A short drive along the Los Angeles Aqueduct Road from Highway 58 reveals a 200 foot high scarp facing southeast which shows very recent vertical movement. About 18 miles northeast of the junction of Highways 58 and 14, Highway 14 crosses the Garlock Fault at the Southern end of the Sierra Nevada frontal fault. At the Cantil Valley junction leading more north, you cross two main branches of the fault.

Cantil Valley is a downdropped block (graben) between the El Paso Mountains and the Rand Mountains to the southeast. Some of the oldest rock in California make up the Rand Range—Precambrian (over 570 million years old) and were originally laid down in a shallow warm sea.

The oldest rocks in Red Rock Canyon are exposed in the gorge as you enter the canyon. They are granitic—similar to those of the Sierra formed about 100 million years ago.

### **Land Lifted 6½ Miles**

Red Rock Canyon and the El Paso Mountains have been uplifted and tilted along a branch of the Garlock Fault, the El Paso Fault. Total uplift was at least

35,000 feet (6½ mi.) as the bottom of the marine Garlock Series is at the present day surface. Originally deposited horizontally, they have been tilted to nearly vertical. The actual break in the rocks due to the El Paso Fault is exposed on both sides of the entrance to the Canyon.

About 18 million years ago the region was inundated with volcanic ash and flows similar to Mt. St. Helens recent eruption.

Fossil tracks of camels are found in the hardened volcanic mud in Last Chance Canyon. Fossil antelope, horses, rhinos, elephant-like gomphotheres and many other creatures have been found. The oldest fossils found in California from the N.E. El Paso range and approximately 55 million years old. (Collecting fossils is strictly prohibited.)

Sixty-one hundred feet of boulders and gravels (conglomerates) from surrounding hills filled the valley and are named the Ricardo Formation after the old gas station and general store.

More sediments were deposited in subsequent shallow lakes and show as light colors in Last Chance Canyon, and light green and gray in Red Rock Canyon. Most of the other light colors were from stream bed deposits. Volcanic ashes appearing as white bands were mined between 1922 and 1947 and used for abrasive in Old Dutch Cleanser.

Renewed active erosion started only a few thousand years ago and continues today.

An easy, scenic drive from Los Angeles, Red Rock Canyon State Recreation Area makes for an interesting winter or spring weekend. There are many easy day hikes and car camping is pleasant in the campground. Accommodations are available in Randsburg, but are limited.

The most scenic areas are Red Rock and Iron Canyons. The latter being the best for hiking. There are no trails or signs—just follow the main wash generally northeast for a couple of miles or so. There are many smaller branch washes, some ending at dry waterfalls. Be sure to carry map, compass and water if you intend to do extensive exploring as these canyons can be confusing.

The area outside the small Natural Reserve is administered by B.L.M. and some restrictions of the Reserve don't apply.

### How to Get There

**RED ROCK CANYON**—S.E. of Bakersfield, N.E. of L.A. is the junction on Hwys. 58 & 14 just N. of Mojave. Head N.E. on 14 past Cantil to sign: "Red Rock Canyon Campground, Ranger Sta. next left." (25 mi. from Mojave). Turn right, east, at dirt rd. and sign: "Red Rock Canyon State park." Follow south, hwy. on right, go into wash then veer left. After almost 2 mi. from hwy. bear left into wash, high cliffs to the left. Almost immediately turn right. (There are various jeep rds.—the high cliffs are to the far left, west, and a long sloping brown ridge is to the near left.) Continue as far as comfortable (about 2½ mi. from hwy.) Continue in main wash on foot. Dirt roads in wash usually passable for passenger vehicles in some areas. Check at Ranger Sta. and get permit and info. folder with map.

**DISTANCE:** A couple of mi. in Iron Canyon or as far as you want to go.

**ELEVATION AT T.H.:** 2640', 805 M.

**ELEVATION GAIN & LOSS:** A few feet.

**TOPO MAP:** Cantil 7½ min. or folder hand-out.

Red Rock Canyon State Rec. Area, RR C Box 26, Cantil, CA 93519 (No Phone). Nearest State Rec. #(805) 942-0662.

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Stuart Weiss is the editor and publisher of *California Explorer*, an excellent guide to the best hiking in California. *California Explorer* is available through subscription for \$18.00 per year for 8 issues. For more information write to 45 Woodside Lane, Mill Valley, Calif. 94941.

## THE GILL NET FISHING CONTROVERSY

*by Wendy Lieber*

If you happen to be on speaking terms with any common murre, sooty shearwaters, harbor porpoises or halibut you might want to advise them to start heading north before this summer. Gillnetting along the California coast will again threaten marine life and this year promises to be worst than 1982. The gill net is a cheap and easy means to catch fish and there are more boats than ever. The only areas that have restrictions are the Monterey Bay (Seaside north to Aptos Creek) and the coast north of Pt. Reyes.

The 1982 California Assembly ended disappointingly with the defeat of AB 2581 in the last few days of the session. The commercial fish canning lobby strongly opposed Assemblyman Kapiloff's bill which would have allowed the Director of Fish & Game to impose restrictions on *any* type of commercial fishing that threatened the viability of *any* marine resource. New legislation with similar content will probably be reintroduced in 1983, but until its passage, life will be bleaker for the seabirds and marine mammals of the central and southern California coast.

AB 2580, also sponsored by Assemblyman Kapiloff, did pass the 1982 session and it gives the Director of F & G the authority to restrict gillnet operations that affect *fishery* resources. Remaining on the books from June of 1982 is AB 1475 (Assemblyman Mello) which allows the Director of Fish & Game to restrict gillnetting from Sonoma county south to the city of Seaside in Monterey county. The depth and length restrictions which are still in effect from Aptos Creek south to Seaside are a result of AB 1475 and have reduced bird mortality by 2/3. The problem is still far from resolution since 20,000 birds were killed in 1981 and this was reduced to 7,000 in 1982, still a very high count. AB 1475 was also used in 1982 to place temporary net restrictions from Bolinas Bay south to Pidgeon Point in San Mateo County but these expired in September of 1982 corresponding with the end of the halibut season. Set gill nets are illegal north of Point Reyes, but the California coast south of Monterey Bay has no legislative protection.

The list of threatened species is growing as data is collected. The Point Reyes Bird Observatory believes the large increase in Brown Pelican carcasses counted north of Point Conception in the past 1½ years can be attributed to the use of gillnets. (1972-7/1981: 121 carcasses; 7/1982-11/1982: 101 carcasses). 94% of the White Sea Bass on the California Coast were eliminated in a five year period following the introduction of the monofilament gillnet to the area. A 1982 census of sea otters conducted statewide by California Department of Fish & Game found only 1194 individuals, down from 1500 in 1976. Several otter deaths in 1982 in Monterey Bay were proved to be caused by the nets. Bonita, thresher and mako sharks, striped bass, swordfish, marlin and halibut are also being depleted. Harbor porpoises, which number only a few hundred along the Central California coast, and local breeding colonies of



harbor seals are in jeopardy, as well.

Fish & Game is currently conducting two gillnet evaluation studies with Point Conception being a geographical dividing line between them. They are collecting data on the scope of the gillnet industry and its effect on target and non-target species. Marine research laboratories, zoological societies and conservation organizations are also collecting data and informing the media. If you work in a coastal park or regularly visit coastal areas *you* can make a large contribution towards a ban on gillnetting. This is especially true in areas without a large, urban coastal population. If gillnetting is a problem in your area, you and your co-workers may be the only ones able to assess the situation and alert your community and Fish & Game authorities. Your daily monitoring is coverage few groups can afford in either money or manpower. Halibut season begins again in the spring and gillnetters will switch from the 2" mesh they've been using in deep water for croakers to the 8" mesh used for halibut closer to shore and at shallower depths. By June the bird and marine mammal mortalities will be very evident in areas being fished. The signs of gillnetting are obvious and easy to become familiar with.

1. Recognize the boats. Go to a library or local harbor and look around. The boats will have large spools mounted horizontally across the stern. The nets are reeled out, floats are placed to mark the ends of the nets and the boats will leave the area, retrieving the net usually in 24 hours. Purse-seining boats have similar operations but the net is left in place for only a few hours and boat stays with net. Remember, if the boat has a license they are not breaking the law. Do not report the boat to Fish & Game but try to observe the effects over the next few days at low tide.

2. Look for common murrelets, shearwaters or other alcids appearing in "rafts" or clumps on the beach in the same stage of deterioration. Bird kills on the San Mateo Coast ranged from 26 to 327 on one beach. If you find a *banded* Brown Pelican, no matter what the condition of the carcass, notify the Point Reyes Bird Observatory at (415) 868-1221.

3. Check for netting on the beach and remove it. Free-floating "Ghost" fillnets that have broken free can affect marine life for years. Monofilament net is clear. Landscaping netting is usually colored and of a small mesh.

4. Examine marine mammal carcasses for netting or lines. Porpoises and other marine mammals without thick fur will often display the geometric pattern of the net as razor-like slashes on their skin. Note this in the stranded marine mammal report for the National Marine Fisheries Service.

5. Harbor Porpoises may wash up with their flukes and fins cut off to free them from the net. Look for knife slug wounds. Show Fish & Game wardens the mammals which would fit #4 or #5 and photograph them for your record.

Keep accurate records of carcasses for, you may need them at a public hearing or to pass the data on to other agencies. For birds and marine mammals note the species, age, sex, count, date, area, condition of carcass and any suspicious circumstances, i.e., boats in the area recently, netting on carcasses. Tag the carcass with colored wire so it will not be recounted in subsequent surveys. *Beached Birds and Mammals of the North American West Coast* published by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, 1980, is a great reference for identification. If I can be of any help feel free to write: Wendy Leiber, P.O. Box 534, Half Moon Bay, CA 94019.

# WANNA BE A RANGER?

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## ARE YOU 6'2" WITH EYES OF BLUE? IF SO APPLY NOW!!

*The Australian Ranger Bulletin, the publication of Australian National Park and Wildlife Service, printed the following article in a recent issue. I don't know where it was originally printed, but it could also be easily titled "You've Come A Long Way, Baby." Nothing has been omitted...it's all there. Enjoy!*

Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  
Yellowstone National Park  
Yellowstone Park, Wyoming

Office of the Superintendent.

**Dear Mr. Smith:**

We have received your letter indicating your desire to become a ranger in Yellowstone National Park for the season of **1926**. Before giving it further consideration we ask you to read this circular letter very carefully and thoughtfully, and if you are still interested in the ranger position after completing your study of this communication, fill out the enclosed blank and return it to the Park headquarters with a picture of yourself.

### **In general**

It has been our experience that young men often apply for a place on the park ranger force with the impression of understanding that the ranger is a sort of sinecure with nothing resembling hard work, to perform, and that the beauties and wonders of Yellowstone Park, and very frequent trips about the park and innumerable dances and other diversions to occupy one's leisure hours.

Again, young men very often apply for ranger positions with the feeling that the duties of the place require no special training or experience and that any man with a reasonably good education can perform these duties regardless of whether he had a good or bad personality or whether he has or has not had experience in outdoor activities.

Also, many young men apply for ranger positions in the hope of making and saving considerable money to aid them in continuing their college work.

The conceptions of the duties of the range as just mentioned are just as untrue as it is possible for them to be, and unfortunately the pay is so small that boys earning their way through college, and who live at a distance from the Park cannot afford to become a ranger if tendered a place.

### **The Ranger Job**

The term of service of a temporary ranger is three months from June 15th but the superintendent has authority to reduce the force at any time he believes it to be in the interest of the Government to do this. However, a ranger can be sure of 75 days employment.

The pay is \$100-00 per month. The successful applicant must pay his own travelling expenses to and from the Park, and must subsist himself in the Park. He must furnish his own clothes, including a uniform costing about \$45-00. He must bring his own bed. The Government pays each man \$100-00 per month and furnished quarters, light and fuel, also certain articles of furniture in-

cluding bunk, tables, dishes, cooking utensils, etc.

The ranger usually must do his own cooking and always has to care for the station. Inertain places rangers must board with road crews which are furnished very plain but wholesome food at \$1-00 per person per day.

We make no promises regarding transportation around the Park to see its wonders, and often rangers do not get a chance to see all of the Park unless they can be granted leave from their duties and make their own arrangements for the trip. Men who render excellent service and are retained until the close of the season are given an opportunity to tour the Park if facilities are available, otherwise not. If you apply, do not do so with the expectation that you will surely see more than the part of the Park you traverse in reaching your station.

### **Qualifications of a Ranger**

Applicants for a ranger's position must be 21 years of age or **MUST ATTAIN THAT AGE BY June 15th**. If you are not 21 or will not be by June 15th, don't apply. If you have the reputation of appearing unusually youthful or immature for a man of 21, don't apply. We want men who are mature in appearance. We prefer men of 25 to 30 years of age.

The ranger is primarily a policeman, therefore he should be big in frame, tall, and of average weight for his age and height. We always prefer big men to small men, other conditions being equal. If you are small of statue, better not apply.

The ranger comes more closely in contact with the visiting public than any other park officer, and he is the representative of the Secretary of the Interior, the Director of the National Parks Service and the Superintendent of the Park in dealing with the public. Naturally, therefore, the ranger must have a pleasing personality; he must be tactful, diplomatic and courteous; he must be patient. If you are not possessed of such characteristics, please don't apply. Without them you would become, if selected, a failure from the beginning of your service.

The ranger is often called upon to guide large parties of tourists and to lecture to them on the features of the Park. He should have a good strong voice and some experience in public speaking. Detail public speaking experience and training on the application form.

The ranger is charged with the protection of the natural features of the Park, especially for the forests. Applicants should present evidence of their having had experience in camping out in the woods. Forestry students who have had training in forestry work and forest fire fighting are given preference to other applicants if they possess the qualifications as to age, size and personality.

The ranger must be qualified to ride and care for horses.

The ranger must know how to cook ordinary foods and must have experience in kitchen police. If you cannot cook and care for a ranger station, don't apply. You would be an unpopular burden on your fellow rangers and the butt of all station jokes should you be selected without this essential qualification.

We want big mature men with fine personalities, and experience in the out-of-doors in riding, camping, woodcraft, fighting fires and similar activities.

### **Duties of a Ranger**

The ranger force is the park police force, and is on duty night and day in the protection of the park. Protection work primarily relates to the care of the forests, the fish and game, the geyser and hot spring formations and the campgrounds. Of equal importance is the detection of violations of the speed rules.

The range force is the information-supplying organization. The issuance of publications, answering of questions, lecturing, and guiding are all accomplished by rangers.

The ranger force is charged with care of all Government property, hence must watch the use of such property by other Government men as well as constantly care for the ranger stations and other property used by the ranger organization itself.

### **Routine of the Ranger Station**

Rangers must rise at 6:00 a.m. if not on night duty, and must retire not later than 11:00 p.m. They may attend dances other other entertainment not more than two evenings a week. They must obey every order of their station chief, who is a permanent ranger. Leave from the station will be granted only in emergencies and then only by the chief ranger. Semi-military discipline is in effect at all times. A ranger is on duty from the time he arises until he retires and may even be called from his bed for emergency service. He is not subject to an 8-hour law, and he is not paid for services rendered in excess of an 8-hour period.

### **In Conclusion**

The ranger who renders satisfactory service is a very busy man all the time. There is no vacation about his work. The duties are exacting and require the utmost patience and tact at all times. A ranger's job is no place for a nervous, quick-tempered man, nor for the laggard, nor for one who is unaccustomed to hard work. If you cannot work hard ten or twelve hours a day, and always with patience and a smile on your face, don't fill out the attached blank.

Carefully reflect on what you have just read. You have perhaps believed Government jobs to be "soft" and "easy". Most of them are not, and certainly there are no such jobs in the National Park Service. The ranger's job is especially hard. There will not be more than 20 vacancies in next year's force of rangers, and there is really very little chance of your being considered unless you possess all of the qualifications mentioned herein. Please do not return the enclosed blank unless you believe you are fully qualified, and unless you mean business. Remember there is no vacation in the work, and mightily little money. If you want to come for pleasure you will be disappointed. If you want a summer in the Park as an experience in outdoor activity amid forests and a fine invigorating atmosphere, apply if you are qualified. Otherwise, please plan to visit the Yellowstone National Park as a tourist.

If you apply and are accepted, no promises will be made as to the station to which you will be assigned, nor will promises be made as to assignment to foot, horse or motorcycle patrol. You will be examined upon reporting for duty on June 15th, and will be assigned to the station having duties that we believe you can best perform.

Do not apply unless you are positive you can report June 15th and remain until September 15th. If there is a chance of your not reporting, if accepted, we do not want your application.

If you have special qualifications which cannot be listed on the attached blank, write them on a separate sheet of paper. Send us a picture of yourself in out-door costume if possible, otherwise a portrait will be acceptable. Pictures must be clear.

Cordially yours,  
HORACE M. ALBRIGHT

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