

NEWSLETTER

california state park rangers association

Volume VI Number 17

May 1990

Bodie Resolution Passed in Senate

by Donna Pozzi

Senate Joint Resolution (SJR) 60 successfully cleared the State Senate on April 19. Introduced by Senator Dan McCorquodale and sponsored by CSPRA, SJR 60 would urge the President and Congress to protect Bodie SHP by withdrawing BLM lands surrounding the park from mining. CSPRA members and SAVE BODIE! supporters again proved we're a force to be reckoned with by convincing 21 senators to vote for the resolution. If you were part of this lobbying and letter-writing campaign, **THANK YOU!** If you weren't, you should know that there wasn't a vote to spare and your work could have helped enormously. Galactic has hired additional, well-connected lobbyists, and the vote in the Assembly is going to be a real test for us. I hope we can count on **you**.

SJR 60 incurred the wrath of the Mono County Board of Supervisors who see it as an attempt to circumvent their authority. Although we had been told that Senate staff had sent them a draft copy of the resolution before it was introduced, there was a mix up, and the Board wasn't notified until after SJR was in print. This prompted the Board to pass their own resolution, criticizing CSPRA and opposing SJR 60. Executive manager Doug Bryce appeared before the Board at their meeting in Bridgeport to explain CSPRA's position. Despite the fact that SJR 60 only refers to federal lands, Galactic has been successful in convincing many in Mono County and in the legislature (Continued on page 6)

An Outdoor Recreation Code of Ethics for Californians

Reprinted From California DPR

Californians put a high value on the outdoors. This has been consistently demonstrated in public opinion polls, the voting record on environmental initiatives, and in the amount of money spent on the pursuit of outdoor recreation. Well over 80% participate in some sort of outdoor recreation activity. They love the outdoors not only for its own sake, but as the setting for outdoor recreation.

Unfortunately, some aspects of the outdoor environment are not doing well; there are some major problems in outdoor recreation areas. Popular parks and recreation areas are often crowded. Many fishing waters are polluted or fished out. Campgrounds are often full -- and too noisy -- on weekends. (Continued on page 4)



CSPRA participates in Earth Day Rally at the Capitol with a SAVE BODIE! information table. Pictured are, left to right, Dorene Clement, Betty Paris and Lin Lindert; back to camera Nina Gordon.

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NEWSLETTER
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CAL RANGER
David Brooks & Doug Bryce

SAVE BODIE! and all other com-
mittees use CSPRA address.

For additional information on the
association, write the
Executive Manager.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Salary Savings - So Where's the Savings?

Each year we seem to have to "save" more salary by keeping more positions vacant. Salary savings is now affecting the operation of the Department, as well as staff morale and effectiveness, and the public is getting shortchanged. No matter how many reassuring memos are sent from "on high," we all know the truth of the situation.

For example, a District I'm somewhat familiar with has about 50 permanent employees. Salary savings requires five positions to be held vacant all year to achieve the District's goal. That is one-tenth of the work force. Of course, vacancies don't all occur at the start of the fiscal year. If on the average they occur at mid-year, then 10 positions must remain vacant for the last half of the fiscal year. That means a shortage of one-fifth of the work force for half a year.

This sample District has a backlog of over \$1 1/2 million in deferred maintenance. Where are we saving when repair costs go up each year, buildings and structures deteriorate further, and some facilities get so bad that they have to be replaced?

How many of you cut back on resource patrols in your units? How many resources, our real capital, are being jeopardized or lost because we don't have the staff to take care of historic structures, archeological sites, and natural resources? **Where is the savings?**

And what about the toll salary savings is taking on staff? We have some of the best jobs in the world, and we are the envy of most of the people who visit our parks. But more and more employees are off on stress sick leave or stress retirement. Other employees who have dedicated their lives to the California State Park System are leaving bitter and

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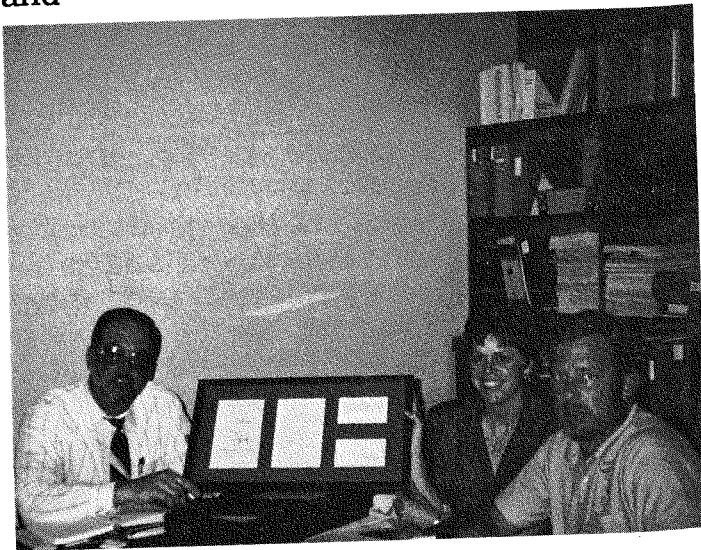
The **NEWSLETTER'S** Editor is Doug Bryce; contributing editors and authors are as noted. Articles are welcome, 1000 words or less. All submissions become the property of CSPRA and may be edited without notice. **THE DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES IS THE 15TH OF THE MONTH PRIOR TO PUBLICATION.**

Assembly Concurrent Resolution #95 Recognizes and Commends State Park Rangers

Whereas, Galen Clark was appointed "Guardian" of Yosemite State Park, the first California state park created in 1866; and

Whereas, State park rangers, whose titles have variously been "ranger," "guardian," "warden," "custodian," or "superintendent," have continuously served the public and protected the state parks since that first appointment; and

Whereas, 1991 will mark the 125 year anniversary of service to the public and protection of state parks by state park rangers; and



125th Ranger Anniversary Committee displays a copy of the resolution. Pictured are Bill Monaghan, Susan Ross, and Mike Lynch.

Whereas, The Department of Parks and Recreation, the State Park Peace Officers Association of California, and the California State Park Rangers Association have formally recognized and are supporting the celebration of the 125 year anniversary; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That 1991 is recognized as the 125 year anniversary of public service and

protection of state parks by state park rangers; and be it further

Resolved, That the Department of Parks and Recreation, the State Park Peace Officers Association of California, and the California State Park Rangers Association are encouraged to take all appropriate action to celebrate the 125 year anniversary; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the Director of Parks and Recreation, the State Park Peace Officers Association of California, and the California State Park Rangers Association.

Senate Vote On SJR 60

Senator	Dist	Vote
Bergeson	37	yes
Beverly	29	yes
Boatwright	7	yes
Davis	19	yes
Doolittle	1	no
Cecil Green	33	yes
Bill Greene	27	yes
Leroy Greene	6	yes
Hart	18	yes
Keene	2	yes
Killea	39	yes
Kopp	8	yes
Leonard	25	no
Lockyer	10	yes
Maddy	14	no
Marks	3	yes
McCorquodale	12	yes
Mello	17	yes
Petris	9	yes
Presley	36	no
Roberti	23	yes
Rogers	16	no
Rosenthal	22	yes
Royce	32	no
Russell	21	no
Seymour	35	yes
Torres	24	yes
Calderon	26	yes

Other Senators did not vote.

Code of Ethics

(Continued from page 1)

The twin blights of litter and vandalism are all too common. Many people report occasionally having been concerned for their personal safety in parks. Beautiful places have become less so because of overuse and misuse by careless or insensitive people.

Despite the importance of outdoor recreation to Californians, the outdoor environment is damaged or being despoiled a little at a time by the collective actions of individuals who should know better. These individuals are significantly reducing, bit by bit, the quality of California's magnificent outdoor recreation resources, thus reducing their benefits to other people and to society as a whole.

Most outdoor recreation lands in California are managed by public agencies. More than 40% of the land area in the state is managed by federal agencies with outdoor recreation responsibilities. The state government owns and operates an extensive State Park System as well as other recreation sites. Local governments -- counties, cities, and special districts -- all manage parks and other outdoor recreation areas for their populations. A major portion of the cost of managing a recreation area is the clean-up, repair, and maintenance of lands and facilities damaged or degraded by recreational visitors in the pursuit of happiness. In these times of lean budgets, it is increasingly difficult to maintain the quality of parks and recreation lands.

An Outdoor Recreation Code of Ethics, understood, accepted, and voluntarily supported and followed by the public, could do much to temper these trends. It would set standards for individual conduct in an outdoor recreation setting, private or public. It would apply primarily to California residents, and also to our out-of-state visitors. The ethic would encourage and help sustain an awareness and understanding of the im-

portance of the outdoor environment and outdoor recreation in people's lives, and their importance for the well-being of the community at large. It would work to ensure that a heightened environmental awareness is reflected in societal and individual behavior affecting the outdoor environment and outdoor recreation by making clear the rights and responsibilities of all involved.



The primary purpose of the ethic would be to encourage the enhancement and protection of outdoor recreation resources, including the natural environment, any special features, and user facilities, from activities or uses that would degrade or damage them. In doing this, it would help lower maintenance and repair costs to both government and private recreation providers over the long term. It would help protect and sustain the recreation and tourism industry. And it would help ensure that the recreational needs of all California residents, including those not yet born, will be met.

The people we wish to reach with this ethic are not the ones who already live by a positive outdoor ethic. That would be preaching to the converted. Instead, we want to reach the individual who casually throws hamburger wrappers or orange peels out of a car' (Continued on page 5)

Code of Ethics

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window. We want to reach the person who uses beer bottles for target practice in places where children might play among the shards of broken glass. We want to reach the people who don't see anything wrong with carving their initials in a picnic table or spray-painting them on a rock; the person who will cut up a picnic table or a living tree to use as a firewood; the young dirt biker who roars through a stream and "pops a wheelie" in the middle of a campground full of people who want only peace and quiet; the campers who run their portable generator late at night to power their television when others want to sleep.

There are others who need the message. They include the fisherman who deliberately catches more than the legal limit just because he believes he can get away with it; the hiker who cuts corners on switchback trails; the kindly tourist who feeds the bears; the pet owner who lets a dog run loose to chase deer and other wildlife; the "sportsman" who will shoot at any target of opportunity with no regard for game laws, private property, or the safety of other people; the camper who throws soapy wash water into a trout stream. In short, we want to reach those whose activities mar and reduce the experiences of others, and make the outdoor environment less attractive for recreation than it could or should be.

Strict and consistent enforcement of rules and regulations designed to protect the outdoor environment and recreation facilities certainly helps, but rangers and other law enforcement officers can't be everywhere.

The future of California's outdoor recreation resources must ultimately rest with the individual actions of all who use them -- the public at large. It is to this end that the Department of Parks and Recreation has developed a set of general guidelines for proper ethical behavior. This code of ethics is

not arbitrary, but is based on existing laws, regulations, and other codes of ethics intended to preserve and protect the essence of why people value the outdoors enough to visit recreation areas in the first place.

Therefore, the following is offered as an Outdoor Recreation Code of Ethics for the people of the State of California:

Individual Rights

1. Every person has a right to a healthy, safe, and aesthetically pleasing outdoor environment in which to live, travel, and recreate.
2. Every person has the right to reap the benefits of physical, psychological, and spiritual well-being that stem from high-quality outdoor recreation undertaken in a healthy and diverse outdoor environment.

Individual Responsibilities

1. Every person has a responsibility to show respect for the outdoor environment by taking care not to harm or degrade it through ignorance, carelessness, misuse, or other inappropriate actions.
2. Every person has a responsibility to show respect for the recreational rights of other people by not engaging in actions or activities that would significantly detract from another's outdoor recreational experience.
3. Every person has the responsibility to learn and follow the regulations and restrictions that may govern the use of a specific outdoor recreation area that he or she may wish to use.
4. Every person has the responsibility to express to the appropriate governmental body his or her opinion on any issue of concern that pertains to the outdoors or to outdoor recreation.

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Code of Ethics

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In other words, by promulgating this ethic, outdoor recreation providers are telling the public: have a good time, but please take care of the lands and facilities, and don't infringe on the rights and legitimate expectations of fellow recreationists.

The adoption and acceptance of an Outdoor Recreation Code of Ethics won't instantly solve all the problems of the outdoor environment and of recreation areas. However, it will help California to sustain and improve its high-quality outdoor recreation environment by establishing what is expected of people in that environment. It will help make a clear distinction between right and wrong behavior. It will help people remember that citizenship consists of more than just rights; it also carries responsibilities. If the ethic helps to inspire those now creating outdoor problems to change their behavior simply because it is the right thing to do, then the purpose of the ethic will have been served. **YYY**

Bodie Resolution

(Continued from page 1)

that their interests on private property should determine the fate of our public lands.

A resolution was also passed by the State Park and Recreation Commission when they met in Pacifica on April 13. Lois Hart, on behalf of CSPRA, was the sole speaker in support of this action, countering four of Galactic's representatives who tried to convince the Commission not to act at this time. Fortunately, four of the five commissioners present were willing to make a strong statement in favor of protecting Bodie. On April 26, we hope the State Historic Resources Commission will follow suit.

While all of this has been going on, Galactic

has been preparing to resume exploratory drilling adjacent to Bodie SHP. CSPRA's lawyers have notified Mono County and BLM with our concerns about this and our belief that Galactic has not fully complied with County and State mining regulations. We have stated that Galactic should be required to apply for a new permit and that a public hearing should be held before such a permit is given.

If this all sounds exciting to you, it is! You should feel very proud to be part of an organization that's leading the fight to SAVE BODIE! If you want to do more than just read about it in this newsletter, write to Donna Pozzi at the CSPRA address, call at (916) 443-3359 (home), or ask any member of the SAVE BODIE! Committee how you can help. **YYY**



BLACK BEAR

President's Message

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unhappy because the department has not given them support staff or dollars to allow them to maintain the parks. When you care, it is difficult to see savings in the overload of work everyone faces and the staff burnout that results.

The ultimate losers are the public. They get less for their money, and they will bear the costs of deteriorated facilities, damaged resources, and burned-out employees.

Where's the savings? YYY

Humor In Unicorn

by Jeff Price

As promised, here is the third installment of Mixed Metaphors and Malaprops. Thanks again to those of you who have sent me material. Too bad the expletives make most of them unusable in a professional organization newsletter. Keep sending them anyway, CSPRA just might lower its standards...further.

The supervisor is totally frustrated because the computer has erased his project data: "Now we'll have to start over from square zero." When asked if this assignment was his first choice: "It's not my top goal, but it is my highest one."

Commenting on office interrelationships: "We need a Christmas party to socialize on a more impersonal basis."

When accused, the defensive reply: "The proof of the burden is on them."

An irresistible (?) opportunity: "You know how it is when you have that golden bone dangling in front of you...."

Reaction to a revelation: "This is the start of a whole new area."

Telling how the boss reprimanded an errant employee: "He really kicked his bacon this time."

And commenting on the office blimp's eating habits: "She really scoffs that fast food." Then surprised by the woman's angry reaction: "I've never seen her so mad. She was eating fire!" And a later observation, "She has such eradicated behavior!"

About the office leech: "He just likes to welch off everyone else."

A sudden arrival: "She just burst upon the seams."

Paranoia: "Trying to put the spot on me again, huh?"

Realizing defeat, facing another cut in seasonal funds, but keeping hopes open for the future: "Look, we're willing to bite the dust this time, but next year...."

The last line of a courteous memo: "I delicated this assignment out and hope it doesn't cause a convenience."

Anxious: "...standing at the edge of my seat." What a good attitude (?) can do: "It puts a spirit in your step and a bounce on your face."

A line from a memo on affirmative action achievement: "We reached parody in our ethnic diversity in a number of our hiring lists."

Frustrated with system: "I keep getting drug through the carpet on these personnel issues."

About that work project: "Your contractor can't go any farther until he gets bondage."

Until next time, let me leave you with yet another gritty observation: **"This has never been done before...we're breaking new wind here!"** YYY



Ten Simple Ways To Help Earth

•Turn down your water heater. For every 10 degrees, you save 6 percent of the energy used. The recommended setting is 130 degrees.

•Put a plastic bottle in your toilet tank. You can save between 3,000 and 5,000 gallons of water a year. (Don't use a brick, because bricks can dissolve.)

•Install low-flow faucet aerators and shower heads. A family of four can save 17,000 gallons of water a year.

•Keep your car's tires properly inflated. You will increase gas efficiency by up to 5 percent. About 50% of America's cars have under-inflated tires. If they were all inflated properly, we could save up to 2 billion gallons of gasoline a year and prevent up to 40 billion pounds of carbon dioxide, the primary "greenhouse gas," from entering the atmosphere.

•Bring your own shopping bag. It takes a 15-year old tree to provide 700 grocery bags, and grocery shoppers use billions of bags every year.

•Eliminate waste before you buy. Packaging waste accounts for about one-third of all the garbage Amer-

icans send to landfills. For a start, buy eggs in cardboard, not Styrofoam cartons, and beverages in recyclable glass or aluminum containers.

•Recycle cans, glass, and paper. The energy saved from one recycled aluminum can will operate a television set for three hours.

•Replace a regular (incandescent) light bulb with a compact fluorescent light bulb. It uses a quarter of the energy and will last 10 times longer. And it will keep a half-ton of carbon dioxide out of the atmosphere over the life of the bulb.

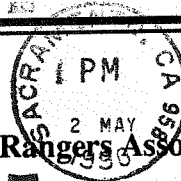
•Buy rechargeable batteries for household use. Americans use 2 billion disposable batteries a year and 75 percent of them contain mercury, a highly toxic substance that can leak from landfills into soil and ground water.

•Set the blades higher on your lawn mower. Forget the manicured look, and cut the grass two to three inches high. This encourages the roots to grow deeper and helps retain moisture in the soil, requiring less water.

DPR's Environmental Ethic For the State of California

It is the responsibility of the state and other governmental agencies to develop and foster an environmental ethic and sensitivity among all Californians that will ensure their recognition, as recreationists, that the state's natural resources are the real wealth of our state and thus the basis from which our common good is derived.

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