



NEWSLETTER

california state park rangers association

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A Sneak Attack on Yellowstone

Noranda Minerals, Inc. has taken outrageous advantage of an outdated Federal law to further its plans to open a massive gold mine just three miles from the world's first national park.

"Noranda pulled a sneak attack on a sensitive area and their action must not go unanswered," said Philip M. Hocker, President of Mineral Policy Center. "This Canadian-based company has displayed an unparalleled level of greed and an unconscionable eagerness to exploit every loophole and gap in U.S. law, particularly the 1872 Mining Law. By their actions, they have said that President Clinton's commitment to protect Yellowstone was worthless until the ink was dry on his signature."

Between Friday, 25 August when President Clinton announced his decision to protect Yellowstone National Park by imposing a two-year moratorium on any new mining claims in the area near the northeast corner of the park and Friday, 1 September when the official
(Continued on page 3)

Honorary Member Roscoe Poland Passes Away



ROSCOE POLAND
1906-1995

Editor's Note: Roscoe Poland and his wife Wilma were awarded honorary membership in CSPRA in 1986 at our annual conference in Concord. The following was written by Don Emblem in memory of Roscoe Poland.

In Memoriam

In a short article he wrote for the *Sierra Club Bulletin* 40 years ago, following a camping trip the Polands
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President's Message

It has really been a busy period with the legislature finishing its current session and with all of the defensive planning we've all been doing in preparation for next years budget battle.

President-Elect Dave Nelson has really been spending a lot of his time working the legislature. He has become CSPRA's expert on SB-1280. This was a difficult bill for CSPRA to deal with because it ended up with us opposing some of our best environmental friends, particularly the Planning and Conservation League. This bill would grant tax credits to land donors who gave their land to a responsible agency or non-profit for the protection of endangered species. This is something that we probably are all philosophically in favor of, but the impact on the General Fund and other aspects of the bill made it a threat to our survival as a General Fund agency (at least some general fund support). So we opposed the bill. Dave, according to reliable sources was the most effective speaker before the legislative committee.

We've picked a winner for our next President - I can hardly wait!

Are you all tired and disgusted as I am about our annual budget crisis? Begging for dollars is not the funnest part of being a Park Professional. I feel like I've been crying wolf for the last 4 years and then at the last minute we get a bail-out by raiding a fat fund - OHV, Harbors and Watercraft and Beverage Recycling.

So now I need to issue the alarm call again. The legislature is assuring us that there isn't another big pot of unused money setting around waiting to get plucked. We again face our annual \$20 plus million deficit for 1996/97 FY.

If you care about State Parks . . . its time to exert a little effort and generate some support for State Parks.

The Department is acknowledging that our budget situation is indeed worse than its ever been. And the amazing thing is that we are actually preparing to face this crisis early enough to actually do something about it. (A previously unnamed administrator wouldn't even have been aware that there was a problem).

So we've all been crunching numbers for over three weeks so that we will have real data for once to show what the impacts of various budget cut scenarios will be to the Department.

Remember what a \$10 million cut did to us? We can't afford a big cut again without drastic closures.

How about everyone doing something about it! If each of you generated 5 letters to the Governor we would probably get a favorable budget (even though the election process will be over).

If several thousand post cards with a simple message like "State Parks are important to me — fund them fully" went to the Governor, he would notice.

If you care about State Parks and its mission, if you care about the visiting public, (school kids!), if you care about your job, — its time to exert a little effort and generate some support for State Parks.

Bud Getty, President

Yellowstone (Continued from page 1)

announcement appeared in the Federal Register, 38 mining claims were filed by the Canadian-based mining company according to the Billings, Montana, office of the Bureau of Land Management.

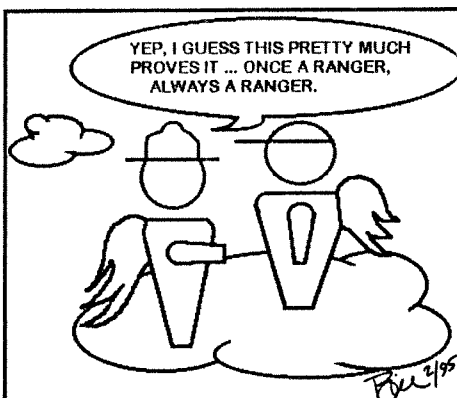
The 1872 Mining Law allows companies to file a "minerals claim" on public land and to mine the land. It also allows companies to "patent" (buy) the land for no more than \$5.00 per acre. Noranda has filed patent applications for other claims at the site near the northeast border of Yellowstone.

"Congress should share the blame for this action," said Hocker. "They have failed to reform the law that made this possible. And in August the U.S. Senate voted to repeal the 1994 Patenting Moratorium, the one law that has put the brakes on Mining companies' rapacious gobbling up of public lands."

Hocker called on President Clinton and Secretary of the Interior Bruce A. Babbitt to redouble their efforts to extend the patenting moratorium and to protect Yellowstone National Park. "If this moratorium is not extended," said Hocker, "this will be only the first massive land grab by mining companies."

Mineral Policy Center is a nonprofit educational organization dedicated to reform of hardrock mining practices in the United States.

RANGER LOGO



International Ranger Federation Zakopane Declaration

We, the delegates here assembled in Zakopane, Poland, at the first International Ranger Federation Congress, representing rangers from 35 nations on 6 continents, do hereby declare our commitment to the following principles:

- * That, as principal guardians of the world's premier natural and cultural protected areas, we are uniquely positioned and qualified to monitor their health, assess their problems and extrapolate current trends into probable futures;

- * That, unless circumstances change, these natural and cultural areas under our charge will in many cases continue to slowly but inexorably decline;

- * That the rangers charged with protecting these areas play a distinctive role in identifying problems associated with this decline and proposing practical solutions to them;

- * That these rangers also have a fundamental role in explaining the importance of natural and cultural resources to the public, thereby awakening in them the essential desire and interest in conserving them for future generations;

- * That these rangers are involved in complex and highly important tasks in preservation of natural and cultural resources, but lack recognition of the importance of these tasks from the governments that employ them;

- * That the majority of these rangers live in very difficult conditions, lack adequate institutional support and resources, receive meager salaries and take significant personal and professional risks to protect these invaluable sites, which constitute core elements of the world's natural and cultural heritage;

That, unless circumstances change, these natural and cultural areas under our charge will in many cases continue to slowly but inexorably decline;

(Continued on page 4)

C S P R A

* That they all too often sacrifice their lives in their commitment to protection of this heritage;

* And that, for all these reasons, we are firmly committed to seeking greater recognition and attention to their work, to their well-being and to the critical status of the heritage that they protect and defend, and will exert ourselves in a concerted effort to resolve these problems, enlisting in this the support of the people and governments of this earth.

Zakopane, Poland 26th May 1995

Roscoe Poland (Continued from page 1)

made on Mt. Whitney, Roscoe told how their daughter, then eight, looked at the stars from her sleeping bag, and decided, sleepily, "They are just right with us."

"I realized," Roscoe wrote, "her remark had a profundity philosophers might applaud and astrophysicists respect. For really, the stars were neither near nor far in the usual sense of distance. Even though many had ceased to exist millenniums ago, the light from them was reaching the retinas of our eyes, passing through nerve fibers, and coming into contact with our minds. In our relaxed and receptive states, they, and indeed all the myriad aspects of nature, were 'right with us,' about us, and in us. We were equally with and in them, each of us a dynamic functioning part of the universal pattern. How fortunate to be functioning here, in a nook on Whitney!"

The thin green line of environmental protectors became even thinner Sunday, August 13, 1995, with the death of Roscoe Poland, aged 89 who, for nearly half a century, was one of California's most vigorous defenders of the land against exploitation by special interest. Resourceful, knowledgeable, undiscourageable, Roscoe devoted the bulk of his life to the exploration of threatened areas in the West, the study of proposals affecting those areas, the presentation (as an expert witness)

of position papers before federal, state, and local commissions and governmental bodies. He organized writing campaigns when needed. He wrote and published a valuable semi-monthly newsletter, *Conservation Call*.

Born in Springfield, Illinois, Roscoe, as young man worked as a copywriter and layout artist for advertising agencies in Chicago and Milwaukee from 1929 until the interruption of WWII in 1941. He served in the U.S. Navy in the Southwest Pacific Theater, from 1942 until 1945. Released he went to San Diego to live. He resumed the hiking and mountaineering that he loved. He met another outdoor enthusiast, Wilma Herz. They were married in 1949 and remained fast partners for 46 years in the environmental movement. Wilma remembers that he took her hiking on their first date. In 1952 they joined the Sierra Club and got into the first battle — to save Dinosaur National Monument from being dammed. This was the first of a long series of environmental struggles. No one person can convince the powers-that-be that the earth is a precious resource, but Roscoe through his writing, contacting the right people, and perseverance had great influence. 1954 found him campaigning to stop BLM from straightening a stretch of the Colorado River, a project that would have destroyed bird and animal habitats and a much needed recreation area. He fought making a road through Coyote Canyon in the Anza Borrego Desert State Park. He fought the development of a huge ski resort in Mineral King which is now part of the Sequoia National Park. His interests continued right up to his death with concern over the proposed nuclear waste dump near Needles, California, concern about a proposed dump near Campo in East San Diego County, and concern about the proposed logging in the Headwaters Forest.

Inevitably, Roscoe was forced to enter into the tangled politics of conservation, a complex arena, but he was no stranger to political controversy. He was a lifelong liberal of the old school — that is, he followed principle, not party line. It was second nature for

"They are just right with us."

Roscoe Poland (Continued from page 4)

him to fight for justice wherever it was threatened and expose corruption in whatever form it weakened the democratic process. It was all one to him: to protect the unfair treatment of the lowly seaman, or to lock horns with powerful commercial interests that would have destroyed a natural habitat to enhance their profits. Thus, his *Conservation Call*, which he wrote and published for 21 years, and which at one time had 500 subscribers, became a spirited bulletin board of educational environmental reports and concise recordings of the shifting positions taken by office-seekers.

How this gentle, unpretentious man, with no formal credentials, could develop such expertise, such firmness of belief, and such breadth of understanding cannot easily be explained, but two possibilities come to mind:

First, his love of nature, beginning, with boyhood wanderings in the fields of Illinois, and continuing through a lifetime of outings, sometimes for the sheer pleasure of them, sometimes to study the land, its flora and fauna, and its prospects in a rapidly diminishing world. Their explorations took Roscoe and Wilma the length and breadth of Western America and beyond, to every continent and most of the subcontinents.

Second, his phenomenal reading, which ranged through landscapes of books that had no boundaries, from technical treatises to comic strips, from Shakespeare through centuries of other poets, mystery stories, histories, biographies, novels, letters, documentaries, travel accounts . . . all were grist for his exploring mind. Moreover, he thought about what he read and exchanged his responses with others, usually to their advantage. Some of the writers he mentioned most often were Henry David Thoreau, Walt Whitman, Wendell Berry, Pablo Neruda, William Stafford, Barry Lopez, Denise Levertov, Lucretius, Gandhi, John

Muir, Noam Chomsky, Wole Soyinka, Izak Dinesen . . . Bacon's famous remark — "Reading maketh a full man" — must surely have been made about someone like Roscoe Poland. Much of what drove this admirable man is to be found in lines from a couple of his favorite poets: Robinson Jeffers (to his Children): "... corruption never has been compulsory." Gerard Manley Hopkins: "O let them be left, wildness and wet. Long live the weeds and the wilderness yet". If we may borrow a phrase from their eight year old daughter, Roscoe was — and is — "right for us." Don Emblen

Those who would like to make a donation in Roscoe's memory can do so by sending a donation in his name to:

Anza Borrego Desert NHA
P O Box 299
Borrego Springs, CA 92004 or
Valley of The Moon NHA
Jack London Cottage Project
2400 London Ranch Road
Glen Ellen, CA 95442



Earl & Ree Hanson

Anniversary Grove Dedication

Earl Hanson, Past Chief, Beaches & Parks, State of California and his wife Ree Hanson celebrated their anniversary by having an Anniversary Grove dedicated in their honor on June 24, 1995. Earl Hanson received honorary CSPRA membership in CSPRA in 1972.

C S P R A

How this gentle, unpretentious man, with no formal credentials, could develop such expertise, such firmness of belief, and such breadth of understanding cannot easily be explained,

Retiree's Ramblin's

Ken Smith

Eva and Brooks are fine. Both are working. I'll be teaching Biology again at Cerritos High School, Cerritos, California. We are buying a 2nd home near Idyllwild (Pine Cove). It is a 6300 Foot elevation and has a magnificent view SW to Palomar and Cuyamaca. I may drive up for the reunion this year. Don't know yet. Leaving Tuesday to go visit my new granddaughter (3 girls, 4 boys). Best to you.

David B. Donahue

Retirement is great! I ride my bike three days a week with the Cambria OFBC. BC stands for bike club any guess for the first two initials. I do some volunteer work with the San Luis Obispo County Department of Animal Regulation. Have taken up fly fishing and gone to Idaho the last two summers. I won't make the retirement get together in October. My wife and I are going to Italy. Celebrate our 30th wedding anniversary.

Jim Neider

We've seen the Elephant. The wife (Nicky) and I just returned from an 8,364 mile motorcycle trip to Alaska. Not much of a vacation but definitely an experience — somewhat equivalent to the Oregon Trail circa 1846. We left July 7th and returned August 8th. It was a long hard trip. The weather never cooperated, we had only five days of sun and three of those were in the lower forty eight. After awhile we felt like we were suspended in a time warp between earth and a dreary gray blanket. Scenery along the way ran the gamut — from deary and monotonous to absolutely inspiring, especially along the coast.

Roads in Alaska start at so-so and rapidly get worst with thousands of perma frost heaves, cracks, holes and by my count too many stretches of nothing but rock and gravel. However, roads around Anchorage are pretty fair. The Alaska Highway in both British Columbia and the Yukon Territory is being worked on and was a nightmare. One day it

took us eleven hours to travel 233 miles due to heavy road construction. Of course the weather, as well as being on a two wheeler, didn't make it any easier. The bike, a 1983 Honda Goldwing, performed well, except the speedometer broke half way through the trip. Traveling by motorcycle is the ultimate interactive traveling experience. Nick and I have now visited fourteen western States plus three Canadian Provinces. I reckon we will have to head east next time.

While in Alaska we traveled extensively, poking into anything and everything of interest, visited friends on the Kenai River, fished for both Salmon and Halibut, took hundreds of photos and generally had a quick look into a whole new (for us) environment.

Will we go back? You bet — in a minute. But next time we fly into Anchorage and rent a car.

P.S. If anyone needs input just give me a call at (707) 823-2192.

Will we go back?
You bet — in a minute.
But next time
we fly into Anchorage
and rent a car.



CSPRA**Income & Expenditures
1994/95**

Balance 7/1/94	\$1,697.17
Income	
Dues	35,083.00
Interest	80.90
Sales	125.25
Workshop - Trng	1,585.82
Miscellaneous	4.99
Total Income	\$36,879.96
Expenses	
Awards & Recog	426.14
Bank Charges	1.50
Collect Dues	1,091.55
Contractors	9,085.54
Copy	18.75
Equip Repair	385.94
Equipment	483.80
Exec Mgr Travel	200.60
Image	143.28
Memberships	2,825.00
Newslewtter	5,747.45
Officer & Bd Mtgs	5,301.46
Office	3,244.01
Phone	450.86
Prntg & Postage	1,019.61
Ret Rendezvous	138.50
Sales Materials	558.07
Scholarship	987.00
Taxes & Fees	125.30
Travel	499.80
Misc Expenses	713.90
Total Expenses	\$33,448.06
Balance 7/1/95	\$5,129.07
Net Gain	\$3,431.90

Len Penhale Passes

We just received a report that Len Penhale died in his sleep on 9/12/95. He was an exhibit designer with the Department and spent the last half of his career at the Morro Bay Museum.

CSPRA**Honorary Member
Nominations Open****C S P R A**

Do you know of a person who has demonstrated distinguished service devoted to CSPRA's objectives? If you do, you may nominate that person as Honorary Ranger. Simply compose a letter giving the person's background and relate one or more specific accomplishments which you believe qualifies him or her for an Honorary Membership in CSPRA. Your nomination should meet four general requirements as follows:

I. The individual shall have contributed in an outstanding or extraordinary manner, or to an unusual degree, to the advancement of the State Park concept, the profession of State Park Ranger, public service within the State Parks, or in the field of ecology as it affects the park system or the public use of parks.

II. This service or action is to be beyond that which the individual would normally have accomplished as part of his or her job or responsibility.

III. The service may not necessarily be of state or national importance, but is to be judged on its own merit and degree of contribution.

IV. Normally, the recommendation would be made during the person's lifetime.

Your nominee, if approved by a two-thirds vote of the Board, will be honored at the 1996 GEC in Ventura. Please send nominations by December 10, 1995 to:

1996 Honorary Member Committee
P O Box 292010
Sacramento, CA 95829-2010

September



1995

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Sacramento, CA 95829-2010

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District Superintendent
Silverado District
(707) 938-1519**

**President-Elect
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State Park Superintendent
Delta District
(916) 777-7701**

**Secretary/Treasurer
Adrian Itaya
State Park Ranger 1
Four Rivers District
(209) 826-1196**

**Directors
Steve Hill
Assoc Pk & Rec Spec
Four Rivers District
(209) 826-1196**

**CSPRA
Calendar**

**California
Parks
Conference
Ventura
3/11-15/96**

**Directors (Continued)
Scott Nakaji
State Park Ranger I
Hungry Valley Headquarters
(805) 248-6447**

**Susan Grove
State Park Ranger II
American River District
(916) 988-0205**

**Jill Dampier
State Park Ranger II
Save Bodie! and all other
committees use CSPRA address.**

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