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Aug. 1976

MAJOR CONSERVATION AND RECREATION INITIATIVES

The National Parks System currently manages 29.3 million acres to protect natural, scenic, and historic resources, and to provide visitor services. FY 1977 budget of \$390 million includes an increase for additional maintenance and staffing (400 more employees). Yet, more and more newspaper and magazine articles are appearing pointing out the overcrowding of the parks, the lack of facilities and the lack of services. As the recreational needs of the country grow, we should upgrade our current facilities and provide for future demands.

PROPOSALS

- Double the National Park Acreage (\$500 million)

Offer a ten year program to incorporate into the National Park System an additional 30 million acres from existing Federal lands, state owned park and recreation areas and from highly desirable private acquisitions.

- Add Funds for Park and Recreation Development (\$75 million/year)

Park Service construction funds in FY 1976 totaled \$110 million, but dropped to \$41 million proposed in FY 1977 because of completion of Bicentennial facilities. Historic preservation dropped from \$25 million to \$15 million. Yet the Park System is falling into disrepair with visitations increasing.

- Provide Needed Staffing for Park Service and Fish and Wildlife Programs (\$25 million/year)

Although the Park Service will add staff under FY 1977 Budget, the public perceives the need for services at current levels of operations. With

the proposed additions of acreage, even more staffing would be required. Fish and Wildlife Service, currently managing 33.6 million acres, is under staffed. Additional personnel and research funds should be provided, with emphasis on suburban and urban potential.

-- Initiate Urban Park Rehabilitation Program (\$200 million)

Provide a one-shot grant to cities, counties and towns to upgrade present park areas in disrepair. Could be aimed as needed, and could provide jobs for lower skilled labor.

-- Initiate A National Land Bank Program

Develop an acquisition program to hold as public lands for future use the key green spaces that must be preserved "now or never". Lands could be subject to lease back arrangements for low-density projects. Funding could be accomplished through some sort of Federal Land Bonds or by a type of "Fannie Mae" approach.



NOTE: The Congress is currently proposing a increase in the Land and Water Conservation Funds from the present level of \$300 million a year. The bill will probably provide for yearly increments to a maximum of \$900 million by 1980. The fund provides for acquiring Federal recreational areas (40%), with 60% of the fund apportioned to state and local governments as matching grants for acquisition of outdoor recreation areas.

The Administration has opposed this increase. If we are to consider these major initiatives, we should review our stance on the level of funding for this very popular program.

[Aug. 1976]

DOUBLE THE NATION'S PARKLANDS
AND RECREATION AREAS

PROPOSAL: Establish a ten-year program to double America's heritage of national parks, recreation areas, wildlife sanctuaries, urban parks, and historic sites.

OBJECTIVE: To double the nation's parklands, sanctuaries and recreation areas. This new commitment will be a bicentennial gift that the American people will give to this and future generations of Americans.

BACKGROUND: Today's citizens have inherited vast and irreplaceable gifts of parks, historic sites, wildlife sanctuaries and recreation areas. Yet with our nation's growth these resources are often overcrowded and overused. At the same time many areas which would make superb parks, sanctuaries, or recreation areas are being lost forever because land values often make other uses more attractive in the short term.



The proposed commitment of \$1.5 billion over ten years would be a sound investment in America's priceless natural resources and avoid loss forever of an American heritage that cannot be replaced. It would mark again this nation's commitment to preserve the best of our vast and beautiful continent. It would expand permanently the natural treasures future generations of Americans will inherit before these resources are priced out of the public domain.

DESCRIPTION: Legislation will be submitted to establish a \$1.5 billion, ten-year program to:

- provide \$500 million to be used to acquire new parks, sanctuaries, and recreation areas and historic sites.
- provide \$300 million to develop these new acquisitions into recreation and conservation resources ready to serve the public.
- provide \$200 million for one-shot grants to cities, counties and towns to upgrade present park areas in disrepair.
- provide \$100 million for upgrading and increased staffing of current system of national parks and wildlife refuges.
- provide \$400 million to develop parklands and refuges which are currently owned by the Federal government but are without the facilities needed to make them usable.

Hampneys-Pyi
Interior

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 1, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: JIM CANNON
THRU: MAX FRIEDERSDORF M.F.
FROM: CHARLES LEPPERT, JR. CLJ.
SUBJECT: Rep. Don Young (R. - Alaska)

Rep. Young called his press assistant Bill Kelder and asked him to call the White House to register Young's complaint against the President's Bicentennial Land Heritage Act as it affects the State of Alaska.

Young's complaint is that the President's proposal to add 32.3 million acres in Alaska is an endorsement of the B-2 lands proposal resulting from the study under the Alaska Native Land Claims Settlement Act. Young opposes the so-called B-2 lands proposal and has consistently opposed putting that amount of acreage in Alaska "which is the energy and minerals storehouse for the nation" into the national parks and wildlife refuge systems, which will prohibit future development of much needed land in Alaska.

Young has a proposal to place only 13.9 million acres into such reserves and hopes the Administration can go along with his proposal for Alaska. Young says that the Administration should realize that despite the President's request, the Congress still has the opportunity to fix the exact acreage going into the systems.



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

file
[sept. 1976]

MEMORANDUM FOR: JIM LYNN
FROM: JIM CANNON
SUBJECT: PROPOSAL FROM SENATOR MCCLURE
CONCERNING THE USE OF CERTAIN
IDAHO LANDS NOW CONTROLLED BY ERDA

This memorandum is to ask for your help in evaluating a request to the President from Senator McClure. It involves the interests of OMB and the Federal Property Council.

Briefly, Senator McClure has asked the President to consider making certain lands now controlled by ERDA available for use by farmers in Idaho whose land is no longer recoverable.

Attached are:

1. Senator McClure's letter to the President.
2. A report from ERDA arguing that (a) the land involved is essential to ERDA for program purposes, and (b) authority is not now available to comply with Senator McClure's request.

I believe we should treat Senator McClure's request very seriously and that additional evaluation is needed before we conclude that the ERDA position is correct. For example, I believe we need further evaluation of the following:

1. Are the claims correct that:
 - the farmers' land covered by Senator McClure's request is not recoverable.
 - there is no State or private land available.



2. How strong is ERDA's programmatic claim that the land must be retained?
 - Is the specific land desired that critical to ERDA's "National Environmental Research Park?"
 - If the land were released by ERDA would there be enough remaining to fulfill ERDA's needs for environmental research purposes?
3. Assuming a conclusion that the ERDA programmatic justification is weak, how could the land be made available for farm purposes? What are the costs and benefits of doing this?

I feel we should be prepared to tell the Senator that his proposal is being evaluated further. I would not be surprised if Senator McClure brought this matter to the President's attention on Tuesday during the signing ceremony for the Teton Dam bill.



file
Inquiry
ACTION
NOW

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 1, 1976

MEMORANDUM TO: JIM CANNON
FROM: GEORGE W. HUMPHREYS *GW*
SUBJECT: Reply to Guamanian Inquiries
re Special Representatives

As you, Art and I discussed this morning, you wanted to sign these attached two letters today.

Mr. Zeder is due to arrive in Guam on Monday, and this recognition from the White House of his status is essential.

The letter informs the Guamanians that the President delegated to the Secretary of Interior the responsibility for naming a Special Representative.

This action has been coordinated by NSC. Art Quern and I recommend your signing.



1701-6

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 1, 1976

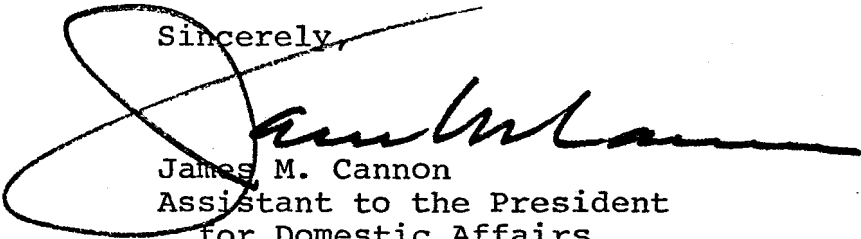
Dear Senator Blas:

The President has asked me to acknowledge receipt of your letter of August 22, 1975, in which you requested him to appoint a representative of the President's office for the purpose of establishing an initial dialogue with the Special Commission on the Political Status of Guam.

In view of the special relationship of the Secretary of the Interior to Guam as established by the Organic Act of Guam, the President has asked the Secretary to designate a member of his staff for a discussion of Guam-Federal relations with appropriate officials from Guam. The Secretary has designated Mr. Fred M. Zeder, Director of the Office of Territorial Affairs, Department of the Interior, for this purpose.

I know that Mr. Zeder has worked closely with you in the past in finding ways to solve Guam's financial and economic problems and it is logical that he expand his scope to include ad referendum discussions and exchange of views on the Guam-Federal Government relationship with you and Governor Bordallo.

Sincerely,


James M. Cannon
Assistant to the President
for Domestic Affairs

The Honorable Frank F. Blas
Chairman, Special Commission on the
Political Status of Guam
P.O. Box 373
Agana, Guam 96910



file

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 1, 1976

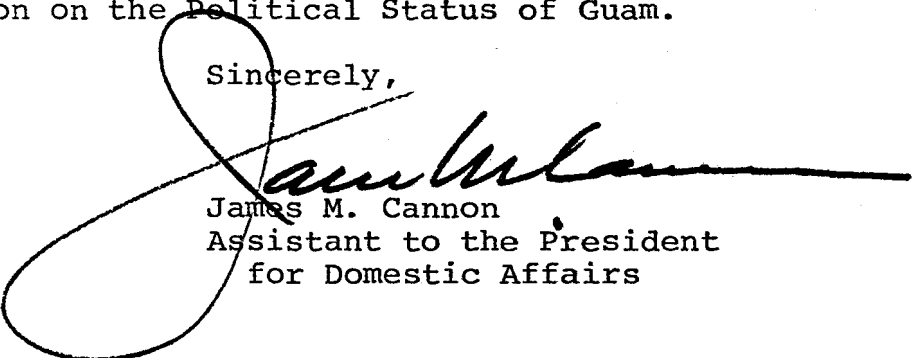
Dear Governor Bordallo:

The President has asked me to acknowledge receipt of your letter of January 13, 1976, in which you requested him to appoint a personal representative to begin talks with Government of Guam officials on the future Guam-Federal relationship.

In view of the special relationship of the Secretary of the Interior to Guam as established by the Organic Act of Guam, the President has asked the Secretary to designate a member of his staff for a discussion of Guam-Federal relations with appropriate officials from Guam. The Secretary has designated Mr. Fred M. Zeder, Director of the Office of Territorial Affairs, Department of the Interior, for this purpose.

I know that Mr. Zeder has worked closely with you in the past in finding ways to solve Guam's financial and economic problems, and it is logical that he expand his scope to include ad referendum discussions and exchange of views on the Guam-Federal Government relationship with you and the Special Commission on the Political Status of Guam.

Sincerely,



James M. Cannon
Assistant to the President
for Domestic Affairs

The Honorable Ricardo J. Bordallo
Governor of Guam
Agana, Guam 96910

ACTION

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 21, 1976 7 42
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*Interior -
Park Service*

MEMORANDUM FOR: JIM CANNON
FROM: STEVE McCONAHEY *SGM*
SUBJECT: Natchez-Trace Parkway Project

The following is the current status on our efforts to review the Natchez-Trace Parkway project, as requested by the President.

Secretary Kleppe's office reports that they have received strong letters of endorsement from the Congressional delegations of the affected states, including a personal letter from Senator Stennis to the Secretary requesting "timely completion" of the project. Stennis indicated that this was one unfinished project which he personally wants completed as part of his accomplishments in office.

Interior has prepared three different plans for completing the project -- a 5-year, 7-year and 10-year proposal. The Department is willing to go with any of these options.

OMB, on the other hand, is opposed to any of these proposals, and is not providing any funds in the 1978 Park Service budget for the Natchez-Trace program. OMB is not getting any clear signals from the White House, and as a result has no intention of pushing the effort. Interior believes that it would take a strong signal from the White House to move it.

Secretary Kleppe will be in the south early next week and has been requested to visit Mississippi on Monday. He does not want to visit the state, however, unless he has something specific to say on the Natchez project.

Based on my inputs, I believe it is in our best interest to move ahead with this before November 2, and urge you to send this message to OMB.

cc: Art Quern



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

file
Jim Cannon
DECISION

October 22, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: JIM CANNON *Jim*
SUBJECT: Inclusion of Chamberlain Basin in
Wilderness Recommendations

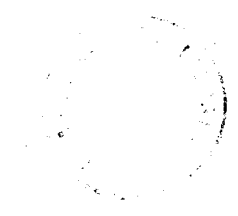
Shortly after you became President, you forwarded to the Congress recommendations for wilderness designations under requirements of the Wilderness Act.

Part of that proposal dealt with a large area in Idaho which is currently classified as "primitive." In your message you recommended the transfer of this land to a wilderness designation.

However, some 400,000 acres within this area known as the Chamberlain Basin were excluded. The Forest Service Regional Office and the Chief of the Forest Service recommended that Chamberlain Basin be included, but Representative Steve Symms, whose district includes the Basin, asked that it be excluded.

Recently, a number of requests have come in from Idaho to include the Chamberlain Basin in this wilderness area, including one from Representative Symms himself (Tab A). In addition, Governor Andrus has come in personally to talk about the importance of preserving this area as wilderness.

The Forest Service and others familiar with the Chamberlain Basin point out that the area is an important grazing area for major elk herds, and one of the last spawning areas for salmon, steelheads and other fish. From all reports, it has little potential for timber and minerals.



BUDGET IMPACT

None.

RECOMMENDATION

That you include the Chamberlain Basin in this wilderness area, and inform Representative Symms that you will ask the next Congress to do so through an amendment to the Idaho Primitive Area under the Wilderness Act. OMB (Mitchell) concurs. Friedersdorf also concurs.

Approve _____

Disapprove _____

If you approve, a letter to Representative Symms is at Tab B for your signature.

The letter has been cleared by Doug Smith.



STEVEN D. SYMMS
1ST DISTRICT, IDAHO

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
1410 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
202-225-6611

COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

October 14, 1976

DISTRICT OFFICES:
ROOM 134, BORAH POST OFFICE
POST OFFICE BOX 1190
BOISE, IDAHO 83701
208-335-1492
305 FEDERAL BUILDING
COEUR D'ALENE, IDAHO 83814
208-654-3490
PONDEROSA-LEWIS AND
CLARK MOTOR INN
LEWISTON, IDAHO 83501
208-743-1492

OCT 18 1976

Honorable Gerald R. Ford
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

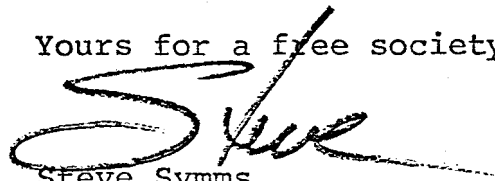
I would like to request that you reconsider the Administration's recommendation for designation of the Idaho Primitive Area under the Wilderness Act.

The proposal sent to Congress excludes the northern section of the existing Primitive Area known as Chamberlain Basin. At the time this matter was under consideration in the Office of the Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture, good arguments were made to substantiate that exclusion. I find, though, that most Idahoans strongly desire that Chamberlain Basin be included in any proposals to designate the Idaho Primitive Area as wilderness. It is my intention to introduce legislation in the 95th Congress which would include the Basin in a wilderness area of between 1.5 and 1.8 million acres.


It is my thought that the people of Idaho would be relieved to find that the Ford Administration and my office are in agreement on this point. Recognizing that this is an especially busy time for you and your staff, it would be appreciated nevertheless if consideration could be given the situation.

Respectfully,

Yours for a free society,


Steve Symms
Member of Congress

SS:sp



Dear Steve:

I have reviewed your suggestion for designating the Chamberlain Basin as a wilderness.

I am fully aware of the importance of the Chamberlain Basin as the heart of one of Idaho's finest primitive areas. The Basin is recognized as a major spawning area for salmon, steelheads and other fish, as well as a grazing area for several major elk herds.

Given the importance of the Chamberlain Basin to the overall integrity of the area in question, I have decided that it should be designated as a wilderness area.

Upon the return of the Congress, I will recommend that my original proposal be amended to reflect this decision.

I appreciate your bringing this matter to our attention, and I believe that the inclusion of the Chamberlain Basin will result in a more certain preservation of the natural treasures of this area.

Sincerely,

The Honorable Steven D. Symms
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

SIGNATURE

October 8, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR:

JIM CANNON

FROM:

STEVE MCCONAHEY *sem* *auth*

SUBJECT:

Chamberlain Basin

George and I recommend that the President request the Chamberlain Basin to be included in his plan for wilderness areas. I have attached two memorandums presenting alternative ways to handle this issue. Attachment A is a rather detailed discussion of the options; attachment B is a fairly simple memorandum to the President stating the values of including the Basin and indicating that it is a "political" call.

George believes that the detailed memorandum raises this issue to a higher priority than it really is and that we should make this decision on a simple and straight forward basis. I tend to believe a more detailed memorandum would help satisfy the President that there is more to it than just politics and that we have thought through the implications of the options that he has.

Attachment C is a draft letter from the President to the Congress requesting a change in the wilderness proposal.

Attachments

Handwritten note:
This has been dictated by J.C.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Friday, Oct. 29

Mr. Cannon:

I spoke with Steve McConahey regarding his attached memo on the Natchez-Trace Parkway Project.

When the President was in Mississippi, he indicated that there would be someone on his staff looking into this project.

Cavanaugh and Jim Fields are now waiting to see if it would make a difference in Mississippi.

cameron



Call
O'Neill
on this

Interior - Park
Service
ACTION

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 21, 1976 7 42
1976 OCT 21 PM

Stew

MEMORANDUM FOR: JIM CANNON
FROM: STEVE McCONAHEY *SEM*
SUBJECT: Natchez-Trace Parkway Project

The following is the current status on our efforts to review the Natchez-Trace Parkway project, as requested by the President.

*memo
1 p/6*

Secretary Kleppe's office reports that they have received strong letters of endorsement from the Congressional delegations of the affected states, including a personal letter from Senator Stennis to the Secretary requesting "timely completion" of the project. Stennis indicated that this was one unfinished project which he personally wants completed as part of his accomplishments in office.

Interior has prepared three different plans for completing the project -- a 5-year, 7-year and 10-year proposal. The Department is willing to go with any of these options.

OMB, on the other hand, is opposed to any of these proposals, and is not providing any funds in the 1978 Park Service budget for the Natchez-Trace program. OMB is not getting any clear signals from the White House, and as a result has no intention of pushing the effort. Interior believes that it would take a strong signal from the White House to move it.

Secretary Kleppe will be in the south early next week and has been requested to visit Mississippi on Monday. He does not want to visit the state, however, unless he has something specific to say on the Natchez project.

Based on my inputs, I believe it is in our best interest to move ahead with this before November 2, and urge you to send this message to OMB.

N

cc: Art Quern





United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

cc: Schleede
Humphreys

Adler
f

176 157 20 11 25

NOV 29 1976

Honorable James M. Cannon
Director, Domestic Council
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Cannon:

You are cordially invited to attend a meeting of the National Petroleum Council on December 9, 1976, at 9:00 a.m. in the auditorium of the Department of the Interior.

The final report of the Committee on Enhanced Recovery Techniques for Oil and Gas in the United States will be presented to the Council for its approval. This report is in response to a request by Interior for a comprehensive study of the state of the technology for enhanced recovery of oil and gas from known oil and gas reserves, including an appraisal of future recovery in the form of probable ranges of volumetric outcomes based on alternative economic conditions.

The Council will receive a progress report from its Committee on Future Energy Prospects. This committee is engaged in a study of governmental energy policies, national energy objectives, energy studies conducted by other groups, and the energy outlook for the United States. This study concentrates on the overall energy policy environment needed to meet future energy requirements and objectives, and it includes a critical analysis of selected energy studies which have resulted in published energy projections.

If you are unable to attend personally, we shall be pleased to have you send a representative. The name and title of such representative should be furnished to our liaison office for National Petroleum Council activities; the telephone number is 343-6226.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas L. Kleype
Secretary of the Interior



11 3004

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

December 1, 1976

JMC

This has been sent to George
Humphreys for preparing to
send to Secretary Kleppe.

DL

A.



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 24, 1976

MEMORANDUM TO: JIM CANNON
FROM: GEORGE W. HUMPHREYS *Guert*
SUBJECT: Presidential Endorsement of
"Ike's Peak" Project

The President has been asked to sign a letter in support of an effort to acquire lands around Eisenhower Mountain in California. The Trust for Public Lands (TPL) is attempting to raise \$97,000 to purchase the property from the Southern Pacific Railroad.

While the TPL is a solid organization, and the idea of preserving the land is meritorious, I recommend against the President's signing a letter specifically endorsing this project.

My reasons are:

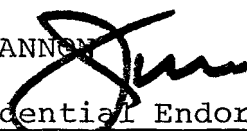
- To endorse a specific acquisition would set the precedent for other non-profit groups to seek Presidential approval of their pet projects.
- Presidential endorsement could lead to pressure for public acquisition.
- The President should be extremely careful in allowing his office to be used as a fund-raising inducement for private organizations, no matter how worthy.

RECOMMENDATION

I recommend the request be sent to Secretary Kleppe for his response. He can indicate the possible help available from the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 24, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: JIM CONNOR
FROM: JIM CANNON 
SUBJECT: Presidential Endorsement of "Ike's Peak"
Project.

I recommend that the President not endorse this project for the reasons outlined in the attached memo. If you wish, I will see that the matter is referred to Secretary Kleppe for handling.

Attachments



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

November 23, 1976

NOTE FOR GEORGE HUMPHREYS

Associate Director
Domestic Council
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

George:

Per our telephone conversation.

Should you want a reply to Huey Johnson from Secretary Kleppe,
please return at least the incoming correspondence.

Happy Thanksgiving.

Douglas P. Wheeler
Deputy Assistant Secretary
for Fish and Wildlife and Parks

Attachments

Complete file on Ike's Peak





United States Department of the Interior

**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240**

November 23, 1976

NOTE FOR GEORGE HUMPHREYS

**Associate Director
Domestic Council
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500**

George:

Per our telephone conversation.

**Should you want a reply to Huey Johnson from Secretary Kleppe,
please return at least the incoming correspondence.**

Happy Thanksgiving.

(Sgd) Douglas P. Wheeler

**Douglas P. Wheeler
Deputy Assistant Secretary
for Fish and Wildlife and Parks**

Attachments

Complete file on Ike's Peak



J. Cannon

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 30, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: JIM CANNON

FROM: JIM CONNOR *JEC*

SUBJECT: Presidential Endorsement of
"Ikes Peak" Project

Your memorandum of November 24 on the above subject has been reviewed by the Office of the Counsel and the recommendation is that the President not endorse this project.

We are therefore returning this entire package to you for appropriate handling.


Frank Ursomarso who originated the request for the President's endorsement concurs in the above handling of this matter.



120105

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 24, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: JIM CONNOR
FROM: JIM CANNON 
SUBJECT: Presidential Endorsement of "Ike's Peak"
Project.

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Attachments

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 24, 1976

MEMORANDUM TO: JIM CANNON

FROM: GEORGE W. HUMPHREYS

SUBJECT: Presidential Endorsement of
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While the TPL is a solid organization, and the idea of preserving the land is meritorious, I recommend against the President's signing a letter specifically endorsing this project.

My reasons are:

- To endorse a specific acquisition would set the precedent for other non-profit groups to seek Presidential approval of their pet projects.
- Presidential endorsement could lead to pressure for public acquisition.
- The President should be extremely careful in allowing his office to be used as a fund-raising inducement for private organizations, no matter how worthy.

RECOMMENDATION

I recommend the request be sent to Secretary Kleppe for his response. He can indicate the possible help available from the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 6, 1976

MEMORANDUM TO: JIM CANNON
FROM: GEORGE W. HUMPHREYS

*George
Good
and Thanks
very much.*

What follows is a small, but perfect, example of what's wrong with our institutions. The attached letter is an example of what's right.

A man in New York State wrote the President a beautiful letter portraying the joy he had received from training a pet hawk - his own bird he had raised from infancy. He and the hawk roamed the woods and hunted together for mice and bugs. The man and the hawk were friends.

A few days ago, an enforcement officer from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service came to this man's home and confiscated the bird. The man had no permit to hold the bird captive. The agent explained that he could get a permit to own a hawk, but he would have to get a new bird. He could not have his old friend back.

The man's letter to the President stated his case forthrightly, and asked for help and guidance.

I have been advised that the FWS officer acted within the law, and to attempt to reverse his act would be "entirely inappropriate."

Note on the attached: Mr. Greenwalt is a career professional and is the Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service at Interior.



December 3, 1976

Mr. George Humphreys

George:

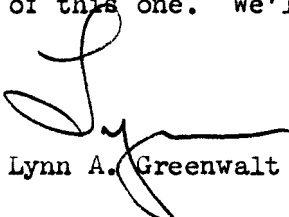
I just got your note accompanying a letter from a man in New York who is understandably upset because some of our law enforcement folks took his hawk away from him.

I don't know the particulars, but I think there may be a way it can all be resolved. Inasmuch as you sent the thing over informally, I'm taking this opportunity to let you know that it will not go unattended and that FWS will deal with this person directly and with considerable compassion. I appreciate your handling it in this fashion: we can get a proper resolution of the thing, make a citizen reasonably happy, and avoid any kind of formal complications.

It's one of those things that goes with dealing with the "rocks and trees" and, frankly drives me up the wall. We have some folks in our employ who are so zealous it scares me; in their efforts to deal with the literal strictures of the law they lose sight of the fact that a citizen who is turned off is one who no longer cares --and one hawk just isn't worth that price.

Enjoyed seeing you in New York the other night, just as I have enjoyed our recent and exciting associations. I hope that the events of recent weeks will not preclude our paths from crossing again from time to time. You're a delight and I'd miss not seeing you now and again.

Best wishes for the Holidays and again, thanks for the informality of this one. We'll take care of it.


Lynn A. Greenwalt

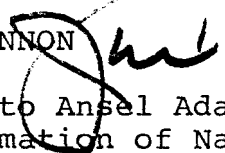


DECISION

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

January 15, 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: JIM CANNON 
SUBJECT: Reply to Ansel Adams Letter Concerning
Proclamation of National Monuments

In Ansel Adams letter of January 4 to you (Tab A), he urges you to use your power under the Antiquities Act of 1906 to create new national monuments by executive order. He refers to Interior Department plans for certain national monuments.

Earlier the National Park Service had sent to you a proposal to create new national monuments. This proposal has been reviewed by the Domestic Council and OMB.

It should be noted that Secretary Kleppe did not endorse the National Park Service proposal.

BACKGROUND

The Antiquities Act of 1906 (34 Stat. 225) affords an opportunity for the President, acting by Executive Order, to add areas to the National Park System. The statute provides in part:

"The President of the United States is authorized, in his discretion, to declare by public proclamation historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures, and other objects of historic or scientific interest that are situated upon the lands owned or controlled by the Government of the United States to be national monuments, and may reserve as a part thereof parcels of land, the limits of which in all cases shall be confined to the smallest area compatible with the proper care and management of the objects to be protected."

It has long been established, by administrative and judicial interpretation, that areas not particularly known for their history can be proclaimed national monuments under this Act solely for the "scientific interest" of their natural resources. Many national monuments--including Grand Canyon National Monument (incorporated into Grand Canyon National Park by the 93rd Congress); Colorado National Monument; and Glacier Bay and Katmai National Monuments, the two largest areas in the National Park System--have been established in this fashion.

The Congress has sometimes objected to Presidential use of this power. After President Franklin Roosevelt declared the Jackson Hole Country a national monument in 1943, Congress passed a law providing that no more national monuments could be established in Wyoming without express Congressional authorization.

President Johnson shied away from extensive use of the power as he was leaving office in 1969. Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall had recommended the establishment of seven major new national monuments, encompassing several million acres, but President Johnson's concern for the prerogatives of Congress led him to proclaim only one new national monument of 26,000 acres and to add 350,000 acres to existing areas.

More recently the Public Land Law Review Commission in effect recommended repeal of the Antiquities Act.

In the opinion of OMB's General Counsel, the use of the Antiquities Act is of doubtful legal merit because of:

- the passage of the Bureau of Land Management Organic Act by the 1976 Congress giving BLM greater power to protect its lands;
- the Forest Service Act amendments specifying criteria for withdrawals;
- recent clarifications of Congressional intent concerning National Park Service additions asserting the desire of Congress to review Executive Branch decisions.

Further, someone could file suit against a Presidential Executive Order creating a national monument because there had been no Environmental Impact Statement prior to the decision.



PROPOSAL

The Park Service has submitted ten suggested areas as the highest on their priority list (Tab B).

They range in size from 24,000 acres to more than 1,000,000 acres. Most of the areas are now under the management of the Forest Service (Department of Agriculture) or BLM (Department of Interior). Some State lands are involved, and a small parcel of private lands in three of the suggested areas.

STAFF CONCLUSIONS

Domestic Council and OMB Staff believe that there are no immediate threats to any of the suggested areas that would warrant immediate action. They state that there does not appear to be any programmatic reason for circumventing the established Congressional procedures for designating park areas.

Moreover, Congress is sure to object vehemently to unilateral Presidential action. Affected State and local officials will oppose the action. The incoming Department of Agriculture will probably oppose any transfers, as will the Bureau of Land Management.

OPTIONS

Should you decide to create National Monuments under the Antiquities Act, a decision from the Justice Department should be obtained confirming the legality of the Act and its exemption from the requirements of NEPA to provide an Environmental Impact Statement.

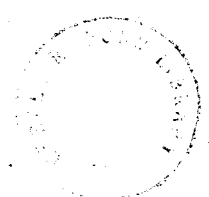
Two areas on the list appear to be less objectionable than the others and could be quickly designated, assuming Justice gives a positive opinion.

Paria Canyon, Arizona/Utah

A 27,515 acre area, encompassing a canyon 2,800 feet deep and only 10 feet in width in some areas.

It is of significant archeological value, including prehistoric sites and relics.

Ownership is in BLM with some State school sections.



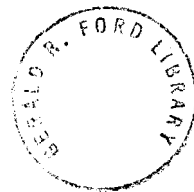
Grand Gulch, Utah

A 24,080 acre area containing the most abundant Indian ruins in this part of the Southwest. The prehistoric structure and artifacts are of high significance. The area is subject to mining and mineral leasing. Ownership is with Interior.

The other areas on the suggested list could, of course, be designated, subject to the same legal opinion and assuming the specific boundary definitions and other technicalities could be completed before January 20.

Therefore, the available options are:

1. Take no action;
2. Designate Paria Canyon and Grand Gulch as National Monuments;
3. Designate your preferences from the list of ten;
4. Designate all ten areas of National Monuments.



RECOMMENDATIONS AND COMMENTS

OMB (O'Neill)

Take no action. O'Neill agrees with OMB General Counsel that the Proclamations are now legally questionable.

Department of Interior (Kleppe)

Take no action. Secretary Kleppe feels that you have established your position in this area through the Bicentennial Land Heritage Act, the Land and Water Conservation Fund, etc. He feels the timing militates against any action.

Department of Agriculture (Bob Long)

Take no action. The significant areas are being protected now by the Forest Service and withdrawal would only remove multiple use ability without corresponding benefit.

RECOMMENDATION

I recommend that you do not establish national monuments by use of the Antiquities Act.

PRESIDENT'S DECISION

- _____ Option 1, take no action
- _____ Option 2, Paria Canyon and Grand Gulch
- _____ Option 3, Presidential Preferences
- _____ Option 4, Designate all ten
- _____ Discuss



TAB A

AA ANSEL ADAMS

ROUTE 1, BOX 181, CARMEL, CALIFORNIA 93921 TELEPHONE (408) 624-2558

January 4, 1977

President Gerald R. Ford
The White House
Washington, D.C.

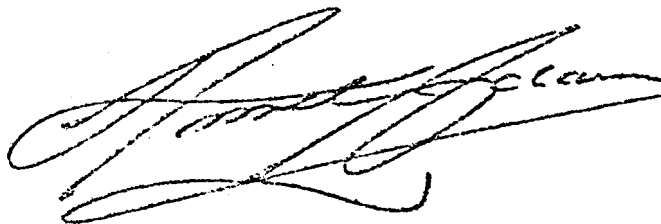
My Dear Mr. President,

As your distinguished Presidency comes to an end, I felt a responsibility to write and urge you to take an historic step to further your support of the National Park concept. In their final days in office many of your predecessors have utilized the Antiquities Act to establish important new National Monuments by Executive Order. It is my understanding that the Interior Department has prepared some plans of this nature in the event you choose to act. I believe that Mr. George Humphreys of the White House staff has the information at hand and is prepared to explain the proposals to you. Time, of course, is very short indeed.

You have a marvelous opportunity to pursue the great vision embodied in your historic speech at Yellowstone last summer. Through carefully chosen Executive Orders, you can personally add dramatically beautiful units to our National Park System, and complete your Presidency by writing a momentous chapter in the history of American conservation.

I would not write again, Mr. President, if I did not feel that an urgent and exciting opportunity demands your immediate personal attention. Meanwhile, we are very much looking forward to seeing you and Mrs. Ford when you are here for the Crosby. Bill Turnage saw Susan at the White House last month and encouraged her to join us again for the Yosemite Photography Workshop in June. I hope she will be able to accept the invitation and that she has a fine time this semester at the University of Kansas.

Warmest personal regards and best wishes for a Happy New Year,



do not forget
CEB - Washington
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON
response
number of To

7
DATE: January 7, 1977 *Friday*

TO: JIM CANNON

FROM: JIM CAVANAUGH *[Signature]*

Memo
SUBJ: Ansel Adams Letter

FYI _____

ACTION _____

Please prepare a Presidential response for the attached and send it directly to Jim Connor by Friday, January 14. Thanks.

TAB B

PROPOSED PARIA CANYON NATIONAL MONUMENT, ARIZONA-UTAH

1. Specific criteria for monument designation:

Paria Canyon is of immense scientific value due to the geologic story displayed in the canyon, which gouges 2,800 feet deep into the rocks of the Paria Plateau. Six miles of the 15-mile canyon is extremely narrow, some places only 10 feet in width. In addition, the area abounds in significant archeological data, including prehistoric Indian sites and relics.

2. Specific boundaries to be proposed:

The proposed boundaries are the minimum necessary to protect only the obvious landforms--the canyon--and known archeological sites. Further study might indicate a need for additional lands necessary for better management.

Acreage: 27,515 ac.

3. Ownership: BLM (Interior); some State school sections.

4. Status: The proposed monument has been classified as the Paria Canyon Primitive Area by BLM in 1969, thus withdrawing it from sale. It is also withdrawn from the 1872 mining law. No Acts of Congress specifically apply to this area, and it is not under Congressional mandate for future disposition.

5. Present management issues: Area subject to mining activity which could destroy archeological values. In addition, ingress and egress to the canyon by the public is across lands now administered by National Park Service: Single agency (NPS) control would greatly simplify management.

6. Surveys:

Mineral value - Unknown.

Surface value - Unknown.

Valid claims - Unknown.

Note: Monument would be established subject to all valid existing rights.

7. Have studies been done of alternative uses? BLM has included the area in a general land classification plan, with the recommendation that uses remain essentially unchanged.

8. Budget costs: Unknown, but minimal, since area would be administered in conjunction with adjacent Glen Canyon National Recreation Area (NPS).

9. Known conflicts: No specific major conflicts. State of Utah may raise general objection.

SOUTHERN BLUE RIDGE NATIONAL MONUMENT

A PROPOSAL

I Criteria for Monument

Objects for Scientific Interest

This proposal contains approximately 14 sites that are recommended for national natural landmark status. The sites are principally located in the drainage basin of the Nantahala River. The proposal would include Standing Indian Mountain which represents the crest of the Nantahala Mountains.

Preliminary field investigations over these locations and earlier selective research efforts indicate the presence of very rich and diverse plant communities, including several rare, threatened, and endangered plant species. The Nantahala River makes its rapid descent from its headwaters to Fontana Lake. It courses through 1,600 foot Nantahala Gorge which lies along the Murphy Fault. The slopes are very steep and support a diversity of plant communities, especially in the area of Blowing Springs. The Nantahala River enters the gorge from the east, makes an abrupt turn to the northeast at the fault zone and rapidly descends into Fontana Lake to the northeast. At the point of the river entry along the fault, a dry gap occurs to the west, leading into a broad valley now occupied by a small stream. It thus appears that the Nantahala River was captured at some early date. Now that the river traverses a new course, rapid erosion has exposed minerals such as marble that would have otherwise been converted into deep soil. These exposures account, in part, for these richly diverse plant communities. A series of important seepage areas also occur along the Nantahala which have apparently been maintained as bogs for some time. In addition to rare plant species, these bogs are very important for the endangered bog turtle (clemmys muehlenbergi). Another area of scientific interest in the proposal are the Bush Creek Serpentinized-Olivine Barrens. The main dunite body covers a little over 300 acres making this the largest deposit in the Appalachians. Perhaps in response to the large area of pitted serpentinized olivine, this areas has one of the more unique plant communities in the Appalachians.

II Boundaries

The proposed monument encompasses 102,630 acres of public and private lands. The exterior boundary was drawn to the nearest defensible natural boundary.

III Present Ownership

The proposal focuses primarily on lands administered by the Forest Service. There are several scattered privately owned tracts in the area. No determination has been made as to whether any of these tracts need to be acquired in the future.

IV Present Status of Area

The predominant present use of the area is general timber management. There are sporadic recreational activities provided such as camping and fishing. The Appalachian Trail traverses part of this area as well. The Blowing Spring, Marble Bluffs area is proposed for classification under a Botanical Area and wildlife management and protection specifically occurs in the Nantahala Bog Area (FS) and on the privately owned Rainbow Springs Marsh. Gem and mineral collecting also occur within the proposed monument at the Bush Creek Serpentinized-Olivine Barrens, although no mining has occurred since 1943. There is also some mining in a relatively small area at Hewitt in the Nantahala Gorge.

V Vulnerability

The greatest threat to the integrity of the area would occur as a result of clearcutting of timber and the introduction of strip mining. There does not appear to be any immediate prospect of the latter, however. Road building, insensitive placement of public use areas could also threaten some of these critical plant communities.

VI Mineral Values

There do not appear to be any extensive mineral values in the region other than the mining activity located at Hewitt. Further details on mineral values can be acquired from the Forest Service and the Bureau of Mines.

VII No alternative use studies are available in our files.

VIII Budget Costs

Land acquisition costs estimate must await further detailed field studies.

Development cost would be subject to specific legislative authorization. Manpower costs would be for protective administration in the short term.

BONNEVILLE SALT FLATS NATIONAL MONUMENT (UTAH)

A PROPOSAL

I Criteria for monument designation under the Antiquities Act

Object of Scientific Interest: This is the largest surface deposit of salt in the world.

II Boundaries

The total acreage of Bonneville Salt Flats is about 150 square miles (96,000 acres). The proposed withdrawal would be limited to the 33,280 acres of public lands within the 36,480 acre Natural Landmark. However, it is recommended that the exterior boundary of the monument encompass both the State-owned acreage (1,920 acres) as well as 1,280 acres held in private ownership (in two parcels). This would enable the Secretary to accept future donations.

It should be noted that the Natural Landmark excludes the Kaiser Aluminum and Chemical Corporation holdings as well as all land south of Interstate 80.

III Present ownership

Federal Bureau of Land Management - Salt Lake City District

IV Present status of the area

The area is presently used as a scenic attraction and as a speedway for racing trials. The area excluded from consideration is owned by Kaiser Aluminum and Chemical Corporation upon which they are conducting a potash recovery operation.

V Vulnerability

There is a concern that the salt resources on the public lands are being depleted as a result of the potash recovery operation on the adjacent lands. It has been suggested that with some correctional work, this threat can be averted.

VI Mineral Values

At the present time, we have not consulted with the Bureau of Land Management regarding the mineral values (if any) that exist.

VII Studies of Alternative Uses

We are not aware of any studies of alternative uses. The Salt Flats are used for speed trials during National Speed Week. The result is that approximately one month of the year is devoted to this purpose and the remainder of the year, the area is in a natural condition.

VIII There are two private parcels totaling 1,280 acres. No estimate of the cost of acquisition has been made.

Whether such an acquisition is desirable must await further study. Manpower and development costs are not presently known. However, it is anticipated that pending Congressional approval, some interpretive facilities would be provided. Initial manpower allocations would be minimal in order to provide protective supervision. A transfer of money and positions would reduce the immediate overall budgetary impact.



MONO LAKE AND CRATERS NATIONAL MONUMENT

A PROPOSAL

I Criteria for Monument Designation

Objects of Scientific Interest

In the vernacular, Mono Lake is a landform known to every airline passenger flying into the San Francisco Bay Area. This proposed monument encompasses three entities, Mono Lake itself, Negit and Pahoa Islands, and the Mono Craters. This combined area exhibits the work of vulcanism with evidence of nineteen separate eruptions. The Mono Craters themselves are outstanding examples of glassy rhyolitic domes (volcanic rock with an abundance of silica) formed when very viscous magma welled up in the vents of volcanoes and congealed. A land sculpture feature is the fantastic tufa formations (a form of porous limestone deposited by springs) and earthquake phenomena are exhibited both on Pahoa Island (which has arched upward in the last 10,000 years exposing lake sediments 13,300 to 23,000 years old) and at the Black Point fissures (2-10 feet wide and 20 to 30 feet deep). Negit Island is a famous bird rookery.

II Boundaries

The proposed monument consists of 115,085 acres of public land in Mono County, California.

III Present Ownership

Mono Craters is presently under the management of the National Forest Service as part of the Inyo National Forest. Mono Lake and the Islands are managed by the Bureau of Land Management - Bakersfield District.

IV Present Status

Negit Island has been designated as a Natural Area by the Bureau of Land Management and any use or improvement not consistent with this designation is prohibited. Mono Lake itself is too saline to support fish and its corrosive elements significantly reduce boating use. The Craters are managed under multiple use by the Forest Service and there is some surface extraction of pumice. There is evidence of off-road vehicle use as well.

V Vulnerability

Although pumice has some commercial value and hence some extraction is occurring, supply far exceeds demand. Therefore, the present utilization of the area for these purposes would be eliminated. The greatest threat to Mono Lake and Negit Island rookery is a result of the interception of water which would naturally flow into Mono Lake. It is estimated that the natural process of drying up has been accelerated 10 to 20 times the natural rate endangering the insular character of Negit Island and adversely impacting on the rookery.

VI Mineral Values

None generally known of any consequence. U.S. Pumice and Supply Company of Los Angeles on Punum Crater and on the south coulee. The only presently working area is on the south coulee.

VII Not known

VIII Budget costs

Anticipated developments for interpretive and administrative purposes.

Short term manpower needs would be of a protective custodial nature in the short term.

Precise budget impacts would have to be established following detailed study.

We have not developed the acquisition estimates for the mining activities.

PROPOSED ESCALANTE NATIONAL MONUMENT, UTAH

1. Specific criteria for monument designation:

In the Escalante Region of the Escalante River and its tributaries have incised deep, narrow, tortuous canyons in the apricot-hued sandstone of the Colorado Plateau. The river and its canyons are one of the finest scenic wonders in North America. Geologically, the area is significant, in that it exemplifies such landforms and processes as entrenched meanders, folding, desert varnish, natural arches, and springs. Ancient Indian ruins are prehistoric structures of significance as well.

2. Specific boundaries to be proposed:

The proposed monument includes most of the Escalante River drainage. Control of the drainage is necessary to assure permanent protection of the features formed by the action of wind and water.

Acreage: 276,000 ac.

3. Ownership (acres): Federal (BLM-Interior) - 250,280

State of Utah - 25,280

Private - 440

4. Status: Approximately 43,230 acres of the Escalante area have been classified by BLM as the North Escalante Canyon, the Gulch, and Phipps-Death Hollow Outstanding Natural Areas. This action, taken in 1970, recognized scientific and archeological values, but did not withdraw the areas from mining or mineral leasing. No Acts of Congress apply specifically to the management of the proposed national monument, and it is not under Congressional mandate for future disposition.

5. Present management issues: Under current management, mining claims can be located, except in 6,475 acres specifically withdrawn for recreation areas by BLM, with consequent destruction of the scientific integrity of the area via road construction and similar activity. Under current management the 6,475-acre withdrawal can also

be revoked. There has been a history of uranium exploration in the Circle Cliffs area (eastern portion of proposed monument), and a few small mines produced minor amounts of uranium ore.

In addition, the Escalante River is subject to filing for water rights under current management. Two utilities have applications pending with the State of Utah for water rights on the river, which if granted, would permit a dam on the river and construction of water diversion facilities. In both cases, the water rights would be used in connection with proposed coal-fired powerplants outside, but near the area. The result of such action would be to dry up the river during much of the year, and half the geologic processes that created this significant landscape.

6. Surveys:

Mineral value - Unknown.

Surface value - Unknown.

Valid claims - Unknown.

Note: Monument would be established subject to all valid existing rights.

7. Have studies been done of alternative uses? BLM has included the area in a general land classification plan, with the recommendation that uses remain essentially unchanged.

8. Budget costs:

Inholdings - 440 ac. private land: Value not known.

- 25,280 ac. State land: To be acquired by donation or exchange.

Net additional cost:

Development - Unknown, but minimal.

Operation - Unknown, but minimal.

Purchase of existing rights - Unknown, but minimal.

9. Known conflicts: Based on State's reaction to January 1969 proclamations by former President Johnson in Utah, State and County officials can be expected to oppose. Utility companies, cattlemen, and uranium - development companies can be expected to oppose.

MOUNT BAKER NATIONAL MONUMENT (WASHINGTON)

A PROPOSAL

I. Criteria for monument designation under the Antiquities Act

Mount Baker National Monument qualifies for designation under the Antiquities Act due to its unique geological makeup as compared with the other volcanoes in the Cascade Range; the fact that it is the most active of the volcanoes of the Continental United States; and by its recent threatening performance. It is now under intensive study by scientists from many disciplines, as it possibly may become even more active. Its geologic makeup is distinctly different from the other volcanoes in that it is essentially built up of flow material rather than fragmented pyroclastic cinders. Flow lava is evident almost at the summit of its cone.

It is also an outstanding natural area for scientific research by those interested in the advance of ecosystems over recently barren volcanic material in the climate of the northern Cascades.

The areas outstanding biological values contribute to a highly significant scenic and recreational resource as well.

II. Boundaries

The specific boundaries are shown on map No. NP-1,000-CAS, dated January 1969, and including approximately 158,000 acres.

III. Present ownership

Present administration of the land is under the U.S. Forest Service.

IV. Land status

Its present status is multiple use under administrative recreational classification by the U.S. Forest Service.

The area was proposed for addition to North Cascades National Park in H.R. 1133, dated January 22, 1971, and in H.R. 13035, dated February 8, 1972.

V. Vulnerability

Under the present administrative classification of the area by the U.S. Forest Service, it is subject to administrative declassification and further consumptive use in the form of logging and road development.

It is the site of additional speculation for ski area development. National Monument designation would give the area greater protection.

VI. Surveys and studies

Mineral surface and other values were inventoried by the North Cascades Study Team, established by President Kennedy in 1964, and completed in

The area was recommended as a Registered National Landmark in 1973.

VII. Alternative uses

Alternative use studies exist in the Mount Baker National Forest land utilization studies on record, and the joint recreation plan for the North Cascades recently completed by the National Park Service and the U.S. Forest Service.

VIII. Budget costs

The area is essentially in the ownership of the U.S. Government, although a few minor private inholdings do exist totalling less than

If management is assumed by the staff of the North Cascades National Park, the additional cost of monument management would be comparatively low as only minor administrative structures would need to be developed to continue the present public use pattern for the area. Approximately \$200,000 per year would be required in the first few years of management, with a total of 2 man-years permanent and 3 man-years seasonal employment added to the staff of North Cascades National Park.

IX. Conflicts

Mount Baker has been repeatedly proposed for national park status and its deletion from the North Cascades National Park legislation in 1968 was not acceptable to a large segment of the public.

Sport hunting is only a modest recreational activity in the proposed monument. The harvest of big game is relatively low, but objections can be expected from the few local hunters who use the area.

INDIAN PEAKS NATIONAL MONUMENT

A PROPOSAL

I. Criteria for monument designation under the Antiquities Act.

Indian Peaks National Monument will encompass some 65,000 acres of outstanding natural, scientific, and historical values lying south of Rocky Mountain National Park and is shown on map No. _____.

The area contains a series of spectacular segments of the Colorado front range, the southernmost active glaciers in the Rocky Mountain chain, and the easternmost segment of the Continental Divide.

Included within the monument are remnants of the rich history of the Caribou Mining District, which figured prominently in the early settlement of Colorado in the 19th century, including early struggles to build a road over the front range connecting eastern and western Colorado, abandoned mining camps, railroads, and mill sites. The area contains archeological structures from which scientists from the University of Colorado have worked out the history of early man and his activities as a hunter and gatherer who moved back and forth from the mountains into the Great Plains and back in response to climatic changes over the last 10,000 years. Ancient game drive systems, including pits and rockwalls, are found in several locations high above treeline where the early hunters preyed on the large wild ungulates, including elk, bighorn sheep, bison, and deer.

Physiographically the area is the southern terminus of the outstanding alpine tundra-peneplain ecosystems, which are represented in Rocky Mountain National Park immediately adjacent to it in the north. A portion of the area--the Institute of Arctic and Alpine Research study area--is a designated "man and the biosphere" unit, as is the adjoining Rocky Mountain National Park. The unique alpine values found in the Indian Peaks area, as well as the adjacent park, have resulted in their jointly being the most active alpine research area in the United States, being one of the few locations of true alpine land patterns, including frost patterns and many landscape features normally found only north of the Arctic Circle.

II. Boundaries

The area designated by map No. _____ includes approximately 65,000 acres and is the minimum area which provides adequate protection for the rich assemblage of historical and prehistorical structures and the unique alpine land forms.

III. Present ownership

The area is presently under the administration of the United States Forest Service.

IV. Present status of the area

The area is under study by the U.S. Forest Service as congressionally mandated in P.L. 92-___ of 1972, although its present status is designated multiple use. H.R. 8360, introduced by Representative Tim Wirth of Colorado on June 26, 1975, called for establishment of this area as a part of Rocky Mountain National Park.

V. Major issues

The Indian Peaks area has been the center of controversy which has continued since 1913, when it was deleted from the act to establish Rocky Mountain National Park because of pressure from mining interests.

It has been proposed repeatedly as an addition to Rocky Mountain National Park but was always defeated by a collective action of mineral, grazing, timber, and water interests. In recent years, citizen groups in the Denver-Boulder area have been highly alarmed by the inadequate management the area has received under the U.S. Forest Service. High meadows areas have been destroyed by camping, inadequate trash removal, and a general "do as you please" pattern of use. Much of the area has been cut over by 4-wheel drive and other forms of mechanized off-road equipment. Grazing in high altitude meadows continues to be a problem in destruction of the fragile alpine ecosystems, pollution of water sources used by recreationists, as well as municipalities. It appears the U.S. Forest Service is simply not administratively geared to handle mass recreational use in fragile alpine areas.

VI. Mineral and other values

- a) A study completed by the U.S. Geological Survey in 1975 concluded that there were no mineral deposits of commercial value in the area.
- b) It has been conceded a number of times by the U.S. Forest Service that the primary values of the Indian Peaks area are recreational, that the timber and grazing resources are minimal.
- c) A number of mining claims exist in the area. Only one or two of which, in the caribou area, are still active. Many of the

mining claims are owned by sympathetic interests who are willing to convey the land to the U.S. Government if they can be assured that the land will be adequately protected.

VII. Alternatives

The Forest Service is presently completing a study of the wilderness potential of the area and a host of alternative uses. However, they have not lived up to their stated intention of considering national park or monument status as one of the alternatives.

VIII. Costs

The estimated value of inholdings within the monument is _____ (available from the NPS Regional Office in Denver).

Interim management of the area by the National Park Service will cost a minimum of \$150,000 per year. Development of a few wilderness threshold areas, improvement of the Middle St. Vrain and Fourth of July Canyon access roads will be needed over the next 5 years, as well as establishment of a few permanent ranger stations. However, cost can be considered as minimal since the area will essentially be managed without developed facilities under a backcountry-wilderness basis.

IX. Current political situation

Representatives Wirth and Schroeder and Governor Lamm of Colorado are supportive of National Park Service management of the Indian Peaks. Representative Johnson has remained neutral to mildly supportive on the issue. In public meetings the citizens of Grand County, on the west side of the Continental Divide, are slightly negative toward formal establishment of Federal wilderness areas, parks or monuments. On the east of the monument, in the Boulder-Denver area, the weight of public opinion is in favor of such action.

Hunting is not a major issue as the resident big game population has been low for a number of years. Bighorns have disappeared entirely in the last few years. Hunting could continue when the animals migrate outside the area in early winter.

ADMIRALITY ISLAND NATIONAL MONUMENT (ALASKA)

A PROPOSAL

I. Criteria for monument designation under the Antiquities Act

Admiralty Island in southeast Alaska comprises some of the world's most significant wildlife habitat. The island is characterized by rugged mountains that ascend to over 4,000 feet and by areas that are heavily forested with Hemlock, spruce, and cedar. At the lower elevations a rich understory of mosses, ferns, devil's club, and blueberry contribute to the areas lush appearance. Over 1,000 bald eagles nest here annually, more individuals than exist today in the 48 states combined. This is the highest concentration known for this endangered species. The large numbers of large old growth trees and abundant food supplies in the surrounding waters make this local ideal for the eagle. The habitat for the island is also excellent for brown bear, with 800-1,000 individuals on the island; this is also one of the highest concentrations for this species in the State. In addition, the island is the home for most of the types of animals which characterize southeast Alaska, including the Sitka blacktail deer, otter, mink, muskrat, beaver, and weasel. Yet other species typical of Alaska, like the wolf, are not present. Sixty-seven salmon streams have been identified on Admiralty which annually produce some 2 million fish. Approximately half of that number is caught at sea each year, contributing over 2 million dollars to the local economy. Preservation of the water quality is essential to the continued productivity for the fishery.

In addition to the intense biological importance, Admiralty is a place that offers geological significance. This region was once entirely glaciated, and the fjords that surround the island were all carved by the mighty glaciers that were found here. The process of glaciation, and succession of plants and animals making this today one of the richest biological communities in the nation for some species, while still others are not even present, make Admiralty of prime scientific importance.

II. Boundaries

Located only 9 miles from Juneau, Admiralty comprises some 1,064,960 acres, being some 96 miles long and 25 miles wide. The proposed National Monument would include 1,030,000 acres, all of the island except for those lands available for the Native Village of Angoon's ownership under the terms of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act. As an island, and given its resources, the entire island represents the smallest possible manageable unit possible to provide protection for its resources.

III. Present ownership

Admiralty Island is currently managed by the U.S. Forest Service, Department of Agriculture, as part of the 13 million acres Tongass National Forest.

IV. Present status of the area

The island is currently managed under multiple use practices.

V. Vulnerability

Admiralty Island has been the subject of considerable controversy in recent years, due to the broad support throughout the nation and in Alaska for the preservation of the entire island. The U.S. Forest Service proposed to log portions of the island during the mid-1960's. That proposal has been met with strong objection from the Governor of Alaska, the Native population from the Village of Angoon, and the major conservation organizations throughout the country. The need to preserve the critical wildlife habitat and the unique values of the island are most often cited for reason to preserve Admiralty.

During late 1976, Senator Gravel, members of the southeast Alaska timber industry, and representatives of the major conservation organizations met to seek agreements concerning which portions of the Tongass Forest should be preserved and not logged. All agreed that Admiralty Island should be preserved. Representatives of the timber industry at that meeting expressed the opinion that they assumed Admiralty would become a National Park and therefore would not fight to cut the island's trees. Given the broad based support for preserving Admiralty, the U.S. Forest Service has come under sharp criticism for not moving to protect the island.

VI. Mineral values

Extensive mineral surveys have not been completed, though general investigations that have taken place have found no commercially developable quantities of minerals. Admiralty is considered low priority.

Surface values have indicated valuable stands of timber, which could generate several million dollars to the local economy. This is offset however by the contributions that the salmon fishery makes annually, and the recreation potential.

There are a few valid claims to the surface value. The Village of Angoon, population 429, is entitled to acreage under the terms of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act. The lands they are entitled to

have been excluded from this proposal. Two other Native corporations have made claims to small portions of the island, also under terms of the Settlement Act. Their selection right for these lands is being contested, and is currently awaiting resolution.

Other surface interests cover 2,400 acres on the island. They include a 610-acre cannery at Hood Bay, and 10 locations on the island reserved for lighthouses constructed by the U.S. Coast Guard.

The FPC identified several sites having potential for water storage, though none are anticipated for use.

VII. Studies of alternative uses

As early as 1931, the National Park Service conducted studies of Admiralty and concluded that it was nationally significant and qualified for inclusion in the National Park System.

VIII. Costs

Native lands selected under the terms of the Settlement Act would not be acquired, thus the reason for excluding lands around Angoon. Most of the other interests in lands on Admiralty are by other Federal agencies. The cannery at Hood Bay needs to be studied to determine whether it should be acquired. No estimates of its cost is available.

Monument management would require the construction of facilities on the island for the manager and staff (none exist now). There is excellent recreation potential for the area also, being 9 miles from Juneau, thus interpretive facilities would be provided. Development and operation of recreational facilities would most likely be paid for by private industry in accordance with National Park Service concessions policy. Operations cost would initially be minimal, involving 10 man years and approximately \$500,000 per year. Construction in the first 5 years by the National Park Service would cost approximately \$2,000,000. There are no costs anticipated in the foreseeable future for the purchase of any valid existing rights.

IX. Current political situation

Governor Jay Hammond of Alaska and Senator Gravel have officially gone on record supporting the preservation of Admiralty. They have both supported wilderness designation or other designations that would preserve the island. More than 50 members of Congress have introduced legislation that would preserve the island. With the State of Alaska proposing to move the State capitol from Juneau, the city has been seeking new sources for building the local economy. Located only 9 miles from Juneau, National Monument status for the island would provide one new source of growth. This proposal would not affect the "D-2" proposals now before Congress. No "D-2" studies were conducted in southeastern Alaska because most of the Federal land there had already been reserved as National Forest.

PROPOSED GRAND GULCH NATIONAL MONUMENT, UTAH

1. Specific criteria for monument designation:

The Grand Gulch area contains probably the most abundant Indian ruins in this part of the Southwest. It is proposed as a national monument to protect these prehistoric structures and artifacts of archeological significance.

2. Specific boundaries:

The proposed boundaries include the minimum area necessary for immediate protection of the archeological resources; the boundaries may need to be studied further to include additional areas for management purposes in the future.

Acreage: Approximately 24,080 ac.

3. Present ownership:

BLM (Interior); some State school sections.

4. Present status:

Area has been classified by BLM as Grand Gulch Primitive Area. No specific Act of Congress is applicable, and the area is not under Congressionally mandated study.

5. Present management issues:

Archeological resources are not being protected from pot-hunters, although BLM has attempted to do so with limited resources. The area is subject to mining and mineral leasing which could destroy archeological remains.

6. Surveys:

Mineral value - Unknown.

Surface value - Unknown.

Valid claims - Unknown.

Note: Monument would be established subject to all valid existing rights.

7. Have studies been done of alternative uses? BLM has included the area in a general land classification plan, with the recommendation that uses remain essentially unchanged.

8. Budget costs:

Unknown, but minimal. Management would emphasize protection.

9. Known conflicts:

Mining interests and cattlemen would probably oppose; State would probably oppose.

GREAT BASIN NATIONAL MONUMENT (NEVADA)

A PROPOSAL

I Criteria for Monument Designation

Objects of Scientific Interest:

The Great Basin is a major physiographic province of the United States and is poorly represented in the National Park System. The proposed withdrawals for the Great Basin National Monument contain nearly all the landforms characteristic to the basin.

In the Troy Peak-Hooper Canyon segment, there are excellent bristlecone pine stands. Hooper Canyon is a small but striking canyon. The balance of the Grant range included in the area contains several big cold springs and deep canyons with nearly vertical walls. Evidence of a rare primrose Primula nevadensis was found on Troy Peak and it is believed that further investigation might turn up other endemic or relic species.

To the west of the Grant Range lies Railroad Valley, a large playa (salty, sandy or mud caked floor of a desert basin with interior drainage) representative of the Great Basin. In a sump near the north end of the Valley, there is a remnant saline lake that is a good waterfowl habitat. A number of large springs originate around the edge of the playa and provide a habitat for endemic desert fish. The proposal would also include an existing landmark, Lunar Crater. Lunar Crater is 3,800 feet across and 430 feet deep and appears to have been formed as a result of a volcanic explosion.

This crater field was considered to be so comparable to the lunar landscape that it was used for training astronauts. The Lunar Crater volcanic field also contains two cuernas, a rare landform in the Great Basin. These cuernas (a long low ridge presenting a relatively steep face on one side, and a long gentle slope on the other) have an escarpment on the west side and thus tilted in the opposite direction to most of the fault block mountains.

In the valley north of Lunar Crater, for a distance of four to five miles long and approximately a mile wide, there is a unique concentration of a very common plant, the Desert Mallow. In

May when the orange-red flowers are in bloom, the whole valley appears to be on fire. The proposal is anchored on the west by the Hot Creek Valley and the Hot Creek Range which contain Morey Peak - at present an unspoiled wilderness area. The Hot Creek Range is of considerable interest to geologists and has been well studied. The vegetation of Hot Creek Valley is a cold desert shrub community. It is probably the best example of this important (perhaps climax) Great Basin plant community. Hot Creek gets its name from a large thermal spring.

II Boundaries

The proposed Monument includes 1,041,700 acres of predominately public land in Nye County, Nevada.

III Present Ownership

In the Troy Peak-Hooper Canyon area of the Grant Range, the land managing agency is the Forest Service, and the land is part of the Humboldt National Forest. There are two known patented mining claims of 40 acres in this area. The balance of the Federal ownership is administered by the Bureau of Land Management - the Battle Mountain District. In the Hot Creek Range and Valley portion of the area, there are two private parcels consisting of 1,440 acres where ranching occurs. Preliminary examination suggests that the continuation of the ranching activity would not only be possible but desirable. "The Hot Creek Ranch exerts some impact on the environment but the ranching operation is old fashioned, low keyed and on the whole, benign."

IV Present Status

In the Troy Peak-Hooper Canyon area, present use consists of grazing, recreation and mineral prospecting.

The Lunar Crater area is under Bureau of Land Management multiple use and the area is inventoried as a recreation site. Recreational use seems to be limited to viewing the Crater, although there are evidences of occasional camping nearby. BLM is allegedly in favor of withdrawing sites in the Lunar Crater area from rights-of-way and mining law, but not the mineral leasing laws.

The Morey Peak area is presently used for grazing and wildlife. There appears to be some mining activity in the region.

The Hot Creek Valley area is under multiple use management on public land and ranching (described above) on private land. Hot Creek Valley was used in the sixties by the AEC for its Central Nevada Test Site. Four deep holes were drilled; only one device was detonated. These tests were moved to Amchitka Island, and we believe that the Central Nevada Test Site has been abandoned and will be returned to BLM (if this has not occurred). The nuclear test was completely contained and there is no radioactive contamination in Hot Creek Valley.

V Vulnerability

The area appears to be sparsely populated and lightly utilized. It appears that the only danger could come from heretofore undiscovered mineral concentrations. Historically, mines were located in Troy and Irwin Canyons (Troy Peak area) in the early days (1868 and 1905) but apparently no ore was ever shipped. There has been some scattered individual prospecting for gold in this area. Grazing appears generally to be conservative.

VI Minerals

No outstanding mineral concentrations generally known. BLM and FS studies may have been done. Two patented claims identified in the Troy Peak-Hooper Canyon area.

VII Alternate Uses

No known studies in our files.

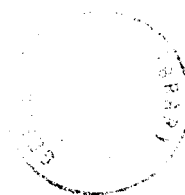
VIII Budget Costs

Cost of acquisition of inholdings and/or desirability unknown at this time.

Development costs not available pending further study of the visitor services, interpretive services and administrative facilities that would be required.

Short term manpower needs would focus upon protective administration.

TAB C



TRUST IS FORMED TO PRESERVE LAND

Organizers Get Big Tract
in North Carolina

By JOHN C. DEVLIN

A private two-year, \$200 million land-acquisition project to preserve "natural-area jewels" in all of the nation's 50 states was announced here yesterday.

The program, to be known as the American Land Trust, will be operated in cooperation with the Nature Conservancy, a private, nonprofit land conservation organization.

The formation of the American Land Trust was announced at a news conference in the St. Regis-Sheraton Hotel by Nathaniel P. Reed, Assistant Secretary of the Interior, who will be honorary chairman of the trust.

Other participants include Thomas L. McCall, the co-chairman, and Mrs. William O. Douglas, a lawyer whose husband is the retired Supreme Court Justice, and George S. Widds, executive director.

Mr. Reed said a group "of distinguished business, conservation and civic leaders" had joined to form the trust. He called it "one of the most important commitments ever undertaken by the private sector to preserve the nation's land heritage."

He then disclosed that nearly 11,000 acres of forest land in the Great Dismal Swamp area in North Carolina, valued at \$6 million, had just been donated to the trust "as a gift to the nation" by the Weyerhaeuser Company, the forest-products concern, through its president, George H. Weyerhaeuser.

Patrick F. Noonan, president of the Nature Conservancy, said the deed for the land would be presented to the Department of the Interior in Washington next month to form the southern boundary of the Great Dismal Swamp Wildlife Refuge, established in 1974.

The Weyerhaeuser property lies mostly in Gates County, North Carolina, about 20 miles northwest of Elizabeth City. It contains a mixture of black gum, maple, Atlantic white cedar and tupelo trees, and a wide variety of wildlife.

Mr. Weyerhaeuser said his company would seek alternative raw material sources to insure that its regional employment base was not affected by the donation.

"We've received many suggestions for ways in which we might commemorate the Bicentennial," he said, "but we believed this donation is the most appropriate for a land and resource company."

Mr. Noonan said prospective donors should address inquiries to George S. Wills, executive director, The American Land Trust, P.O. Box 2076, Arlington, Va.

Its affiliate, the Nature Conservancy, founded in its present form in 1950, has been responsible for the preservation of 900,000 acres involving 1,500 projects, many managed by volunteers.

**INSPECTORS CLOSED
COAL MINE 64 TIMES**

LOUISVILLE, Ky., May 17 (UPI) — Federal inspectors

