



HEADWATERS

Official Publication of Friends of the River



Vol. 2, No. 1

JANUARY - FEBRUARY 1977

Editor: Kathy Meyer

Victory at Camp Nine - Corps Quits!

★ Story on page 4



Photo by John Cassidy

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FROM THE EDITOR

As the Larkspur Ferry Terminal in Marin County neared completion and December 11, 1976 was set for the opening, Golden Gate Bridge District staff began making noise that it would be hazardous not to provide a turning space for the ferry boats by dredging a 2 acre section of the adjacent Larkspur Marsh. It is somehow hard to believe, why, if this presents such a hazard, its necessity was not made perfectly clear three years ago in the final plans. In 1973 the District's plan was to protect the marsh in agreement with the environmental impact report which placed high value on this wildlife sanctuary as one of the few remaining Bay Area salt marshes. The endangered species of Clapper Rail resides in this nesting and feeding grounds.

Ferry Transit Manager, Stanly Kowleski, has apparently always wanted to dredge the marsh, but was aware there was no chance with environmentalists in 1973. Kowleski seems to think it is an appropriate time to mention hazards and push for a dredging project, when people are actually boarding ferries. Also with Marin County unhappy about building costs, Kowleski probably thinks he can find support for what he calls a \$24 fuel savings on each crossing, made possible by a 2 minute shorter ride. With the right publicity it could almost be mistaken for a genuine "energy conservationist's plan."

The Larkspur Marsh and new Ferry Terminal are located at the mouth of Corte Madera Creek. There are many residents who remember the last assault on this creek by the Army Corps of Engineers who came here in the late 1960's with their clanging, sucking dredges, leaving behind the picturesque cement-lined banks which adorn the towns of Kentfield and Ross and the College of Marin Campus. I suggest the District begin looking for alternatives: purchasing the entire neighboring complex of San Quentin may be an easier undertaking now than trying to snatch two square feet of the Larkspur Marsh.

River Kate

You're Invited

FOR invites and encourages your participation at our meetings; we are very open to new perspectives, ideas, and energies. Steering Committee Meetings focus on the detailed operations of all FOR issues and activities. General Meetings have been developed to study specific rivers and projects and will have varied formats including speakers, workshops, slides, and movies. Minutes to any of the meetings can be obtained on request. January and February meetings will be in Sacramento, March in Berkeley. Call 916/451-9955 for exact locations.

Steering Committee: Jan 13, 4:30 p.m.; Feb 10, 7:00 p.m.; March 10, 4:30 p.m. General Meetings: Jan, 7:00 p.m.; March 10, 7:00 p.m.

FRIENDS OF THE RIVER is a political, educational, and research organization dedicated to the protection and preservation of our remaining magnificent free flowing rivers and to the conservation of our water and energy resources.

Director: Mark Dubois

Secretary: Nancy Magnuson

Treasurer: Tom Lovering

Steering Committee: Bruce Raley, Bill Center, Robin Magnuson, Alexander Gaguine, Kathy Meyer, Bruce Simbala, Shelly Sach, Cathy Fox, Anna Maria Gonzales, Brad Welton and Jennifer Jennings on leave of absence while attending law school at Bolt Hall.
Auxiliary Committee Members: Susan Chavez, Marty McDonnell, Jeff Jones, Debbie Dohm, Cindy Eggers, Theresa Robbins.

HEADWATER THANK YOU'S

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Letters From Friends

Dear Friends of the River:

As a Friend of the River, I was called last night by another FOR who told me that the FOR Organization was supporting Jimmy Carter for President. I was a bit turned off by this political solicitation for a number of reasons, the least important of which is that I do not find Carter to be an attractive candidate for the Presidency of the United States.

A more important factor in my disappointment in you is that I fear your political statement might harm the cause for which we are jointly allied. To involve ourselves in partisan politics is a dangerous move. We should instead direct our efforts toward saving free flowing rivers from all impediments. We should be totally pragmatic, caring not whether Republican or Democrat, liberal or conservative, labeled or non-labeled support our cause. We should enlist both sides, all sides in our cause. We should transcend all boundaries in seeking support. Let us not be blown by the winds of politics, but instead stand firm in our commitment, to the river and all who will aid our cause. Let us not risk alienating those who now help us, or those who might help us in the future.

Sincerely,
Lin B. Feil

Dear Friends of the River:

FOR received several letters questioning our endorsement of the Jimmy Carter campaign. We have no monopoly on ideas and appreciate very much hearing feedback and new perspectives from all friends of the river. FOR wants to see rivers protected and preserved and we will always try to follow our hearts and do what we most believe is right.

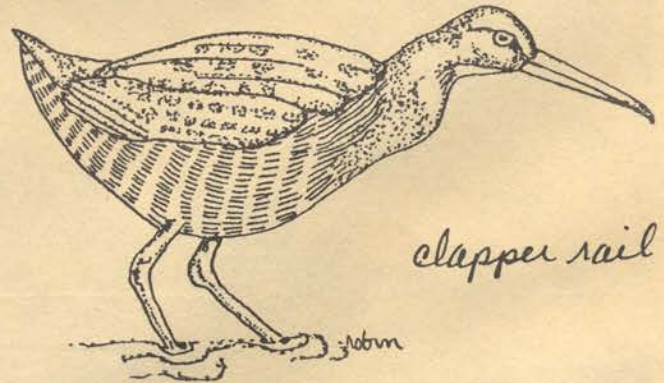
Our decision to back Carter was extremely difficult and was preceded by many hours of

heated discussion. Despite politics being a tool which destroys rivers, and our distrust of "politics," we have learned the important lesson that to change something one must get involved. But to get involved in partisan politics, when our highest goal is the preservation of rivers, was an obviously strange direction.

So how do we justify our position? First of all FOR's personal contacts with Jimmy Carter have been very positive. Carter came to California in October 1974 during Proposition 17 to do an FOR fund raiser to save the Stanislaus. We appreciated his efforts and were impressed by Jimmy, "the person," prior to his pronounced president's campaign. His dam-stopping acts in Georgia, his personal commitment to our environment, the sensitive, enlightened staff which surround him and with whom we have had contact, have inspired and encouraged us. The presidential news coverage caused much confusion, but we still knew that we wanted to save rivers, and Carter has been saying for a long time that he will "get the Federal Government out of the dam building business." For the sake of rivers, and because of how we have experienced Jimmy, not because of a political party, we followed our hearts not only by joining all major conservation leaders in the state to support his campaign, but also by officially endorsing Jimmy for President.

The year of our "bi-centennial" is past . . . our great country will continue on . . . we have come a long way . . . we have gained and we have lost . . . but what has made us great is the amazing energy of the people of this country. We have learned a lot and we CAN overcome our past mistakes by getting involved and making change happen.

Yours for our rivers,
Mark Dubois



A LITTLE FLUSH GOES A LONG WAY

Bill Sloan

With the growing demand for water and the present shortages we are now facing, we must look toward practical methods of conserving water. The toilet offers the largest individual potential in household water savings. The typical American household uses 50,000 to 65,000 gallons of water per year to flush away 150 pounds of human waste. There are a number of alternatives for reducing water consumption in toilets or to entirely eliminate water from the process.

Most households have the common flush toilet which uses from 5 to 6 gallons per flush. Toilets use more water than is needed to function properly. It is not necessary to flush every time fluid waste enters the toilet: this is the easiest and most inexpensive way to begin. Putting two weighted plastic quart bottles in the tank reduces the amount of water used but maintains the static head and the velocity of the water. The tank can be changed to a smaller tank which holds 3.5 gallons of water. Toilets can be set up for a dual-flush system with low volume flush for liquid wastes and high volume flush for solid waste. These



SMUD Has Hearing Problems

Brad Welton

A classic struggle began on November 4th when quite unexpectedly, and with one day's notice, Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) brought before its Board of Directors, for a vote, a contract with the Calaveras County Water District (CCWD) to finance five dams on the North Fork of the Stanislaus River. Friends of the River, with support from various organizations including SMUD Ratepayers Association, CAUSE-North, and the Motherlode Chapter of the Sierra Club, demanded a public hearing on the issue. After two hours of heated argument, the SMUD Board reluctantly agreed that the public would be given an opportunity to present their views on the proposed plan December 2.

A loose coalition of organizations met weekly at FOR to design strategies. On December 2, a record six to seven hundred people crowded into the SMUD building filling the hearing room, an overflow room and the entire central lobby. A parade of 30 experts including economists, scientists, State Resources Agency officials, lawyers, environmental activists, consumer advocates, and energy conservation proponents voiced their opposition to the dams.

Testimony focused on SMUD's inadequate energy demand forecasting model, destruction of the North Fork Stanislaus, the availability of less costly alternatives to generate power, destruction of trout fisheries, potential destruction of the Giant Sequoias and Sugar Pines in Calaveras Big Trees State Park, underestimation of construction costs, possibility of greatly increased electricity rates, and flooding of part of the proposed Carson Iceberg Wilderness Area.

Opponents to the project who testified included the Save the Redwoods League, Environmental Defense Fund, Wilderness Society, California Wilderness Coalition, Sierra Club, SMUD Ratepayers Association, Nader's CAL-Citizen Action Group, CAUSE-North, California Trout, State Park Rangers Association, State Department of Parks and Recreation, Environmental Council of Sacramento, California State University, Sacramento (CSUS) - Environmental Union, Dr. Peter Lund (Chairman Economics Dept. CSUS), Concerned Calaveras Residents (CCR), Troop 22 Boy Scouts of America, and Friends of the River, as well as numerous unaffiliated individuals.

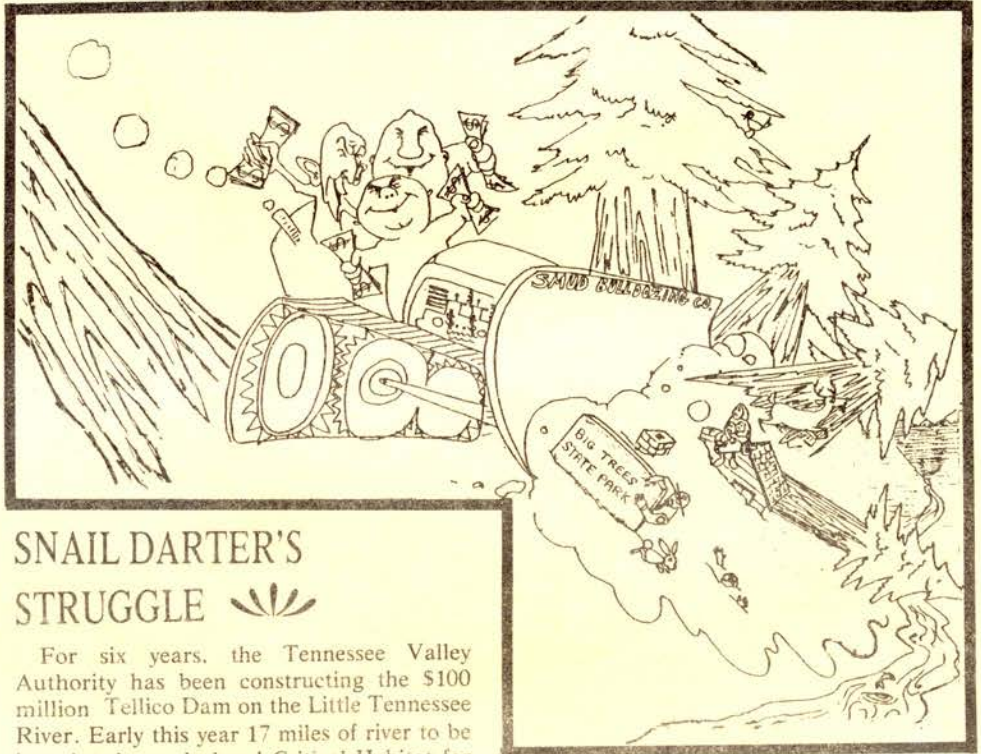
The impressive array of testimony, which lasted until 1:00 am, should have given the SMUD Board members a lot to think about. However, despite predictions that the dam project would be an economic loser, that there were better financial and environmental alternatives available, and that the project would be aggressively opposed every step of the way, four Board members voted to make a final decision on December

15. The fifth member voiced serious reservations about plunging ahead without first considering the new information. He found much agreement in the audience, but none on the Board. It appeared the Board had already made up their minds before the public arrived.

Efforts to stop this project now will include focusing on the outrage with the Board's refusal to seriously consider the alternatives presented, continuing education of SMUD Directors, mobilizing supporters to pack the December 15th meeting, developing a legal

case against the project, and organizing a legal defense fund. If SMUD signs the contract, the next step will be for Calaveras County residents to vote in May 1977 on whether to issue bonds for the project.

FOR received notification from DOW Chemical, December 7, of their refusal to buy into the North Fork project. DOW is the last in a long line of potentially interested purchasers who have turned down this uneconomical scheme.



SNAIL DARTER'S STRUGGLE

For six years, the Tennessee Valley Authority has been constructing the \$100 million Tellico Dam on the Little Tennessee River. Early this year 17 miles of river to be inundated was declared Critical Habitat for the snail darter, a small fish on the Endangered Species list. Law suits attempting to stop the dam, because it would destroy the home of this small fish, have not succeeded. The dam is scheduled for completion and filling in January of 1977; however, the Sixth

Circuit Court of Appeals has enjoined TVA from filling the dam until a final ruling is obtained. The Endangered Species Act of 1973 endeavors to preserve the rights of other critters on this planet. We hope the snail darter can stay with us.

Rapid (River) Research Quiz

by Cathy Fox

1. Paddle wheel steamboats carried passengers and freight up and down this river from gold rush days to 1871.
2. One of the two major irrigation sources for the Central Valley - flows west 125 miles then turns north for 175.
3. James Marshall discovered gold on this river in 1848.
4. Chilly waters running through Yosemite Valley.
5. The south fork of this river drops 2,000 feet in just a few miles.
6. Our Lady of the Motherlode.
7. Blesses California with a Grand Canyon.
8. 168,000 King Salmon migrate up this river to spawn.
9. The most heavily canoed river in the West.
10. Only California river with no dams - all tributaries protected by the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.
11. Forms part of the boundary of Round Valley Indian Reservation.
12. Natural headwaters are Big Springs - totally diverted into the LA Aqueduct.
13. Boasts the third highest waterfall in the USA (640 feet).

(answers printed on page 6)

A LADY OF THE MOTHERLODE NEVER

New Melones Shake and Quake

Mark Dubois

New Melones Dam, currently under construction on the Stanislaus River, was in the headlines again in early December and the subject was earthquake safety. Since April 1974, the Army Corps of Engineers has ignored a report from their own geological consulting firm on the earthquake potential at New Melones. The firm, Woodward-Lundgren and Associates (WL&A), reported to the Corps that three faults (Bostick Mountain, Bear Mountain, and Melones) within four miles of the dam site "are not known to be active, but insufficient work has been done to conclude that they are inactive." Nonetheless, the Corps told WL&A not to consider the three faults as potential quake sources, and in fact the dam design gives no consideration to them.

Tom Graff of the Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) is one of the Stanislaus' oldest friends. It was he who brought the 1972 EDF suit challenging the Corps' Environmental Impact Statement, which delayed New Melones for two years. In 1976 Tom uncovered and published a report done for PG&E by geological consultants Woodward and Clyde which indicated that the faults at New Melones have been active much more recently than previously believed. Now he has uncovered the WL&A report, which the Corps used selectively and then buried within their rooms full of paper.

The WL&A report did more than just indicate that the three faults needed further study. It also predicted to the Corps that the "maximum credible earthquake" under New Melones could be 8.0 on the Richter Scale. As Tom Harris of the San Jose Mercury points out, on the Richter Scale, which is logarithmic, an 8.0 quake is 180 times larger than a 6.5. The Corps claimed it rejected the higher figures in favor of 6.5 because the largest quake recorded in the foothills was the 6.0 quake near Oroville Dam in August 1975. It should be noted that New Melones was well under construction at the time of the Oroville Quake, and presumably earthquake design factors had been finalized before then.

Historically, there have been no major earthquakes in the Sierra Foothills until the Oroville Quake. Is the first foothill quake necessarily the largest one possible? Professional geologists have been very cautious about their statements connecting dams with earthquakes; however, a recent United States geological Report shows a

direct correlation between dam height and severity of quakes in the vicinity.

The Corps has commissioned a new study on earthquake potential at New Melones, although they claimed that it was not Tom Graff's disclosures which forced them into it. EDF and FOR have called upon the Corps to stop construction on the dam, now 20% constructed, while studies are underway, since they may indicate that the present design is inadequate. The Corps will most likely disregard this request. The bureaucratic "momentum to build," which was such an important factor in the Teton Dam disaster, will keep the Corps moving onward. ★ ★



The Army Corps of Engineers pulled out of Camp Nine, December 7, with the pass comment to locals, "you won this one." Photo by Mark Du

CAMP NINE VICTORY!

Mark Dubois

Last August construction workers began desecrating the upper reaches of the Stanislaus Canyon. The Army Corps of Engineers had commenced road relocation at Camp Nine in preparation for construction of a high bridge. Camp Nine, the starting point for a river journey which has touched the lives of so many thousands of Americans, is located at the upper end of the reservoir to be created by New Melones Dam. Trees and old miner's cabins were demolished as bulldozers and dynamite plowed the new road dumping rock and debris into the canyon. Much damage has been done, but the machines are gone now and the canyon is quiet again.

In September, Friends of the River started looking for ways to stop the insensitive destruction at Camp Nine. After legal research and attempting discussions with the Corps, FOR approached the State. In 1973 the State took the position (Decision 1422) that New Melones, if completed, should not be allowed to flood into the upper canyon until actual need for the extra water could be demonstrated. Decision 1422 is in litigation and a decision by San Francisco Federal Appeals Court is expected early in 1977. Therefore, State officials were as incensed as we about the Corps needless and arrogant destruction of Camp Nine. The \$2.4 million bridge project is absurd in itself since the

Corps admits that the existing bridge and road will be flooded less often than once every 25 years even if the dam is completed and filled.

Officials of the State Attorney General's office and the Resources Agency attempted to reason with the Corps. The Corps began to listen only after the State started preparation of the papers asking for a Court injunction to stop the work based on the argument that the construction activities violated the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) because no environmental impact statement had been filed. This imminent injunction, plus many phone calls from state officials, and embarrassment from the breaking story that the Corps had refused to abide by and then buried their own earthquake safety report for New Melones (see article this page) caused the Corps to stop work and withdraw their equipment from Camp Nine in the first week of December. The Corps will now file an EIS which should delay the destruction for another year.

This was the first Army Corps incursion in the upper Stanislaus Canyon, which is home to so many. It has been successfully repelled. The Attorney General's office reported that this was the first recorded cave-in by the Army Corps on an environmental issue prior to suit.



GIVES UP

BURIAL SITES AWAIT BULLDOZERS ...

Mark Dubois

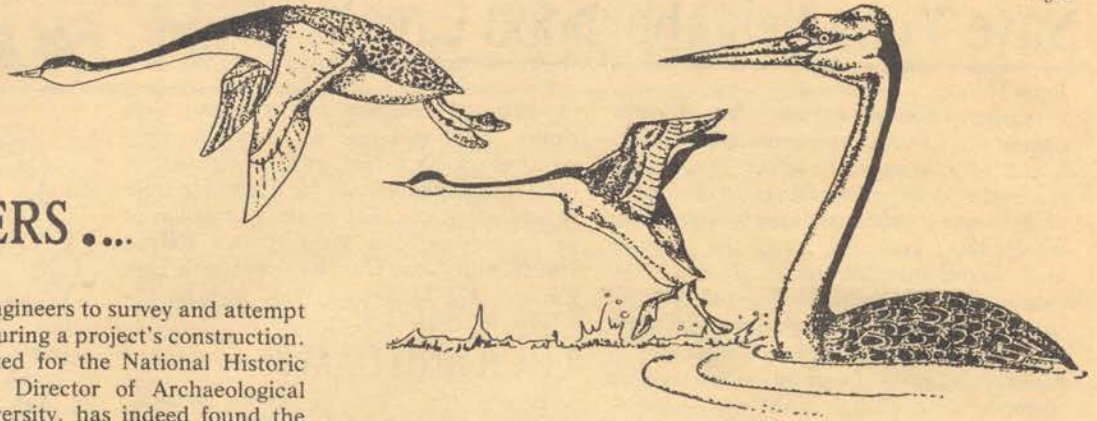
Federal Law requires the Corps of Engineers to survey and attempt to "mitigate" that which they destroy during a project's construction. The Stanislaus was long ago nominated for the National Historic Register, and Dr. Michael Moratto, Director of Archaeological Research at San Francisco State University, has indeed found the canyon to be exceptionally rich in archaeological resources.

Last year Moratto was contracted by the Corps to complete the archaeological survey of the Stanislaus Canyon. His survey located over 600 sites including prehistoric Indian villages and burial grounds as well as many gold rush mining camps and artifacts. Another report of historical sites within the Stanislaus Canyon, soon to be published by Roberta Greenwood, will document at least 150 sites not previously reported. Moratto's report concluded that the canyon was too valuable to destroy and he proposed alternatives to preserve the area. If the Corps proceeds to flood the canyon, Moratto projected a cost of \$83 million to totally excavate and analyze the data which will be destroyed.

Of immediate importance is the Corps' intention to begin implementing their vegetation (trees) clearing plans in January, 1977. Will they go ahead with this denuding operation (which calls for the removal of historic structures and machinery, mines, caves, and aboriginal sites) without first signing a Memorandum of Understanding with the Federal Interagency Archaeological Service and the State Department of Parks and Recreation as required by federal law? Only time will tell.

In a letter to President-elect Carter and Governor Brown, Dr. Moratto requested immediate action to "enjoin all planned clearing and related earthmoving work until such time as the Corps fully complies with cultural resources management procedures ... the Corps of Engineers is violating the Antiquities Act of 1906 and demonstrating an unconsiderable failure to comply with either Executive Order No. 11593 or the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act."

A new California law may also have an effect on this earthmoving. AB 4239, introduced by Assemblymen Knox and Keene and passed last session, forbids "severe or irreparable damage to any Native American sanctified cemetery, place of worship, religious or ceremonial site, or sacred shrine located on public property." Several Indian village and burial sites have already been bulldozed. Still remaining are an estimated 6,000 Indian burials. (An interesting side point is that the Corps has exhumed and removed 38 historic mining graves, though this process was without archaeological supervision or recording.) The Federal Government has never shown much respect for the State's position regarding New Melones. It will be interesting to see if the Carter Administration will bring any changes. ~



SOMETHING WILL HAVE GONE OUT OF US AS A PEOPLE IF

WE EVER LET THE REMAINING WILDERNESS BE DESTROYED; if we permit the last virgin forests to be turned into comic books and plastic cigarette cases; if we drive the few remaining members of the wild species into zoos or to extinction; if we pollute the last clean air and dirty the last clean streams and push our paved roads through the last of the silence, so that never again will Americans be free in their own country from the noise, the exhausts, the stinks of human & automotive waste, and so that never again we can have the chance to see ourselves single, separate, vertical & individual in the world, part of the environment of trees & rocks & soil, brother to the other animals, part of the natural world & competent to belong in it.

Wallace S.egner

(cont.) A LITTLE FLUSH GOES A LONG WAY

changes can be affected for minimal cost.

The more expensive modifications are the gray water systems and the air-pressure or vacuum toilets. The gray water system recycles household wastewater to use in flushing toilets. The air-pressure or vacuum toilet works on the principle of using a low vacuum or an injection of air to remove waste. The question which usually arises about modifying conventional toilets is will a lower flush completely remove waste and not require additional flushings? A flush of 2 gallons will satisfactorily carry waste from the toilet through collector lines, sublaterals, and sewers.

Another approach to saving water in the toilet is to totally eliminate water from the process. This can be accomplished with a composting toilet, the bi-product of which is a very good fertilizer. These toilets are entirely self-contained; no human waste enters soil or waterways. They are non-polluting, hygienic, and odor free. Some units are fairly large and need a basement or additional structure to house them. These large units work on a dry heat process and do not require electrical energy. A system of baffles and drafts in a chimney cause the human waste and organic garbage to decompose. The waste can accumulate for 2-7 years before it has to be emptied. A much smaller version of the composting toilet works on the same principle but uses a heating element and an exhaust fan to accelerate decay and remove odors. Because of the rapid decay, it has to be emptied about once a year. It uses no more energy than 2 or 3, 60 watt electric bulbs and can be installed almost anywhere there is a conventional toilet. Composting toilets can cut household water consumption in half.

For more information on composting toilets and other water saving devices, refer to the Book Corner in this issue. ☆ ☆

Congratulations! Bradlee Welton Esq.

Regaling and toasting followed the presentation of a fine corduroy bow tie to Brad Welton at the FOR house directly upon receipt of said news: Brad passed the California Bar Exam blessing Friends of the River with a bona fide attorney at law.

Blooming Friend of the River

Perhaps a wild snapdragon has the power to save a river. Construction of a \$600 million hydro-electric project on the upper St. John River in northern Maine may be threatened by the appearance of the furbish lousewort. About thirty specimens of this flower, previously thought to be extinct, were found by botanists doing work on the project's environmental impact report.

The furbish lousewort, which is on the endangered species list scheduled for

adoption next year, is semi-parasitic and unable to survive away from its present habitat - the south shore of the St. John. According to Richard Dyer, an Army Corps of Engineer botanist, the plant has no commercial or aesthetic value, but if plans for the project continue there will be a definite confrontation with the Endangered Species Act. The controversial Dickey-Lincoln project may be barred from destroying the tiny furbish lousewort.

Save Your Neighborhood Creek

Joyce Harper

Is there a creek running through your community? Was there a creek before it was boxed in with concrete walls? Wouldn't a creekside "strip" park be a source of pride, a delight, and a unique addition to your entire community? Let's not forget the pleasure and importance of small streams: the exquisite little environments and natural plant and animal communities that they support. It is exciting to find a clear pool, a robin, or a family of squirrels within walking distance of your home in the city. It is also exciting to find an environmental project that is the right size for local people to handle. Too often environmental preservation seems to be over the next mountain. This one is right at home - **you** can do it.

Effective preservation and development of our natural resources is possible for "ordinary people" in city, suburban, and rural communities. A small group of interested persons can turn the tide in the destruction of waterways in their own backyards through the "Save Our Nextdoor Creek" Task Force. This newly formed group is chaired by Roland Hauck of the Redwood Chapter of the Sierra Club who is an organized creek lover and saver from way back. This task force has been empowered to work with the Sierra Club's conservation committees in finding ways to fund, develop, and launch "save our creek" programs.

Tools being developed to help the do-it-yourself creek saver will include a procedure manual for leaders, carousels of slides, and a

MEREMAC RIVER

MISSOURI

An FOR correspondent from Missouri, Chuck Lahmeyer, sends us this report. "Progress on the Meremac Dam proceeds slowly but surely. \$23 million of a conservatively estimated \$115 million total cost has been spent, mostly for land acquisition. Dam construction has not begun. The recent election results were favorable (to stopping the dam, we presume) but not decisive. The newly elected President, U.S. Senator, and Lieutenant Governor have all stated their opposition to the dam. However, local Congressman, Richard Ichord, continues to be a staunch supporter of the project. He has steadfastly refused to poll his constituents on the matter, and is obviously protecting land speculators and business interests who stand to gain if the "lake" is completed. The Governor-elect has promised to hold a citizen referendum on the issue, and Missourians hope to hold him to his promise. The dam has no popular support." Geologists say the Meremac River Basin has the highest density of caves of any river system in the world.

MINNESOTA RIVER

A 95.5 mile reach of the Minnesota River is under consideration for the State Wild and Scenic River System. If included, it will be Minnesota's fourth such designation.

promotional brochure for arranging slide shows and securing publicity in local newspapers. As a start, write a letter to your local newspaper and ask for a response from interested people. For more information or to share your own ideas contact Roland Hauck with "Save Our Nextdoor Creek Task Force," 302 La Serena Way, Sonoma CA 94576, 707/996-7518. ~

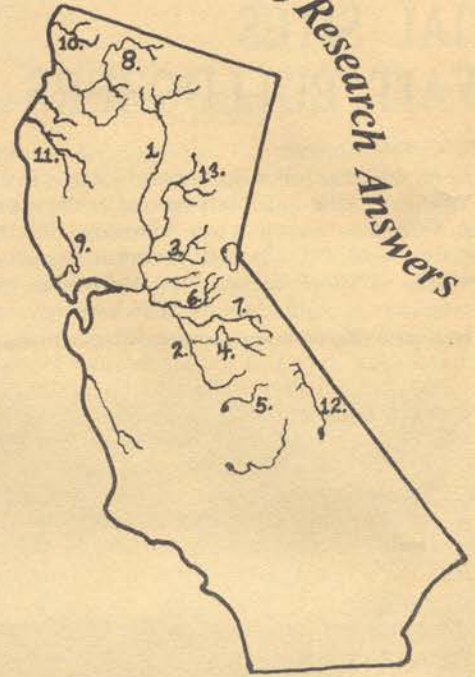
LOCK AND DAM 26

Before the close of 1976's session, Congress deleted funding for enlarging Lock and Dam 26 on the Mississippi River — a great victory for environmentalists. This was to be the first in a multi billion dollar series of projects to further channelize the Mississippi and subsidize barge traffic at the ultimate expense of the environment and the failing but vital railroad industry. Dam proponents will undoubtedly attempt to resurrect the project in 1977.

Barbara and Jimmy

Barbara Blum, original founder of Friends of the River in Georgia, has become head of President Carter's transition office in Washington, D.C. Barbara began her association with Carter in the struggle to save the Flint and Chattahooche Rivers.

★ Rapid (River) Research Answers



1. Sacramento 2. San Joaquin 3. American 4. Merced 5. Kings 6. Stanislaus 7. Tuolumne 8. Klamath 9. Russian 10. Smith 11. Eel 12. Owens 13. Feather



This man is not to be caught up the creek without his paddle!

Photo by Bruce Raley

AUBURN MEETING

An important PARC (Protect the American River Canyons) organizational meeting will be held Sunday, January 23, 4 pm. at Carr's Granite Outcropping - the home of Christopher and Sharon Carr. Anyone interested in opposing the construction of Auburn Dam should attend. Call 916/878-0492 for directions to 1756 East End Road, Meadow Vista.

NORTH FORK STANISLAUS

Sixty five Concerned Calaveras Residents (CCR) met for the second time in November to develop strategies in opposition to construction of the 5 dam scheme on the North Fork. CCR will soon embark on an educational campaign to encourage water conservation as one alternative to destruction of Calaveras County's primary river source. A bond issue election is slated for May 1977. To lend assistance please contact Janet and Mike Skenfield, Box 92, Hathaway Pines, CA 95233, 209/795-2024.

KERN COUNTY WATER

FOR responded in November to the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed San Joaquin Nuclear Project in Kern County, opposing the plan to construct a mammoth power plant in an area where fresh water is at a premium. FOR is opposed to using fresh water or placing unnecessary strains on the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta when the justification is to provide water for nuclear power plant coolant. The practicality of the project is definitely in question when there is great potential for conflict between nuclear coolant requirements and the future agriculture-residential water needs throughout California. Representatives who attended the Stockton hearings were nicely surprised to find an unusual situation: the farmers and FOR on the same bank of the river.

WATCH FOR RIVER PRESERVATION CONFERENCE

FOR will sponsor a conference for all people interested in discussing ways to preserve rivers, probably in late winter, and probably in Sacramento. There will be panel discussions, speakers, workshops, and updates on specific California rivers. We hope that the river lovers in attendance will not only learn a lot but will be stimulated to choose a course of action to protect our rivers.

River

TUOLUMNE

The Tuolumne is still flowing. Turlock and Modesto Irrigation Districts and the city of San Francisco are still pushing for dams. The United States Forest Service is finishing up their study by February 1977 to report their recommendations on whether or not the Tuolumne will be a Wild and Scenic River. One public input meeting is scheduled in March. FOR seriously questioned their plans for a single public meeting and stressed the importance of allowing more Californians a chance to express their feelings, but we have yet to receive an answer. The Study Team is still holding Box 90, Groveland, CA 95301, to receive comments and requests for copies of the study.

Vail and Associates, Inc., under contract to the Tuolumne County Board of Supervisors, are holding public input meetings in their research of county water needs and the economics of alternative supplies. The next meeting is planned for January (tentatively the 3rd thursday). Also, a recently formed citizens group, Tuolumne Water Options League (TWOL) has compiled a slide show on county growth and the Tuolumne River. Tuolumne county residents needing info for the next Vail meeting or a showing of TWOL's slides may contact Tyler Childress at 209/532-1327.

SOUTH FORK AMERICAN

El Dorado County citizens have organized in opposition to the 4 dams planned for the South Fork American. Their second meeting will be held January 11, 7:30 p.m., probably at the old schoolhouse near Coloma. Call Virginia Gleadall for exact location (916/677-1151).

KINGS RIVER

The Kings River Water Association has plans to dam the Main Fork of the Kings River. A couple of earlier attempts to place the Kings into the State Wild and Scenic Rivers System failed, but did succeed in obtaining a moratorium on dam construction until 1979. The Committee to Save the Kings River (2144 N. Adoline Street, Fresno, CA 93705) has been using this reprieve time to gather strength for the next battle.

MILL-DEER CREEK

A proposal for Wild and Scenic designation for Mill and Deer Creeks in Tehama County has been generated by conservationists. Mill and Deer Creeks, which flow freely through the wild Ishi canyonlands, represent the last major undeveloped water resources which provide native Salmon migration routes from the Sacramento River. Plans are on the drawing boards for 6 reservoirs and 4 power houses for the Mill-Deer Creek watershed. Public action is needed to save these creeks. For more info write to Northstate Wilderness Committee, 708 Cherry Street, Chico, CA 95926. 916/345-8070.

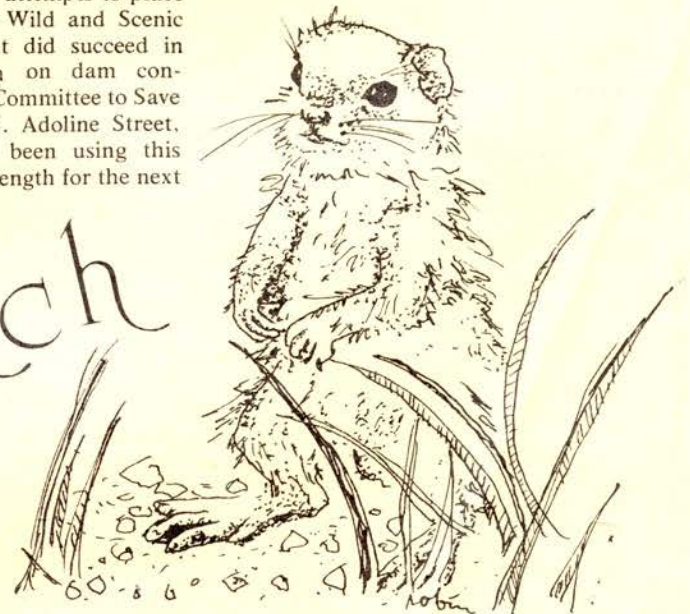
APPLEGATE FOLLOW-UP

Despite the efforts and energy expended by many Oregon residents in Jackson and Josephine counties, an opinion vote to save the Applegate River was defeated. The Army Corps of Engineers Plans to inundate this beautiful tributary to the Rogue River with a \$60 million dam project.

BOX CANYON

Angler groups, kayakers, and conservation groups hope to see Box Canyon on the upper Sacramento River protected. The California Protected Waterways Plan, 1971 said this canyon "must be the most beautiful (kayak) run in Northern California," while anglers acclaim this river to be an amazing vestige of native trout fisheries. Wild and Scenic Rivers designation and/or inclusion in the State Wild Trout Program are hopeful categories of protection. Those interested in joining the growing local and state support for this canyon should contact George Matousek of Cal Trout, Box 488, McCloud, CA 96057.

Watch



Warm Springs Bureaucratic Jumble

by Warm Springs Dam Task Force

Friends of the River in Sonoma County are fighting bureaucratic momentum by the Corps of Engineers. The Corps is pushing to resume work on the Warm Springs Dam on Dry Creek, (a tributary of the Russian River) in the face of overwhelming evidence that no dam should be built at that site.

In June 1976 the Corps issued a Draft Supplemental EIS which attempts to answer three questions raised in 1974 in Federal Court. After a public hearing on July 15, the final version was prepared in which very little note was taken of the flaws in the draft. This Final Supplemental EIS was transmitted to the President's Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) in September with a statement by the District Engineer as follows:

"I find that the Supplement to the Final Environmental Impact Statement constitutes full and sufficient disclosure of the results of the additional investigations, and that nothing therein alters the conclusions and recommendations of the November 1973 Statement of Findings accompanying the Final Environmental Impact Statement, that the project should proceed." This statement was concurred on by the next two levels of command. Here we have the agency that wrote the first EIS, which was clearly deficient, now writing the second EIS, reviewing it, calling it perfect, endorsing the perfection and sending it along to CEQ. Would you expect any other course of action from a bureaucratic operation?

If the CEQ accepts the Corps premise that the project is safe and worthwhile, then it is likely that the momentum will cause the project to move toward completion and potential disaster. The dam is a 300 foot-high, 3,000-foot long, rolled earth embankment sitting atop an earthquake fault near the Healdsburg and San Andreas Faults. The epicenter of the famous 1906

quake that caused San Francisco to burn, is a few miles from where this dam is to be built.

The Warm Springs Dam Task Force, a coalition of environmentally aware organizations and individuals, is attempting to have the facts brought out in federal court. The case is scheduled in San Francisco for January 10, 1977.

In the meantime, the Task Force has written a letter to CEQ, charging that the Supplemental EIS is still inadequate and unacceptable under the National Environmental Policy Act. The letter charges that: the "maximum credible earthquake" is dangerously underestimated; the benefit to cost ratio would be less than the required 1.0 if a realistic 6-9% interest rate figure were used, instead of the Corps' 3 1/8%; the problem of landsliding in this area of unstable soils is not sufficiently addressed; heavy siltation in the reservoir will reduce the water supply and flood protection afforded by the dam (as well as reduce the benefit to cost ratio) at the same time that the dam induces further growth in the area; the Corps does not guarantee that the dam, as designed, will not fail; and the Corps has signed a contract (in 1964) relegating liability for a dam failure to a Sonoma County agency which no longer exists.

If you feel that such a project may be injurious to your health, well-being, or environment, you may want to add your comments or describe your feelings in letters to: Senators Aian Cranston and Sam Hayakawa and Representatives Don Clausen and Leo Ryan (United States Capitol, Washington, D.C. 20515) and state officials including Governor Brown and Resources Secretary Claire Dedrick (State Capitol, Sacramento, CA 95814). For more information, contact Warm Springs Dam Task Force, 20400 5th Street West, Sonoma, CA 95476, 707/996-8596.

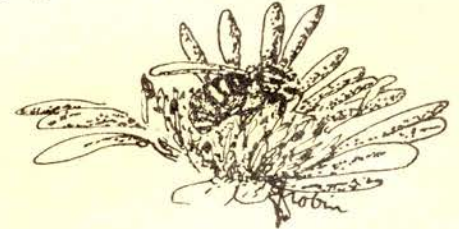
BOOK CORNER

North Marin's Little Compendium of Water Saving Ideas by John Nelson was written "for Water Managers, developers, environmentalists, homeowners, and anyone interested in preserving and making better use of our nation's water resources." The main focus is domestic water consumption, how to practically accomplish it, and have even healthier gardens and lawns. An extensive list of water saving devices, is given as well as where and how to obtain them. This book is a handy reference guide to saving water and money for the homeowner. A copy can be obtained for \$7.00 from North Marin County Water District, P.O. Box 146, Novato, CA 94947, 415/897-4133.

"Teton Dam Disaster: 30th Report by the Committee on Government Operations." (U.S. House of Representatives Report 94-1667) is the report of the well publicized Congressional investigation of the collapse of the Teton Dam in Idaho on June 5, 1976 — chaired by Leo Ryan. It is short (37 pages), readable, and contains some great quotes. It is a mind-boggling story of how the Bureau of Reclamation really operates. Especially important is the section on "Momentum," which criticizes the fact that dam projects have been virtually impossible to stop once construction has begun, regardless of the nature and seriousness of questions which arise. Free. Write to: Committee on Government Operations, 2157 Rayburn Building, United States House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. 20515.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Dear river friends - these are some things that Santa forgot to leave us - if you have one lying around, we could really use them: 16mm film projector, slide projector, tape recorder, electric typewriter, file cabinets, a xerox machine, sugar plum fairies and other dreams! We extend a really warm and special thank you to the Magneson family of Ballico for donating a much needed car to FOR and sending us continuous conscientious collections of valley news clippings.



JOIN FRIENDS OF THE RIVER

- My \$10, \$25, \$50, \$_____ membership will help support FOR as an on-going political and educational program to protect rivers. I will also receive HEADWATERS for one year (6 issues.)
- My \$5 membership will cover the cost of receiving HEADWATERS for one year.
- I am a Friend of the River! Please keep me on your mailing list for special **Action Alerts**.

I would like to be a volunteer. My interests are:

office work	engineering	economics	geology
legal work	entomology	research	biology
media	lobbying	printing	other
fund raising	archaeology	flying	

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____

Send to FOR, 401 San Miguel Way, Sacramento Ca. 95819.