

Those of us who pursue wilderness rivers for sport and pleasure respect certain values that are often ignored by water resource engineers and agencies. I am here to represent the river people, the many groups and individuals who follow the river trail on kayak, canoe, and rubber raft, and who believe present trends in river related resource management must change course in the spirit of equal opportunity and fair play. We have come to realize that the river no longer leads to civilization, as it did for the early voyageurs and frontiersmen. Instead, our rivers lead back to the wilderness. Where rivers first provided practical transport and a more secure survival in an otherwise wild and unknown land, they now provide escape from the fetters of a hostile and polluted environment. In this escape, in the rush of white-water or simply drifting with quiet current, we find our own peace of mind — our own place in the natural scheme of things. And perhaps this is also a matter of survival.

We are not few in number. During this past summer the equivalent of 40,000 man days were spent on the Russian River alone: people who came from all over the state to canoe a wild river. Another 10,000 man days were spent on the Stanislaus in Sierra Gold Rush Country. Approximately 8,000 to 10,000 man days on the Middle Fork of the Eel, and about the same number on the Middle Fork of the Feather. A general estimate by the River Touring Section of the Sierra Club puts the total number of man days spent on wilderness rivers in California in 1969 at 110,000 to 200,000. These people belong to one of at least 30 river touring groups in the state, or they simply kayak or canoe on their own. They ran some 23 major California rivers. They felt the spray of wildness.

And yet our rivers are disappearing. The geography that creates a white-water rapid, the steep canyon walls, the sloping contour of the river basin, has proven time and again irresistible to dam builders who saw only the utility potential of a river. We have demands for water, and electricity, and many rivers have become reservoirs to meet these demands. But it seems our demands only increase with each dam, with every death of a river. Are more dams the answer, even if we did have an infinite number of rivers in this state? I would like to pose the question to Mr. Gianelli, and to all water management agencies, and to the Army Corps of Engineers to learn if future funding for dams might be better spent (on a far broader scale) for more efficient development of waste water re-cycling and for more

## A CHALLENGE

### What Kind of Environment Do We Want?

The rapidly multiplying ranks of those vitally concerned about environmental damage from pollution of our land, air and water and even population pressures are seeking practical solutions.

... For time is running out. And the problems are vast and urgent.

Solutions cannot be confined alone to decisions of public officials, business leaders, professional health workers and conservationists.

Every level and facet of California life, young and old, black and white, public leaders and private citizens, must be concerned and aid in the solutions.

*As Governor Ronald Reagan eloquently disclosed recently . . . "man can no longer ignore his own impact on the overall environment. He must begin to weigh this impact in every step that affects the quality of the air we breathe, the water we drink and the living space we inhabit.*

*"We've tried to steer government in this direction. In addition to the rigid new pollution controls we have enacted, we have tried to consider esthetic and ecological values in planning everything from highways to water reservoirs. We've made tremendous progress already and we're going to do more.*

*"If nothing else, at the end of my term as governor of California, the air is going to be cleaner, the water we drink is going to be purer and I hope, we are going to alert the people of California to the indisputable fact that the protection of our natural environment must rank as one of the government's major priorities."*

... This is why this timely Conference is so important.

# Governor's Conference On California's Changing Environment

## CONFERENCE FORMAT Chief Areas of Discussion

Major challenges will be provided in these four categories:

- I — People and Air
- II — People and Water
- III — People and Land
- IV — People and Urban Society

Four concurrent panels will be operating. Admission to the Conference is by invitation. Attendance is limited to 1000. Space limitations do not permit greater attendance.

Conference participants will attend at their own expense. A registration fee of \$25, made payable to Governor's Conference on California's Changing Environment, Inc., includes the program of events, Conference Proceedings, and a gala champagne reception on Tuesday afternoon, November 18 from 5:30 until 7:30 p.m. Meals and room costs are extra. Forms provided with this program should be completed and sent directly to the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles.

## HOW THE CONFERENCE WILL OPERATE

There will be four concurrent panel discussions: "People and Air," "People and Water," "People and Land," and "People and the Urban Society." Panels will convene Monday morning, Monday afternoon, Tuesday morning and Tuesday afternoon.

The panel program is planned to be in three parts: a reactor panel, a technical panel, and a conferee panel. The reactor panel of about eight people will represent the general broad public interest in a particular subject; the technical panel of about twelve people will represent the professionals — the expertise. It will be their responsibility to identify and define the problem, suggest solutions and alternatives and present the facts. The conferee panel will consist of approximately 150 people representative of all facets of the subject.

The reactor panel will react to the technical panel presentation. Each technical panel member will be expected to present a concise statement approximately five minutes in length. After the reactor panel reacts to the technical panel presentation, the conferee panel will react. It will then be the moderator's responsibility to keep up the reaction and interaction. Out of the discussion, the moderator will distill short and long range recommendations which are to be presented to the Governor for his consideration and implementation.

With your participation, this can be an outstanding conference designed to confront the issues of our times and bring forth creative ideas to insure Californians a quality environment in the future.

## DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

P.O. BOX 2390  
SACRAMENTO 95811



October 30, 1969

Mr. David Allan Kay  
Director of Public Affairs  
American River Touring Association  
1016 Jackson Street  
Oakland, California 94607

Dear Mr. Kay:

Governor Ronald Reagan has asked me to provide you with more detailed information and instruction concerning the forthcoming Conference on California's Changing Environment to be held at the Ambassador Hotel, November 17 and 18. You will be a member of the reactor panel discussing the subject of "People and Water."

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October 30, 1969

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If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 916-445-2358, or my Administrative Assistant, Mr. James C. Fisher, at 916-445-1560.

Sincerely,

William Penn Mott, Jr.  
Director

Attachment

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And yet our rivers are disappearing. The geography that creates a white-water rapid, the steep canyon walls, the sloping contour of the river basin, has proven time and again irresistible to dam builders who saw only the utility potential of a river. We have demands for water, and electricity, and many rivers have become reservoirs to meet these demands. But it seems our demands only increase with each dam, with every death of a river. Are more dams the answer, even if we did have an infinite number of rivers in this state? I would like to pose the question to Mr. Gianelli, and to all water management agencies, and to the Army Corps of Engineers to learn if future funding for dams might be better spent (on a far broader scale) for more efficient development of waste water re-cycling and for more

productive desalinization plants. As we turn on prospective alternatives to dams and reservoirs that inevitably destroy our few remaining wilderness or semi-wild waterways, let us bear in mind Aldo Leopold's lament: "Perhaps our grandsons, having never seen a wild river, will never miss the chance to set a canoe in singing waters."

Later on this afternoon, Gerald Meral, Conservation Chairman of the Sierra Club's River Touring Section, will present a review of a new and dynamic study of wilderness waterways in the State of California. The purpose of this study, based on actual exploration these past several months, is to propose certain rivers for inclusion in a statewide system of Protected Waterways. I am sure we are all eager to learn the findings of this study.

It might appear to certain members of the technical panel that the cause of wild river preservation is supported by only a small segment of our citizenry. Let me quote Secretary Norman Livermore, who recently said the advocates of preservation are not just members of the Sierra Club or the Audubon Society, but "millions of the voting public who may not belong to specific conservation or sportsman groups." These are the people who care, and they are fast becoming the voice of all the people. Thank you.

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My name is Gerald Meral, and I am the Conservation Chairman of the River Touring Section, Bay Area Chapter, Sierra Club. I wish to speak about the wild rivers of the State of California.

The ultimate goal of the River Touring Section is a California State wild river program, such as those of Florida, Georgia, Tennessee, and the United States. We intend to aid the State Protected Waterways program in classifying the Rivers of California according to scenic values, boating quality, and estimated present and future use for canoeing, kayaking, rafting, and swimming.

California has one of the most wonderful and unique river systems in the world. Almost all of the main Sierra rivers have been covered in some part by reservoirs, or bypassed by power tunnels. The few remaining stretches are still being pursued by power and water hungry companies and government agencies. The flood control benefits of these future Sierra river dam projects are all to control flooding of what is actually flood plains, such as the Tulare Lake basin. On the completion of the New Melones, New Don Pedro, and Auburn projects (some of the largest dams and reservoirs in the world) all real danger of flooding of major proportions will cease. California's present reservoir system is now equal in area to all of California's National Parks. Let us keep this in mind as we turn to the North Coast Rivers.

The next area to be exploited is the North Coast, if the water starved semi-deserts of Southern California are to be temporarily satisfied. The Rivers of the North Coast (Eel, Trinity, Klamath, Salmon, Mad, and van Duzen) are to some extent already partially dammed. They, along with a very few of the Sierra rivers such as the Tuolumne and Kern, are vestiges of what was once the greatest wild river system in the world. Will these rivers be the next to go in an inexorable march toward Oregon, Washington, and even Canadian rivers, or will an appreciation for wild river values overcome this amoeba-like expansion?

One means of rationally testing the economic and other values of each potential river project is the development of regional study projects in each river basin. An example of this is the Tuolumne River Conference, of which I am co-vice-chairman. This group, looking at a proposed power project on the last remaining stretch of free-flowing

Tuolumne outside Yosemite, concluded that the project was unfeasible from economic, aesthetic, and wildlife aspects, and we hope to eventually make the river part of the wild river system. The analysis was thorough because people from all walks of life were drawn into it: biologists, foresters, economists, power analysts, water experts, and so on. We believe it will serve as a model to future river study groups.

Dave Kay has already illustrated the use of wild rivers by rafters, canoeists, kayakists, and people who ride summer rivers on air mattresses, inner tubes, and so on. But there are also the fishermen, the campers who love the sound of a free-flowing stream, the hunters whose game will be eliminated when large reservoirs fill up former winter refuges, and the people who just want to get away from the trials of city life. These people (and there numbers are growing incredibly fast) want to visit nature as it can be, not a huge, noisy, motor-boat filled reservoir, with unsightly bathtub-ring walls, and an unhealthy manicured appearance.

The uses described above are growing and will continue to growing at an accelerated pace. In West Germany, a country of 80 million, there are over 200,000 white water boaters alone, and the rivers of that heavily industrialized country are so crowded that reservations must actually be made weeks in advance for a permit to go down some of the most popular rivers. This despite the fact that most of these rivers run through industrialized areas, and are highly polluted, as the recent fish kills on the Rhine showed. Is this what we want in California, and in the not distant future.

For the above reasons the Sierra Club will work with many organizations throughout the state to enact and strengthen the California Protected waterways system.

A statement presented to the panel on People and Water, the Governor's conference on the Changing Environment, Nov. 17-18, 1969.



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Sincerely,

William Penn Mott, Jr.  
Director

Attachment

GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE ON CALIFORNIA'S CHANGING ENVIRONMENT

FIRST DAY  
November 17, 1969

Introductions

Dignitaries, cabinet members,  
panelists - General Krulak

Introduction of  
principal speaker

Honorable Gordon Luce, Cabinet  
Secretary of Transportation

Principal speaker

Col. William Anders, Space Advisor  
to Vice President Spiro T. Agnew

PRELIMINARY  
SUBJECT TO REVISION

GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE ON CALIFORNIA'S CHANGING ENVIRONMENT

SECOND DAY  
November 18, 1969

Invocation	Rabbi Henri Front	8:00 a.m. to
Breakfast	Cocoanut Grove Chairman of the day: Robert H. Gerdes	9:30 a.m.
Introduction	Dignitaries and guests - Robert H. Gerdes	
Introduction of speaker	Miss Maralee Beck, representing youth	
Principal speaker	Dr. Barry Commoner, Chairman, Botany Department, Washington University	
Concurrent panels		9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon
Lunch	Embassy Room Robert H. Gerdes, presiding	12:15 p.m.
Introduction	Dignitaries, cabinet members, panelists - Robert H. Gerdes	
Introduction of principal speaker	Honorable Spencer Williams, Secretary of Human Relations Agency	
Principal Speaker	Joseph F. Boyle, M. D.	
Conclusion of panel sessions	Moderators meeting with special advisors to frame conclusions	2:00 p.m.
Plenary session	Lt. Governor Ed Reinecke	3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Social Hour	Sunset Room - Inspection of exhibits	5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Dinner	Embassy Room, Robert H. Gerdes presiding	7:30 p.m.
Invocation	Rev. (Bishop) Robert C. Rusach	

**PRELIMINARY**  
**SUBJECT TO REVISION**

GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE ON CALIFORNIA'S CHANGING ENVIRONMENT

FIRST DAY  
November 17, 1969

KICKOFF	Cocoanut Grove Chairman of the day: Lt. Gen. Victor Krulak	8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
Invocation	Rev. L.L. White	
Presentation of colors	California Highway Patrol Color Guard	
Dennis Day	Singing "Star Spangled Banner" and "This Land Is My Land"	
Welcoming statement	Honorable Sam Yorty, Mayor of Los Angeles	
Introduction of distinguished guests	General Krulak	
Introduction of Governor Reagan	Robert H. Gerdes, Co-Chairman of the Governor's Conference	
Principal address	Honorable Governor Ronald Reagan	
Concurrent panels		10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
Lunch	Embassy Room	12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m.
Introductions	Dignitaries - General Krulak Panel Moderators - William Penn Mott, Jr.	
Introduction of principal speaker	Honorable Norman Livermore	
Principal speaker	Honorable Walter J. Hickel, Secretary of the Interior	
Concurrent panels		2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Social Hour	Sunset Room - Inspection of exhibits	5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Dinner	Embassy Room - Gen. Krulak presiding	7:30 p.m.
Invocation	Monsignor Patrick Roche	

PRELIMINARY  
SUBJECT TO REVISION

PEOPLE AND WATER

MODERATOR: L.W. (BILL) LANE, JR., President, Lane Magazine and Book Company (Publisher, Sunset Magazine)

SPEAKER: DR. JOHN F. MANN, JR., Consultant Ground Water Geologist, University of Southern California

RECORDER: ROBERT G. EILAND, Assistant Director, Department of Water Resources

SECRETARY:

REACTOR PANEL:

ALAN K. BROWNE Senior Vice President, Bank of America

ROBERT BURT Director, Air and Water Resources Department, California Manufactures Association

GARRETT DEBELL Staff Ecologist

CHARLES L. GOULD Publisher, San Francisco Examiner

DAVID ALLAN KAY Chairman, American River Touring Association

GEORGE W. MILLIAS Chairman, Natural Resources and Conservation Committee

KERRY W. MULLIGAN Chairman, State Water Resources Control Board

MARGARET W. OWINGS Conservationist

ERMAN A. PEARSON Chairman, Division of Hydraulic and Sanitary Engineering

MRS. RUSSEL L. STOCKWELL Water Consultant and Former President, League of Women Voters of California

TECHNICAL PANEL:

FRANKLIN J. AGARDY, PH.D. President, California Water Pollution Control Association, and Principal Sanitary Engineer

HARVEY O. BANKS Chairman of the Board  
Leeds, Hill, and Jewett, Incorporated

TECHNICAL PANEL--Continued

PAUL DE FALCO, JR.	Director, Federal Water Pollution Control
ROBERT T. DURBROW	Executive Secretary, Irrigation Districts Association of California
WILLIAM R. GIANELLI	Director, Department of Water Resources
BRIGADIER GENERAL WILLIAM M. GLASGOW	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
DR. H. THOMAS HARVEY	Assistant Dean and Professor of Biology San Jose State College
PROFESSOR JOHN D. ISAACS	Professor of Oceanography, Scripps Institution of Oceanography
DR. THOMAS H. JUKES	Associate Director, Space Sciences Laboratory, University of California, Berkeley
PAUL MC KEEHAN	Water Chairman, California Wildlife Federation
HENRY J. MILLS	General Manager, The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
JOHN D. PARKHURST	Chief Engineer and General Manager, County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County
DR. LOUIS F. SAYLOR	Director of Public Health

FOR PRESS RELEASE TUESDAY, 18 NOV 69

STUDENT INITIATED FEEDBACK ON THE GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE  
ON CALIFORNIA'S CHANGING ENVIRONMENT

An open meeting attended primarily by students, supports, in principle, the positive ecological position articulated by Governor Reagan, undoubtedly one of the strongest ever set forth by any elected governmental official.

However, these critical ecological goals cannot be accomplished in conjunction with the economic growth also described in the keynote address. We must have a clarification on priorities before giving unqualified endorsement of the Governor's stand on environmental issues. We want to work with the Governor in establishing and implementing the ecological goals of his keynote address.

To this end, a student originated caucus, attended by students as well as other conferees, has unanimously adopted the following series of recommendations.

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## WATER POLICY

- 1) Recycling of waste water and desalinization must be given a higher priority than long distance water transport.
  - 2) The California water plan must not undergo any further development which might cause any degradation of the ecology of California.
  - 3) Economic, statutory, and educational incentives should be established to lower per capita water consumption.
  - 4) Water quality standards must be adopted to protect coastal water resources.
  - 5) Users of water should be held responsible for all costs of acquisition, storage, transportation, and disposal of water in California.
-

## URBAN POLICY

1. Comprehensive social planning based on guidelines laid down on ecological and human considerations should be the basis of urban development and redevelopment.
  2. The state should take a leading role in urban problem solving, including provision of direct subsidies to localities unable to finance necessary programs.
  3. In order to reduce transit problems and pollution in metropolitan areas, integrated rapid-transit systems should be implemented, free to all users.
  4. Reapportionment of all electoral and other jurisdictional districts should take place on ecological and community bases, as well as on the basis of population totals.
  5. The composition of public regulatory and planning bodies should be representative of the public, not vested economic interests.
-

POSITION ON THE SST PROJECT (SUPERSONIC TRANSPORT)

An international issue

In view of the evidence of serious destruction that the SST will cause in all areas of overflight, and considering that the benefits it provides are marginal if any, we urge that this project be dropped immediately.