



ACTION ALERT

June 27, 1980

Upper Stanislaus River Canyon vs. enlarging the New Melones Reservoir.

**If you have ever been there,
if you have ever cared,
help us now.**

We believe that if you count the people who strongly feel that the upper Stanislaus River Canyon should be protected, and those who want to use the area to enlarge New Melones Reservoir, that a great majority favors allowing the continued existence of the last remaining miles of river canyon. Friends of the River has called for a public outpouring of support - the largest ever for a place which people love. And we challenge the proponents of an enlarged reservoir to show that even half as many citizens will come to the support of their position.

Update: Victory in The Courts

May 29: Hundreds of river supporters, in over 20 cities, visit the local offices of their U.S. Congress members and ask them to support H.R. 4223.

The State Senate in Sacramento passes a bill calling for massive enlargement of the reservoir.

June 5: Interior Secretary Cecil Andrus orders the further filling of the reservoir

A fifteen-member, pro-river lobbying team leaves California for Washington.

June 11: Governor Brown vetoes the state legislature's "Fill the dam" bill, and it fails to become law.

June 13: Twenty-two U.S. Congress members ask Secretary Andrus to open dam gates. House Interior Committee leaders assure Andrus that H.R. 4223 will be heard in Congress.

Sierra Club, Friends of the River, Society for California Archeology, Environmental Defense Fund, and other groups sue the Department of Interior in Federal District Court to stop raising of the reservoir level.

June 20: Federal District Court Judge in Fresno refuses our request to halt flooding of canyon. Reservoir reaches elevation of 808' - Parrott's Ferry.

June 26: Secretary Andrus refuses to halt filling. He releases Interior Department report which says the Stanislaus is an outstanding river and eligible for Wild and Scenic designation, but Andrus refuses to support or oppose such designation.

Presidential candidate John Anderson, a Congress member from Illinois, announces support for the Stanislaus, and becomes a co-sponsor of HR 4223. Meanwhile, President Carter plans campaign visit to Merced on July 4 to woo agricultural support.

U.S. Court of Appeals in San Francisco overturns decision of lower court judge, orders halt to reservoir filling. **THANK YOU LEGAL TEAM FOR AN UNBELIEVABLE, THREE-WEEK, AROUND-THE-CLOCK JOB.**

June 27 - 12:00 Noon: Flooding of canyon stops at 820 feet elevation - half a mile above Parrott's Ferry. There is little chance it will go higher, and in one month the reservoir level will begin dropping for the remainder of 1980.

Thirty-three Congress members now co-sponsor H.R. 4223.



"Parrott's Ferry is The Limit"

Don Briggs' extraordinary color film on the Stanislaus and the campaign is bringing the crowds to their feet! It will be shown Wednesday June 9, at 7:30 p.m., with a reception following, at Fort Mason Center in San Francisco. Call (415) 771-0400 for details and times and places of other screenings.

The 30 minute, 16-millimeter film advocates and also activates people to help the Stanislaus win. If you can bring together or find a solid audience, we'll loan you a copy of this moving film. We are considerably in debt for the film, and recommend charging a \$2-\$5 per person donation. A few copies are for sale at \$250 ea.

**Call Friends of the River, collect,
if necessary - if you can help!**

We'll put you in contact with your local coordinator.

F.O.R. Sacramento: (916) 451-9955
401 San Miguel Way, Sacramento, CA 95819

F.O.R. Bay Area: (415) 771-0400
Bldg. C, Fort Mason Center, San Francisco, CA 94123

F.O.R. Los Angeles: (213) 343-6869
17758 Willard, Reseda, CA 91335

Now for Victory in Congress

It is still a hard, uphill fight, but the number of people working for the river and for H.R. 4223, is truly amazing and growing daily. We can win it - and are beginning an even bigger push to get more Congressional support for H.R. 4223.*

Letters, Telegrams, Phone Calls, Visits

WRITE, or better yet, VISIT, PHONE or SEND TELEGRAMS to your Congress member and Alan Cranston.

This is especially important if you live in one of the crucial Congressional districts listed at bottom right.

Your U.S. Congress member

WRITE: Representative _____, House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515

PHONE: (202) 224-3121 (Capitol switchboard in Washington.) Before 8:00 a.m. (our time), 3 minutes costs less than \$1.00.

VISIT or PHONE: His** local California office. Call your town or city hall for your representative's name, local address and phone number.

Either visit with an organized Friends of the River group made up of your neighbors, or drop in on your own.

TELEGRAM: Call Western Union. You can give a concise, 15 word "Public Opinion Message" over the phone which will be delivered to your Congress member in Washington the next morning - and \$2.50 will be charged to your phone bill.

U.S. Senator Alan Cranston

WRITE: Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510.

PHONE or VISIT: San Francisco: (415) 556-8440; Los Angeles: (213) 824-7641; or Washington, D.C.: (202) 224-3553.

TELEGRAM: See above.

And, send a letter to the editor of your local newspaper.

What you might say

- Tell them that the last nine miles of the Stanislaus River Canyon is a national treasure.
- Tell them that too many people love the canyon to allow it to be destroyed.
- Tell them that a moderate New Melones Reservoir extending to Parrott's Ferry has been shown to be more economical and more in the interest of efficient use of public resources.
- Tell them why you care and ask for a response!

*Even if we don't convince the additional Congress members whose support we need to pass H.R. 4223, WE DO NOT INTEND TO ALLOW THE DESTRUCTION OF OUR CANYON!! This fight affects the fate of the rest of our wild places as well! Let us know your ideas!

**Amazingly, there are NO women among the 43 California members of the U.S. Congress.

HR4223

The bill in the U.S. Congress in Washington which will protect the Stanislaus River, from Camp Nine to Parrott's Ferry, as a National Wild and Scenic River, while allowing storage of a moderate reservoir behind New Melones Dam.

Your Friends - Time to Go Nationwide

Get one, five or ten friends to write also. Especially contact friends who live in the crucial Congressional districts listed below. And write or call friends who live in other states and ask them, as a personal favor, to write their Congress members a short letter supporting H.R. 4223. Now's the time we must begin to get national support.

More endorsements from the business community are needed - call Friends of the River (415) 771-0400 for more information on this part of the campaign.

Volunteers

This is a critical need in our campaign. We need volunteers for one or more evenings to come into an office and work with others, calling lists of people who have been to, or care about, rivers. We give them information, ask them for letters to their Congress members, and invite them to lobbying days and other events. We are finding that the people we are calling are enthusiastic to be invited into the campaign.

We also need full or part time paid organizers for the rest of the campaign, and many other volunteer jobs - large and small. ASK US!

Memberships & Money

We still need it. Larger, tax-deductible donations are needed for funding the just released movie on the Stanislaus. As always, any and all donations to keep the phones ringing and the mail going out, are urgently needed. Membership in Friends of the River is still \$15 per year (\$10 or \$5 a year for low-income.)

Thanks for all your financial support in the past - if you can help again, please send a check to Friends of the River, Fort Mason Center, San Francisco, CA 94123.

CRUCIAL CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS

DON CLAUSEN, Sonoma County to Del Norte County.
ROBERT LAGOMARSINO, Santa Barbara & Ventura Counties.
BARRY GOLDWATER, JR., San Fernando Valley to Ventura Co.
GLENN ANDERSON, Long Beach
JAMES CORMAN, Van Nuys
VIC FAZIO, Yolo, Solano & Sacramento Counties.
ROBERT MATSUI, Sacramento
PETE McCLOSKEY, Palo Alto to Santa Clara
LEON PANETTA, Santa Cruz to San Luis Obispo
BILL ROYER, San Mateo County

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