

THE STANISLAUS CAMPAIGN

NEWS

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JULY 1979

TO BRIDGE THE ISSUES

You now have in your possession the latest issue of the Stanislaus Campaign News. It's come with a new format and a new focus.

The goal of this publication is better communication among the people who are most directly and actively interested and involved in the fight to save the Stanislaus River Canyon.

In an effort to keep from overloading you with reading, we hope to keep this a trim publication while effectively relaying the kinds of energy and tactics that are keeping the campaign alive and growing. A lot is happening and we need to be aware of what is being generated in neighboring areas as well as on the home fronts.

The Stanislaus Campaign News includes the latest breaking events, regional updates from people all over the state, and Friends of the River staff reports from Washington D.C., San Francisco, Sacramento, and the foothills.

BONUS

The bi-weekly reports will include only the most recent happenings, but for fun and information each issue will feature an indepth report on one person and/or area.

LATEST BREAKING EVENTS

H.R. 4223 UPDATE

The latest co-author is Robert Carr from Michigan.
How things stand:

The bill is presently in the subcommittee on Parks and Insular Affairs. With plans to move in September, groundwork is continuing to be layed and goals set forth. Several events are important in helping our cause and chances in the legislature.

1. Completion of two reports
 - A.) A cost benefit ratio analysis of H.R. 4223 headed up by Shortcutt.
 - B.) Tim Palmer's Federal Wild and Scenic River Study.
2. Gaining new sponsors in the interior committee and from a broad based California delegation.
3. Gaining editorial board endorsements and furthering media exposure.
4. Getting the Campaign going nationwide.

NATIONAL WILD & SCENIC RIVER STUDY

Tim Palmer, from Pennsylvania, is donating his 3 week vacation to do a much needed Wild & Scenic Rivers Study on the Stanislaus, with the help of volunteers and a river trip or two. He visited here last May, while Mark was chained in the canyon, and has subsequently written several articles about the Stan that will be appearing in various outdoor publications during the next 6 months.

A super effort - Thank you Tim!

Friends of the River



BLM WILDERNESS STUDY

Due to the existence of the New Melones Dam, the B.L.M. has not recommended the 4 parcels near the Stanislaus River canyon for further wilderness studies; BUT a final report is not due until November. We have word that they may change their minds if public input is as strong as it was the first time around.

Comments on the current proposals will be accepted until October 15 and 12 public meetings are scheduled in August to hear other comments. Check with B.L.M. or F.O.R. for the date and place nearest you. Then go and be heard! We have done it before! Let's do it again!

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANIZATION ENDORSEMENTS

Good News! Several groups have signed on to a coalition letter sponsored by the American Rivers Conservation Council (ARCC) in support of protecting the river above Parrott's Ferry. Formally joining us in the public light are Friends of the Earth (F.O.E.), the League of Conservation Voters (L.C.V.), the National Resources Defense Council (NRDC), the Environmental Defense Fund (EDF), the Environmental Protection Council (EPC), Sierra Club, the Wilderness Society, The National Parks and Conservation Association, and the National Audubon Society!

STATE GOVERNMENT

It is up to the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) to determine the exact level of water impoundment required by their 1973 decision 1422. The Bureau of Reclamation argues that 597,000 a.f. of water is needed which would flood the canyon to about the South Fork of the Stanislaus. Friends of the River's calculations say less water is required - less than 300,000 a.f. which would flood no further than Parrott's Ferry. The SWRCB will hear technical arguments from all sides on August 22. They are expected to make a decision at the board meeting in September.

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) reviewed F.O.R.'s criticisms of the Bureau's operation plan and concluded that the F.O.R. report raised serious questions about the Bureau's operation study.

SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE - EXAMINER AD

We gambled! Friends of the River spent \$11,600 for a one day run of a beautiful ad. We have received a lot of responses (605), quite a few new members (135), and some money - But not enough! Most donations came in \$5 or \$10! We sure are a grassroots organization!

Fund Raising Ideas? Events planned?
We want to go to the L.A. Times!!!

TUOLUMNE HEARINGS

Dams are threatening the Tuolumne! \$10-15,000 is being spent lobbying Congress to push for dams on the 83 miles of this beautiful, wild river, which already has five dams. Our hope is that Congress will declare it a Wild and Scenic River, but we need you to write letters and attend hearings:

Saturday August 4 in Columbia

1-5 pm, Forum Building

Columbia Jr. College

Sawmill Flat Road

Tuesday, August 7 in Modesto

2-4:30 and 7-9 pm, Stanislaus County Center #3 Auditorium
Oakdale Road and Selmic Drive

Thursday, August 9 in San Francisco

2-4:30 and 7-9 pm, California Hall
625 Polk Street

Saturday, August 11 in Oakland

1-5 pm at Kaiser Center Auditorium, 2nd floor
300 Lakeside Drive.

Write: Wild River Study Team, US Forest Service, 19777 Greenley Road,
Sonoma, CA 95370 in support of alternative A.

NOTE: If you can distribute packets of information on the Tuolumne, please contact the Bay Office. We need to build support now.



DAVIS

Our chapter was initially organized by Kevin Wolf, a student of ecology at U.C. Davis, after he served as a guide on an F.O.R. media trip down the river with Mark Dubois. Mark catalyzed in Kevin the passion and courage to really go out and fight for the Stanislaus. Within a couple of months, Kevin had organized a group of likewise passionate, energetic people in Davis to begin waging war on the river dammers' inertia.

Davis F.O.R. declared May 16-20 River Awareness Week. We showed the Stanislaus slide show and the Glenn Canyon film twice, had several speakers at noon and in the evenings, set up our booth on campus to disseminate information, sell F.O.R. tee-shirts, accelerate the letter writing, and sold raffle tickets for a free trip down the Stanislaus. (Boats and river skills were donated. There were 20 winners and we also took a boat with four media people.) Money earned from the raffle and fund-raising movies shown on campus has been used to buy letter writing materials and postage.

Our congressman, Vic Fazio, has received over 500 letters and postcards from people in Davis. We don't know how many letters have gone to Senators Cranston and Hayakawa, Secretary of Interior Cecil Andrus, Governor Brown and President Carter.

On May 23rd, while Mark was chained to the rock, Davis F.O.R. organized a peaceful march in Sacramento from the office of Colonel O'Shea at the Army Corps of Engineers building to Governor Brown's office in the Capitol. Lots of river lovers showed up. The media was present, and we were nothing short of ecstatic when the governor came out and addressed us, calling for a stop to the filling.

Our most recent activity was a public forum on July 7th with Vic Fazio. Although he supported legislation in 1974-75 to stop the dam, he feels that now that it is completed at great expense to the state and nation, it must be filled. His reasoning is complicated, involving the desire to pay off construction costs by selling water and electricity; need for more fresh water pumped into the Delta to prevent salt water intrusion; as well as his recognition that the water and electrical needs of the state will continue to increase over the coming years.

At the public forum, three members of Davis F.O.R. acted as the informed panel to put forth arguments on each major point of Fazio's rationalization for filling the New Melones. Guy Baldwin spoke about the potential for water and electrical conservation, pointing out that the cheaper the water rates, the less efficiently it is used, and that with even minor conservation, we would have no need for more dams.

Therese Meyer spoke about the economics of filling the dam, citing a Department of Interior audit of the Central Valley Project which said the CVP is going into massive debt by selling water at such low rates. Kevin Wolf addressed the moral issues of destruction of the canyon, stressing that it is our congressman's responsibility to do everything in his power to preserve the natural heritage of our state for posterity--to be a lawmaker with vision, not one who capitulates to big-moneyed, high-power agricultural and industrial water users in the interest of future personal gain.

As well as these prepared statements, many other participants at the forum spoke up for conservation, archaeological mitigation, etc. Congressman Fazio was firm in his belief that it is in the best interest of the majority of the state to continue filling the dam as soon as the need for the water has been established. He said that he has no plan yet how he will guarantee that his "progressive objectives of water conservation are met before the filling begins again. We were pleased at his decision to take a trip down the river in August as this indicated that he is still keeping an open mind.

I think that a main factor in Davis F.O.R.'s success has been alerting the news media before each event, providing them with pertinent information such as reports, letters, and F.O.R. statements in the form of press releases. We hope that we have played and will continue to play a role in educating our town and our representatives in government to the higher virtues of resource conservation and environmental awareness."

This letter was written by Davis' contact person, Therese Meyer. Her address is:

732 L Street
Davis, CA 95616
(916) 758-4229

STAFF REPORTS

FROM WASHINGTON, D.C.

Shortcutt has sent legislative packets to Congress, The White House, The Interior Department, and to the Press to announce the ARCC letter (see update) and to cover the whole Stanislaus situation. She says that the economic study is progressing and that she has energy fact sheets coming out soon. GREAT!

While Congress takes their August recess, Shortcutt will head out to California where she will be working on getting editorial endorsements along with other projects. Her trip out will include a stop in Denver to do a little research at the Headquarters of the Bureau of Reclamation.

FROM SACRAMENTO

MARK - Has finally spent two days in one place (Sac.) after weeks of traveling - to N.Y., Washington D.C., Los Angeles, Bay Area, Claveras County - in lobbying efforts and media and grassroots pursuits.

LURIE - Is being kept busy searching out and interviewing a replacement for Tom. Along with her regular administrative load, she is working on publications scheduling meetings and a new mechanical device that restricts the outflow of money (similar to those installed in shower heads), an admirable effort to conserve the precious resources as they come in.

MEGAN - Is our much needed Sacramento contact for the Stanislaus Campaign this summer, to help with the loose ends in Sacramento, work on the Newsletter and local media, and establish a communications network and systems for the Stanislaus Campaign.

VICKI - "Valuable Vicki" is busy with typing, errands and a whole slough of office activities - the mail, memberships, t-shirts and everything else that flows through.

TOM - Called back into temporary service after a brief retirement, Tom presently continues to devote time to work on F.O.R.'s operation study. He is also involved in the process of interviewing applicants for the position of staff researcher/lobbyist for F.O.R.

CAROL - Still comes to Sac. every week or so to do some Congressional organizing work. Has been spending most of the time lately working in the foothills on guide education and organization and some other local activities. Held a "slide show under the stars" for guides July 19th at the ARTA house. approx. 80 were in attendance for volleyball, dinner, and a view of, among other things, the spring destruction of the lower canyon.

FROM SAN FRANCISCO

BRAD - With Tom getting ready to go back to school, Brad has been working F.O.R.'s operation plan on New Melones. He has otherwise been involved with Drew, summer intern, in creating the Tuolumne River Campaign. Quite a tremendous task!!!

TOM H. - Has been organizing grassroots at Fort Mason at S.F. to keep the Bay Area Congressional districts informed and notified of the interest in their districts. He has been meeting with the Congressional aides, and putting out fliers on the Stanislaus. He also has put together an educational packet, which can be sent to district offices. Order from Tom.

CATHERINE - Has, along with all sorts of office traffic, the responsibility of fund raising. She is hard at work drumming up funds for the Operations Study, and the Chronicle advertisement, and has been very successful to date!!!

DICK - Is in touch with newspaper reporters, T.V. and radio people, has arranged media trips on the Stan., and has conducted research in various legal and economic aspects of the controversy. He was responsible for that super advertisement that appeared in the Chronicle.

DON BRIGGS - Is continuing work on getting media coverage in national publications, national and local T.V., and radio. He is also gathering material and raising funds to try and get the film together on the Saga of the Stan.

REGIONAL UPDATES

MOTHER LODE

Located in the vicinity of Parrott's Ferry and New Melones Dam, this group--started only last March--is one of the busiest. On June 2, they put together a River Dedication Ceremony. It was attended by over 700 people!

There evolved out of that event a series of classes where a group got together to educate themselves on the facts of New Melones. From those classes, seven people organized a speakers forum on the Stanislaus situation. After its virgin presentation at the California Conservation Corps in Murphy's, the group will move on to a public forum in Sonora on August 16. From there, it's on to Modesto and Stockton!!

The Mother Lode Chapter of F.O.R. has also:

- 1) Staffed a letter writing table at Parrott's Ferry take-out for many weeks, generating lots of letters to lots of government officials.
- 2) Sent letters to 300 Boards of Supervisors and City Councils regarding the Stanislaus. (Beware--one has probably arrived in your city!)
- 3) Are sending out newsletters telling people about Tuolumne River hearings (Aug. 4-Sonora, Aug. 7-Modesto), about the forum, about a 5-county public relations campaign planned for the Stanislaus, and about their Aug. 25th fund-raising garage sale.

Contact person is:

Melinda Wright
P.O. Box 293
Columbia, CA 95310
(209) 532-8067

NORTH COAST

North Coast members of Friends of the River have been busy too. Nancy Reichard, representative of the area, informs us that she has written a North Coast chapter letter to Congressman Clausen and is now awaiting his response. Unfortunately, she says she wasn't able to persuade him to visit Arcata when he was in the district in early July. More will be planned at their next chapter meeting.

Contact person's address is:

Nancy Reichard
1215 Union
Arcata, CA 95521
(707) 822-3691 (a.m.-work)
(707) 822-1666 (p.m. & before 8 a.m.-home)

SANTA BARBARA

Gina Cuclis and Roberta Jortner, our reps from Santa Barbara, tell us of a town meeting in Santa Barbara. Unfortunately, hopes aren't too high that Congressman Lagomarsino will co-sponsor HR 4223. He's quoted as saying the bill "is too extreme" and that the Stanislaus cannot be a wild river because it has a dam on it. However, he did say he is for protecting the river!?! He suggests writing letters to Cecil Andrus and President Carter.

Gina, Roberta and a few others are trying to brainstorm for ideas of how to reach the general community--not just Isla Vista and the University area. Gina's address is:

Gina Cuclis & Roberta Jortner
6524 El Nido, #1
Goleta, CA 93017
(805) 685-2266

VALLECITO

Marty Booth has been coordinating Friends of the River raft trips since the middle of June and says they will be continuing until the end of August.

He's been in charge of a 3-phase program which provides: 1) educational river trips for locals, politicians and media persons; 2) thank-you trips for those who have given their time and energy to the cause of the Stanislaus for Friends of the River; and 3) funding-raising trips to help support H.R. 4223.

IMPORTANT: The initial organizers of these trips are getting tired and Marty needs help in the form of equipment, guides, and so on. So if you know anyone who wants to get involved in any aspect of seeing that trips happen, contact Marty at:

Marty Booth
P.O. Box 186
Vallecito, CA, 95251
(209) 736-9912

CHICO AREA

On June 30, Sami Izzo had the opportunity to speak to Congressman Bizz Johnson at the Mt. Shasta Wilderness Hearing in Weed. She once thought him a hopeless case. She reports that though he still feels strongly that New Melones needs to be filled, the reason is because it has been built! He doesn't seem as committed to filling as he once was. He realizes that Melones represents a change or turning point in this era of dam building.

Sami reports that letters seem to make Biz aware that the river is more valuable than the reservoir. She says "letters to him stressing the need to change with the times and stop era of dam building could push him closer to understanding the reality of 1979!"

Contact:

Sami Izzo
Rt. 1 Box 130
Durham, CA 95939
(916) 343-0405

LOS ANGELES

Thanks to the efforts of people like Doug Linney, our rep from the Los Angeles area, the Stanislaus Campaign has gained ground in Southern California.

First priority, Doug says, is to locate district coordinators who will set up appointments to see their Congressmen during the August recess. Seven coordinators have already been found and the list is growing amazingly fast. A second goal is to set a quota letters per week from each district.

Doug continues to work on outreach contacting individuals and organizations and keeping in touch with Congressional offices. Eg. Has a table set up at R. E. I., and will present the slide show at one of their instruction clinics!

If you know any L.A. folks let Doug know. He's always looking for more contacts.

DOUG - A table among the craft sellers along Venice Beach - How did that go?

Doug's address:

Doug Linney
8142 Geyser
Reseda, CA 91335
(213) 993-6903

BAKERSFIELD

And where's the best place to meet folks who want to write letters and help on the Stan campaign? Rivers, of course! Gail Horsley, our contact in Bakersfield, has been handing out Headwaters and talking to people as they get on the Kern River. These river rats appear to be more approachable than many in her area, and she feels she's getting a good response towards letter writing from them.

While Bakersfield is proving to be a tough challenge, Gail is fired up to try "a few strategies up her sleeve," and invites any fellow rats passing through to look her up and go down the Kern.

To contact Gail, write:

Gail Horsley
2918 San Pablo Ave.
Bakersfield, CA 93306
(805) 871-1764

SAN DIEGO

For many weeks Don Szalay and John Yager have been spreading the plight of the Stanislaus and gaining support in the San Diego area. Lately they are having people sign petitions at San Diego State summer school. They use the names for a Stanislaus mailing list to write letters in support of HR 4223. Don and John are always looking for more contacts. Do you know anyone in San Diego?

Contact:

Don Szalay
3943 Bernice Dr.
San Diego, CA 92107
(714) 226-0072

John Yager
7385 Steinbeck Ave.
San Diego, CA 92122
(714) 453-6434

If you have made it this far, you have made it to the end....so PLEASE, take a couple more minutes to let us know that you did and how you feel. Just check the box, sign your name, and add any comments you have! Criticism is even welcome and will be considered.

We look forward to hearing from you - REALLY!!!

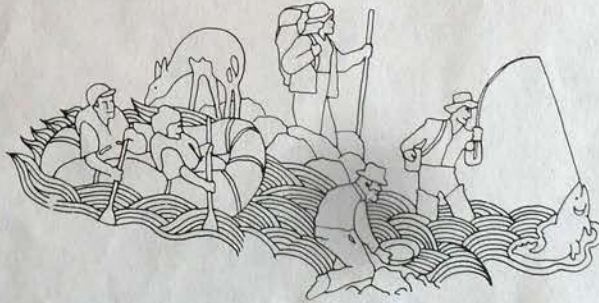
Thanks -

Megan, Chris + Carol

I READ IT ALL!!!

NAME _____

COMMENTS _____



FRIENDS OF THE RIVER

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