

THE STANISLAUS CAMPAIGN

NEWS

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LATEST BREAKING EVENTS

CONTINUED...

The date for the technical workshop to be held by the State Water Resources Control Board is fast approaching. Several staff members are working long hours in preparation for the September 12 meeting. Looking forward to hearing the arguments for the different opinions as to the level of water impoundment required by the Board Decision 1422 is exciting. A decision probably won't be made until the October meeting of the Board, but tune in to the next issue of the Stanislaus Campaign News to learn how the workshop went!

Have you written your letter to the Board yet asking them to limit filling to Parrott's Ferry? The time is getting short. Please write. The address is 1416 9th St., Sacramento, CA. 95814.

BLM WILDERNESS STUDY

The hearings, Round 2, are over. Again the case for the Stanislaus was heard up and down the state. In Los Angeles 5 people testified -- 3 specifically for the Stanislaus. In Sacramento 5 of the 6 people testifying spoke out to save the river canyon. In San Francisco too more than half of the people heard wanted the Stanislaus Canyon preserved.

Section 2C of the Wilderness Act says that the study of an area has to be done in its present condition, i.e. what is seen is what is to be reported on. The canyon being considered has not been effected by the dam yet. It has not been flooded. But they say exclusion as a study area was due to the existence of the dam. What do you think? Procedural error?

Written comments are accepted until October 15. Please send to Folsom District Office, 63 Natoma Street, Folsom, CA. 95630.

Tell a friend.

THE TUOLUMNE - LAST CHANCE

Comments are due September 15. The address is:
Wild River Study Team, U.S. Forest Service
19777 Greenley Road
Sonora, CA. 95370

Write in support of Alternative A to put the Tuolumne in the National Wild and Scenic River System. Thank you.

PHOTO EXHIBIT IN SAN DIEGO

"Endangered Rivers of the Mother Lode" will be shown in the Museum of Natural History in Balboa Park until October 31. A successful opening was held on August 31. Mark Dubois from the Sacramento office was there and reports that many people went and that they were pleased with what they saw. What a good way to get an education on rivers!

ENDORSEMENTS

What group do you belong to? Who do you know? We are looking for unions, business and cultural groups, organizations ... to write support letters for H.R. 4223. There is an endorsement packet ready to go! Contact Doug Shields at the Bay Area Office for packets and/or more information.

FRIENDS OF THE RIVER



VISIT TO THE VALLEY



Following through from last spring's debate between Friends of the River and local dam supporters in Ripon, Dave Dickson arranged for six friends of the river to tour Henry DeJong's almond orchards in Ripon. Joining Dave were Melinda Wright, Char Sawatske, Mike Harami, Larry Shephard and Carol Nelson.

The tour began with a look at the hulling machinery. Coffee and almond cookies were then served on the patio as Mr. DeJong and Mr. John Hertle, leader of Friends of New Melones who joined the group for the morning's tour, discussed maps of the areas to be effected by the operation of New Melones. Next, everyone climbed into the Commander mobile home for a tour of the acres that would be flooded or suffer seepage damage at high water flows in the lower Stanislaus region. Although no minds were changed, several issues were raised and interesting dialogues exchanged.

Big questions that emerged were:

- * Will partial filling be able to control downstream releases reasonably well, or will flows really have to be 8,000 cfs for months, as farmers imply?
- * What irrigation method will conserve water and still leach salts from the soil -- or how can we avoid salting the soil in the first place?
- * What recourse do we have for water in a dry year?

Final conclusion: Friends of the River should come up with the answers and visit the opposition again!

Incorrect statements are still being made much too often about "food for a starving world" and selfish whitewater rafters, but progress was made in communication as both sides listened to what the other had to say. All who participated enjoyed the morning and felt it to be an informative and worthwhile experience.

The following are comments from some of the visitors to the valley.

"Their (Hank and John) statements were strange. They lamented that Caswell State Park, a beautiful riparian area, is flooded occasionally; but at the same time, they claim it is no big deal if the Stanislaus Canyon is flooded forever." Michael

"I also would like to see the masses fed and I hope my grandchildren will never go hungry but raising almonds will not and does not ensure this." Char

"We need to conserve water on the field, not behind dams, and convince farmers that this is practical. After today, I think the farmers really might go for a practical alternative, but somebody else will have to work to provide it, and at our present state of technology, it won't be easy. Possible, but not easy." Melinda

"I think that some interesting and important questions were raised today in our interchange with Henry and John...legitimate reasons for filling New Melones. I also think it is real important for us to have solid responses to the issues we talked about. An important and valuable glimpse of the other side for me." Larry

"The most significant thing that happened today was that the communication that was started at the Young Farmer's Meeting in Ripon on April 25 was taken a step further and that this line of communication should continue to be kept open so that we can hopefully someday reach a level of understanding between us and them." David

WILD AND SCENIC RIVER STUDY

Keeping in touch by phone and by mail, Rick Hardie, coordinating efforts out here, and Tim Palmer, putting things together in Pennsylvania, move closer toward completion of the Study. Another packet of material went east in the mail today. Ah - how good to see the east and west working together for such a noble cause.



SPECIAL NOTICE TO GUIDES (and/or anyone else with free time)

1. Thank you for your help and support this season.
2. If you are interested in spending time working with Friends of the River this winter, especially in Sacramento, please get in touch. If you are going through town, come by and say hello and see what is going on.
3. If you are leaving the other guides and going out on your own and you want to keep up with the latest events through the Stanislaus Campaign News, let us know and we will send you copies to your winter address.



1. Nothing Breeds Success Like Success

The campaign to encourage conservation of water and energy will need a great deal of local support both to be implemented in our own homes and to gain media attention.

We need you! Keep on the lookout for individuals, farming operations, corporations, anybody who is saving water and energy. We must impress the media with the concern and the possibilities for conservation. So -- find a success story in your local area so that media in your area will feel the relevance of the issue to their audience.

Please forward success stories to Dick Roos-Collins in the Bay Area office so that he can 1) contact media in that area, and 2) distribute the story to media folks elsewhere. Thank you.

2. Contracts and Programs

There are more sympathetic media than we know of. Please send Dick a copy of any media people you may know who are sympathetic or neutral to our cause so that Friends of the River will have a more complete list to whom we can send information on our campaigns such as the Stanislaus, Tuolumne, and conservation.

Also, be on the look-out for talk shows and other programs on radio and television which might be suitable for further publicizing Friends of the River campaigns.

3. Rhetoric

By the end of the week, Friends of the River staff will have written an outline for the rhetoric we will be using in our campaign to preserve the Stanislaus. The outline needs review. Anyone interested in how we say things as well as what we say should write and ask for a copy of the outline, and make suggestions to their heart's content.

MORE MEDIA

Mark has just recently come off of a multi-day "media blitz" to the southern part of the state. He did numerous radio, television and newspaper interviews, news spots, and editorial board meetings including ones with the Los Angeles Times and with the major papers in San Diego.

Many thanks go to those people who were responsible for most of the happenings, Roberta Jortner and Gina Cuclis in Santa Barbara, Don Briggs and Doug Linney in Los Angeles, and Don Szalay in San Diego.

FUND-RAISING

1. Delightful Drifting Day on a Delta Float! Spend a day in the sun drifting down the river on a raft between Walnut Grove and Isleton. It's 8 miles. Bring your own lunch and drinks, and a lifejacket if you have one (regulations you know). Entertainment will be provided... musical instruments, including a floating piano! Ya Hoo! Just \$10.00 for the day. Pick one (Sept. 29th or 30th or Oct. 5th or 6th), and "go with the flow!"

Sponsored by Reg Lake and friends.

2. Rock and Roll is alive and well! September 30, in Sacramento, it's the RUTABAGA BOOGIE BAND BENEFIT. You've heard of them, right? They are HOT! Details in the next issue, but mark your calendar now. Don't miss it!

3. Upcoming event, October 25. A night at the theater in San Francisco. "Passion of Dracula." Details to come.

Any questions or suggestions on fund raising, call the Bay Area Office of Friends of the River - 415-771-0400.



STAFF REPORTS

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Finishing up her current stint in California, PATTY SCHIFFERLE has been focussing on doing a financial analysis of New Melones. In assising the present operation plan she is gathering data to document the amount of money that the operation will cost tax payers each year. She also attended the Los Angeles Times editorial board meeting.

SAN FRANCISCO

CATHERINE FOX is back at work on much needed long term fund raising projects. She is also at work developing the board for the Friends of the River Foundation. DICK ROOS-COLLINS has been instrumental in the organization of several large and successful media river trips. He has been working on Stanislaus rhetoric and on a one year plan for publicity in addition to general media work. (See Media article.) With the Tuolumne issue, BRAD WELTON has gotten back into grassroots in a serious way, getting out petitions and flyers, working to help put the Tuolumne into the Wild and Scenic River system. He has also spent time with Tom on the operation study and has organized river trips. TOM HUNTINGTON has returned from a great trip in the Grand Canyon and is ready to dive back into grassroots activities. DON BRIGGS is home for a brief stay after his Grand Canyon trip. He has been following up on national and Los Angeles media contacts. In Los Angeles he presented Mark with a 5 minute film clip he put together from rolls and rolls of film taken these past few months of the river and various activities of folks working to save it. LAURIE MC CANN continues work on fund raising and administration. Among other things, administration involves accounting and taxes. O Boy.

SACRAMENTO

In addition to being the Wild and Scenic River Study coordinator at this end, and getting ready for the September Board meeting, RICK HARDIE is putting together the beginnings of a study on water use in California, i.e. Water conservation vs. New Water Projects. TOM BURTON is spending most of his time gearing up for the Board meeting coming up on Wednesday. That is not a small task since we're sure that the opposition is doing the same. Back from a brief vacation, VICKI MARTINEZ is getting into her fall routine of classes at Cal State and work at F.O.R. It is good she is back to take care of work that piled up while she was gone. MARK DUBOIS is back from his travels to Southern California (see Media article) and is now in Sacramento meeting with people, writing notes, and talking to folks on the phone. He spoke to the State Board of Food and Agriculture on New Melones on September 6. Interesting!

VALLECITO

With Marty off to the Grand Canyon, CAROL NELSON is keeping track of F.O.R. river equipment and trips. Looks like they'll be some help there soon though. Besides letters, river trips, talks with guides and the Stanislaus Campaign News, Carol was one who went on the "visit to the Valley." Very good experience.



Best Wishes to LAURIE MC CANN and PHIL WALLIN
on their September 8th marriage.

Much happiness to you.

May you always have more roses than thorns.



REGIONAL REPORTS

SAN DIEGO

Don Szalay reports that Rep. Burgener's staff has not cooperated at all with F.O.R. members there, so there's still been no luck in getting an appointment. Don says they'll be trying to get film into classrooms at San Diego State University, and articles into the school newspaper once school starts September 4th.

DAVIS

Davis may not be the most active F.O.R. group these days, but they're still in there--not to be forgotten, that's for sure!

Larry Meyer says three students--Dean Taylor, Kevin Wolfe and Guy Baldwin--have set up a class for the fall quarter. It'll be offered through the experimental college Davis has, which is a student-arranged and organized institution. The name of the class is "Water Use in California", and a lot of speakers have already been lined up for it.

Larry says the Davis F.O.R. group is planning to try and get a course into UC Davis's regular curriculum for the spring quarter.

MOTHER LODGE

The garage sale held in Melinda's garage on August 25-26 was a BIG success! Melinda said there were lots of beautiful crafts and things, but that they could have used a few more customers. Anyway, the sale brought in \$300. Not bad.

Rep. Shumway, congressman of the 14th District (home of New Melones Dam), held a public forum at Jackson on Wednesday, August 29. Seven river friends attended and got the impression that Shumway is not very enthusiastic about talking of the dam.

Mother Lode has been spending time evaluating the Forum - listening to the tapes and trying to organize and get commitments for the future.

Mother Lode folks want to confront the local supervisors on "local impacts" of New Melones. What will they say about the millions that the locals will have to spend if New Melones is a full reservoir???

NORTHCOAST

Don Clausen should have received an HR 4223 endorsement letter by now, since Nancy Reichard says Northcoast sent one out on August 21. It was signed by five member groups of the Northcoast Environmental Center--Friends of Del Norte, Six Rivers Branch of Friends of the Earth, Northcoast Chapter of F.O.R., North Group of Sierra Club, and the Redwood Region of Audubon Society.

Two points were stressed in the letter: 1) protect the inherent values of the river, and 2) end water waste which threatens the Northcoast rivers. Looks like the next move is Clausen's.

F.O.R. is in for a lot more publicity in Arcata later this month, since Northcoast will have a booth at the North County Fair on Sunday, September 28.

Nancy got a chance to shake Senator Alan Cranston's hand at a wine and cheese fundraiser in Eureka. When asked about the Stanislaus, he said he was aware of it, but he limited his remarks to SALT II. He got plenty of exposure to environmental concerns since several environmentalists were present with different issues of concern.

SANTA BARBARA

Looks like Thursday, August 30 was a big day for F.O.R. members in Santa Barbara. Gina and Roberta say they--along with a local doctor and a lawyer--finally had a meeting with Rep. Lagomarsino. They discussed different issues in order to encourage him to co-author H.R. 4223. They went as concerned individuals rather than F.O.R. members. This was their way of showing constituent concern and desire for representation in government. After the meeting, Lagomarsino was still skeptical. Apparently he doesn't feel the Stanislaus issue should be settled by Congress, though he does believe the river should be protected. But the citizens had educated him some and they presented him with petitions with over 300 signatures that had been collected in two weeks. The Santa Barbara folks feel that "we shook him up a bit."

Always optimistic, Gina wasn't discouraged by the "fair" turnout they had for their August 15th meeting (10-12 people), and thinks they did generate some energy.

Students at Santa Barbara City College are getting a taste of F.O.R. energy from the circulating petition and letter-writing table that have been introduced there recently.

Friends of the River

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That's it for this issue.

Fightin' for the Stanislaus,

Chris & Carol