

## POLICIES AND DECISIONS MADE AT MERIWETHER IN '58

The following Policies and Resolutions were adopted at the 27th Annual Convention of the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs, Camp Meriwether, Oregon, September 1, 1958:

### **RESOLUTION No. 1—Reaffirmation of Policies**

Resolutions with regard to the following subjects were passed in September, 1957, or previously. It is believed that a reaffirmation of the principles in these resolutions is necessary and important in 1958.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs reaffirms its position taken in resolutions adopted in 1957 and previous years as follows:

1. The Federation urges the U. S. Forest Service to include in its next budget request, ample provisions to complete the studies in forest recreation as recommended by Dean Samuel T. Dana's "Problem Analysis: Research in Forest Recreation." The Federation further requests the United States Congress to provide the required funds.
2. The Federation supports the establishment of Dinosaur National Park in Utah and Colorado, incorporating such provisions as were embodied in S. 2577 in the 85th Congress, with the revisions recommended by the Citizens Committee on Natural Resources relating to surveys the Secretary of the Interior is empowered to make.
3. The Federation continues its opposition to construction of any trans-Sierra road across the Sierra Nevada between Tioga and Walker Passes.

### **RESOLUTION No. 2—North Cascades**

1. Portions of the North Cascades of Washington have been recognized to be unquestionably of national park caliber. Twenty years ago in a preliminary survey by the National Park Service it was stated that a national park created there would "outrank in its scenic, recreational, and wildlife values, any existing national park and any other possibility for such a park in the United States."
2. The U. S. Forest Service has considered the area's scenic resources, including the primary value of wilderness, during the past 30 years, seeking a means to protect these values under the limitations of the laws establishing the national forests. In 1936 the Regional Forester approved a 794,440 acre Glacier Peak Wilderness area proposal which was later withdrawn. In the intervening 22 years other proposals, much more limited in acreage, have tentatively been considered. Since 1940, a 348,000 acre Limited Area has been retained pending future reclassification.
3. Protection of the wilderness core of the North Cascades is of extreme importance

and is one part of the total requirement for scenic preservation. This periphery of the wilderness, including the transition zones of the thresholds of the area, is also of major importance and requires protection from commodity utilization. Existing law does not provide an adequate basis to protect either the transition areas or the wilderness core under Forest Service jurisdiction.

4. The national park caliber of this region, including both the wilderness core and the developed gateways, would be protected by law, including the basic National Park Act of 1916, if a major part of the area were given national park status.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs requests Congress to direct the Secretary of the Interior, in consideration with the Secretary of Agriculture, to conduct a study of the North Cascades area between the North Cascades Primitive Area and Stevens Pass, in the State of Washington, and recommend to the Congress how this region with its wilderness, scenic, wildlife, and recreational resources may best be protected by law.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Federation commends the U. S. Forest Service for the protection it has thus far afforded the region, in view of the limitations of law and funds, and requests that this protection be continued pending the study.

### **RESOLUTION No. 3—Rainbow Bridge National Monument**

Complete protection of Rainbow Bridge National Monument from waters to be impounded by Glen Canyon Dam is required by the Colorado River Storage Project Act. It is imperative that this protection be provided without impairment of Rainbow Bridge National Monument.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs invites the attention of the Secretary of the Interior to the urgency of having the National Park Service and the Bureau of Reclamation complete surveys and promptly make public all feasible methods for safeguarding Rainbow Bridge National Monument, with protective structures to be completed by the time Glen Canyon Dam is completed. The Federation also requests that opportunity be afforded for public consideration of the detailed plans before they are put into effect.

### **RESOLUTION No. 4—Visitor Facilities at Wildlife Refuges**

The number of visitors to our excellent National Wildlife Refuge System has greatly increased. It is anticipated that this trend will accelerate with the wide recognition of the refuge system as a public attraction. The Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs is

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aware of the need for visitor facilities at those western wildlife refuges located a considerable distance from any towns and also of the need for a policy regarding such facilities.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs urges the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service to provide essential visitor facilities at National Wildlife Refuges.

### RESOLUTION No. 5—Great Basin Range

In Nevada the Great Basin Range, an outstanding scenic area representative of the desert mountain ecology and geology of the region is currently being studied by the National Park Service.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs urges the National Park Service to complete studies in cooperation with the Great Basin Range National Park Association looking to the establishment of the Great Basin Range National Park.

### RESOLUTION No. 6—National Park Roads

The Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs reaffirms its belief that the standards proposed for National Park Roads by the Sierra Club are adequate, and it is reassured that the Director of the National Park Service has expressed his general agreement with them.

The Federation believes, however, that standards followed in construction of some national park roads, such as the Tioga Road in Yosemite National Park, are far in excess of the standards described, resulting in unnecessary damage to national park terrain.

The Federation also believes that decisions on whether a road shall be built and where such roads shall be located will have irreversible effects on the natural scene. It believes such decisions should be based, first, on wilderness protection, and, second, on the esthetic, as well as engineering, considerations when a road is authorized.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs urges the National Park Service to promptly study, adopt and publish the standards which are henceforth to be adhered to for National Park roads, seeking in this study the cooperation of representative conservation groups.

### RESOLUTION No. 7—Wilderness Bill

The Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs commends the sponsors of the National Wilderness Preservation System Bill (S. 4028 and H. R. 13013) and urges speedy reintroduction and passage in the Eighty-sixth Congress.

### RESOLUTION No. 8—Mount St. Helens Limited Area

In the State of Washington the Mount St. Helens Area, including Spirit Lake and environs, is a center for family and youth group recreation. In addition to its magnificent scenery, the area offers fishing, swimming, hiking, skiing and wildland experience.

Recognizing the need to establish a consolidated area with defensible boundaries, the U. S. Forest Service is endeavoring to acquire by exchange land within the present Mt. St. Helens Limited Area not now under Forest Service jurisdiction.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs supports the U. S. Forest Service in its efforts to manage the maximum possible amount of the Mt. St. Helens Limited Area for public purposes, keeping it as free as possible from commodity utilization.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Federation urges the U. S. Forest Service to maintain in a wild state the area known as the "lakes region" north of Spirit Lake and offers its assistance in accomplishing these objectives.

### RESOLUTION No. 9—Olympic National Park Ocean Strip

In the present Ocean Strip in Olympic National Park is one of the last opportunities to preserve a primitive oceanscape. Alternative commercial road sites are available, including twenty miles of superlative ocean right-of-way from Ozette River to Cape Flattery. It is, therefore, possible and feasible to keep this remnant of wilderness ocean front roadless and at the same time serve local community needs.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs urges the National Park Service to keep Olympic National Park's wilderness Ocean Strip roadless. The Federation further urges the National Park Service to explore with the State of Washington the possibility of extending National Park jurisdiction to the beach in this area.

### RESOLUTION No. 10—Deferment of Land Classification

Studies to be undertaken by the President's Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission will afford opportunity for reevaluation of the best long term use of many areas not yet developed.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs urges those agencies now administering lands which are not designated for other purposes to defer any decisions on the ultimate disposition of such areas and to hold these lands in their present status until the findings of the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission are announced and the public has had adequate opportunity to review proposals for utilization of these lands. Examples of such areas are:

1. Washington: Alpine Lakes Limited Area, together with the Salmon La Sac region and the Mt. Stuart range.
2. Oregon: Waldo Lake Limited Area.
3. California: Kern Plateau.

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### RESOLUTION No. 11—Outdoor Recreation Resources Review

The Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs commends the sponsors and supporters of the Act establishing the President's Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs requests that the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission, in its appraisal of the needs of the future, give especial attention to the following three items:

1. *Gateway or Buffer Areas:* Sufficient undeveloped land is not available to meet the increasing demands for wilderness. Some of these recreational demands may be satisfied by partially developed lands. Semi-developed lands contiguous to actual wilderness can serve two purposes:
  - (a) Provide an entryway to the wilderness;
  - (b) Lessen the impact on wilderness of activities whose effects are felt at a great distance.

Such buffer areas, by protecting the boundaries and the land immediately inside them, keep the effective size of the wilderness area as large as possible.

2. *Competing Land-Use Demands:* Growing populations create increased demands for wilderness and similar outdoor recreational opportunities at the same time as they create increased demands for the potential commodity products of those lands. Evaluation of the competing demands should be based on the possibility of finding substitutes for commodities and the impossibility of finding any substitute for wilderness or natural scenery.
3. *Public Lands Near Population Centers:* The needs of urban communities for open spaces increase even as the open spaces disappear. Where there are sizable areas of public or quasi-public lands near cities, it is important to defer their utilization for industry or construction until adequate open-space recreation for the expanded community is assured.

### RESOLUTION No. 12—Future Resolutions

The 48-hour duration of Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs conventions is too brief to permit drafting or extensive reworking of resolutions during that period.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT future Resolutions Committees shall not be expected to consider proposed resolutions submitted to the committee's chairman later than August 1 preceding the regular annual convention of the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs: This requirement, however, shall not preclude consideration of matters on which knowledge had been unavailable prior to that date.

### RESOLUTION No. 13—Convention Appreciation

The 1958 convention of the Federation of

Western Outdoor Clubs extends its great appreciation to the hosts, the Mazamas and the Angoras, for their courteous hospitality and excellent care provided at Camp Meriwether. The convention gratefully thanks them. It further wishes to thank the Mazama Youth Activities group and the Boy Scouts for their valuable and willing service.

### GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

The following general recommendations were presented by the Resolutions Committee and passed by vote at the 1958 annual convention.

IT WAS MOVED: That the President be instructed to act for the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs in the following matters presented to the Resolutions Committee for its action:

1. Appoint a special committee to study use of sub-alpine timber in National Forests of the Pacific Northwest and to make recommendations to the 1959 convention.
2. Urge the Forest Service to continue its plans for setting aside natural areas in the 53,000 acres deleted from the Three Sisters Wilderness Area in Oregon.
3. Lend the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs' support to the Oregon Wildlife Federation in obtaining adequate legislation to protect the wildlife of the Klamath Lake—Tule Lake bird refuge.
4. Appoint a special committee to recommend legislation in Oregon to prohibit motorized travel in Wilderness Areas.

Una Davies of the Trails Club was chairman of the group that spent the better part of their convention time over Labor Day at Camp Meriwether, compiling and editing the above.

Other committee members were Edward Darrow, Jean Fasig, Art Johnson, Charlotte Mauk, John Osseward and Paul Wiseman.

Acting as aides were Fred Packard, David Brower, two U. S. Forest Service members, Frank Folsom and Richard Bottcher. Typing was done by Mrs. Jean Morrison, Betty Barthel, Nell DeWitt, Mabel McPherson and Donna Osseward.

Final editing was done by President Polly Dyer with the help of Art Johnson and Roscoe Poland when the convention was over.

Former FWOC president, Dr. Karl Onthank has been appointed to the Oregon State Water Resources Board by Governor Robert Holmes. His term is four years.