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words on wilderness

O sweet spontaneous
earth how often have
the doting

fingers of
prurient philosophers pinched
and
poked

thee
, has the naught thumb
of science prodded
thy

beauty . how
often have religions taken
thee upon their scraggy knees
squeezing and

buffeting thee that thou mightest conceive
gods

(gut
true

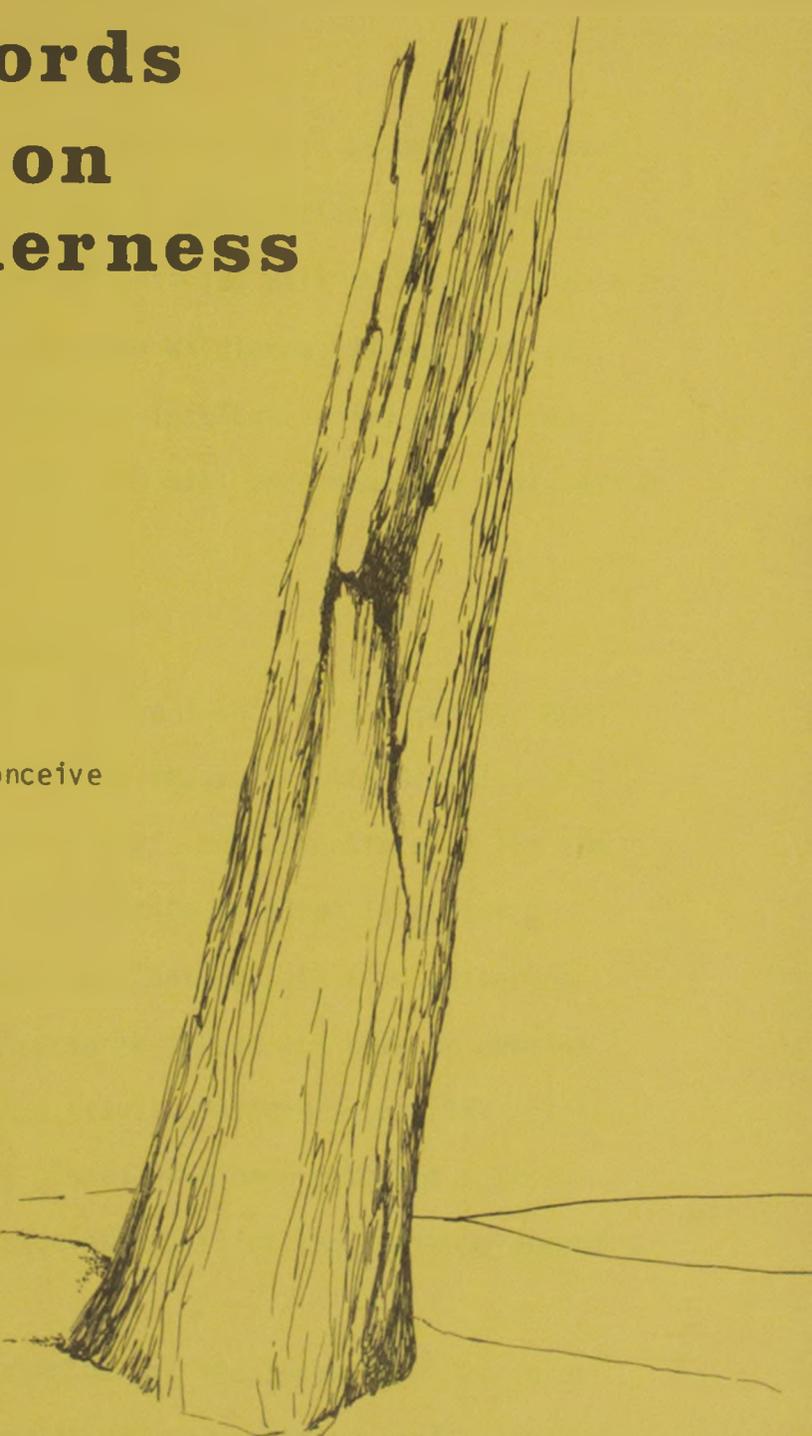
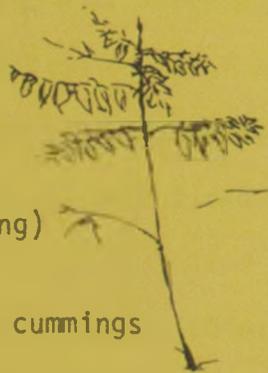
to the incomparable
couch of death thy
rhythmic
lover

thou answerest

them only with

spring)

- e.e. cummings



Youth - that early stage of development - is a period of achievement and failure, of gaining assurance and security. The Institute, though still in the process of blossoming, has reached a level of credibility which enables communication of its purpose and direction on a broad scale. Until recently, only interested individuals who sought out the Institute were aware of its resources. Now we are actively moving to build a greater public awareness of the Institute.

Articles reprinted from "Words on Wilderness" will be appearing each month in the newsletters of the Environmental Information Center and the Association of Outdoor Programs. Special articles will be submitted to Living Wilderness, Montana Outdoors, Western Wildlands, Backpacker, etc. These articles will inform people about the Institute - its objectives, programs, and the information available, and will encourage the utilization of these resources.

WILDERNESS INSTITUTE AWARDED BLM CONTRACT

W.I. has recently been contracted by the Idaho Falls District, BLM, to do two studies, the Great Rift Primitive Study, and the District Off-Road Vehicle Study. These field studies are a real breakthrough for the Institute as they will be our first opportunity to directly assist a land-managing agency in identifying and evaluating both wild resources and ORV use. To date W.I.'s primary program thrust has been to develop a wilderness information center. As a result, wilderness and ORV related proposals, documents, and management plans, have been gathered. This data will be used in the BLM field studies to assist the land-use planners and managers.

The Idaho Falls District stretches across the Snake River Plain of south central Idaho. Recent increase in ORV use on these public lands is jeopardizing the natural, scenic, and geologic values, as well as wild values. Thus, the District Off-Road Vehicle Study will involve monitoring of ORV events and impacts with recommendations for management.

The Great Rift is a 60 mile long extension of deep fissures in the earth's surface. Encompassing 320,000 acres, the proposed primitive area consists of a 2,000-year-old lava flow and many unique volcanic features. The Great Rift Primitive Study will primarily deal with identification of these features, area boundaries, available water sources, and imprints of

man. The study will be concluded with recommendations for boundary signs, a trail system, and any road closures.

BLM LANDS

The Wilderness Institute has begin to compile information on roadless areas managed by the BLM. Montana contains 8 million acres of BLM lands divided into six districts. Early last February, letters were sent out to each district manager requesting a listing of their roadless areas and status of their planning units. The BLM responded by naming 29 units of roadless areas totaling approximately 351,000 acres. The information received is being incorporated into the W.I. office files as well as the computer filew (WIRF) and the mapping system.

TIMBER SALE MONITORING

We have completed the consolidations of the Student Environmental Research Center files into our Timber Sale Monitoring program. W.I. now has complete timber sale information dating back several years on all forests in Region 1. In the process of incorporating these files, nearly 200 questionable timber sales affecting roadless areas were found dating back to 1971. We are in the process of writing letters to the various ranger districts involved, requesting the status on these past sales. On the more current sales, bid dates and maps are also being requested. As this information comes in it will be incorporated into our Map Overlay and Timber Sale Monitoring systems.

WIRF

The computerized file on all the Forest Service roadless areas in Montana has been updated. The updating consisted mainly of recent planning unit consolidations, and WIS dates obtained from the Supervisor's Office of each forest. Also, incorporated into the system under the field name FILE are available EISs in the W.I. office which pertain to that particular roadless area.

The following is a list of draft and final EISs, scheduled for May and June, 1975, which affect roadless areas:

<u>MAY, 1975</u>	<u>JUNE, 1975</u>
<u>DEIS-</u> Bitterroot Warm-Springs-Medicine Tree Deerlodge Basin Lewis and Clark Rocky Mountain Front Smith River Lolo Lolo Creek	<u>DEIS-</u> Helena Colorado-Union Travis Kootenai Seventeen Mile Napoleon Lewis and Clark Castle Mountain Lolo North Cutoff-Kennedy
<u>FEIS-</u> Beaverhead Gravelly Snowcrest Tobacco Roots Flathead Bunker-Sullivan Lake Five	<u>FEIS-</u> Beaverhead Madison Bitterroot Bitterroot Range South

More Dates of Interest

- Advisory Board Meeting - May 8
- Montana Wilderness Study Bill Hearing - May 9
- Great Bear Wilderness Hearing - May 20

SENATE HEARINGS

The U.S. Senate hearing on Sen. Metcalf's Wilderness Areas Study Bill has been scheduled for May 9, 1975. Local conservationists and interested citizens have been sending letters of support to be entered in the Hearing Record, and letters to Max Baucus requesting that a companion bill be introduced in the House. Also, a fund drive has been initiated to send four representatives to testify at the hearing in Washington, D.C.

A second hearing, the Great Bear Hearing, has tentatively been scheduled for May 20, 1975.

TO PONDER

The sum total of human works, the artifacts of savages, barbarians, medieval men and modern - all cities and towns, every hut, hovel, skyscraper, and temple, all steel bridges, everything man has made to use since the first stone tool or wooden club - does not equal, in all parts put together, the achievement of the life forms of plant and insect in a square foot of grass.

Philip Wylie The Magic Animal

WILDLAND RESOURCE WORKSHOP

The Institute convened a Workshop on April 29th to address the issue of evaluation of the wildland resource. The participants included John Krutilla from Resources for the Future, nationally the leading author in the field; Denny Schweitzer and Bob Benson, forest economists with the Forestry Sciences Lab; Erv Schuster, assistant professor of economics in the Forestry School; John Duffield, assistant professor of economics; Tom Birch, assistant professor of philosophy; Dexter Roberts, associate professor of English; Bill Holman and Frank Salomonsen of the Regional Office of the Forest Service; lecturer and writer Bud Moore, formerly with the Forest Service; Bob Ream, Dale Harris, and Bill Milton of the Wilderness Institute staff.

The Conference participants reviewed the theoretical and empirical work that has been done in the economics of amenity resource allocation. Among the topics discussed were the presently used R.A.R.E. and "Ed Slusher" systems, the allocative process as political decision making, amenity valuation, and the cost/benefit ratio of wilderness designation.

The participants reached a consensus that we should take an empirical approach toward the remaining roadless and unclassified National Forest lands. Specifically, they recommended that we conduct a sensitivity analysis of the Quality Index as defined by R.A.R.E.; that we establish some measure of productivity of wildlands; that we determine timber productivity and the internal rate of return of the harvest on these lands, with the intention of comparing the return on capital from harvesting wildlands with that derived from more intensively managed timber lands.

The Conference was an unqualified success. We intent to sponsor similar ones in the future.

PUBLIC EDUCATION

Continuing its role in public education, the Institute is working on a brief brochure dealing with wilderness philosophy and ethics. Aimed at the wilderness camper and distributed via the retailers of backcountry equipment, the brochure speaks to the problems of increased use of the wildland resource and suggests camping techniques to minimize man's impact.

OUTFITTERS' WORKSHOP

Early in April Bud Moore and Dale Harris met with the Outfitter's Steering Committee in Helena. This committee is attempting to create a state-wide Outfitter Association. Our purpose in meeting with these folks was threefold; introduce the Wilderness Institute, discuss the current needs of the Outfitters, and discuss the possibilities of conducting a workshop. The meeting went well and the Steering Committee is proposing that W.I. conduct a workshop at the December, 1975, Annual Outfitters' Convention.

FUND RAISING

The School of Forestry continues to provide the space and services necessary for the administrative operations of the Institute. In addition, the Institute has received in the past month \$1505.00 in donations. We are still awaiting the decision of the University Research Advisory Council regarding our \$3500 proposal. A proposal has also been submitted to the Western Montana Fish and Game Association and we are awaiting their decision. We are still in the process of completing proposals to large foundations throughout the country.

SUMMER COURSES IN WILDERNESS LEADERSHIP

Two courses are being offered through the HPER department this summer that will provide a unique opportunity to integrate classroom learning with outdoor experience in the field of wilderness and outdoor recreation:

- HPER 460 Sec. 29 - Leadership Techniques and Survival Skills for Wilderness Backpacking - 3 credits. This class will include 3 days in the class and two days in the field.
- HPER 441 - Organization and Leadership of Outdoor and Wilderness Programs - 3 credits - must be taken concurrently with HPER 491, Practicum. This course includes supervised practical experience and analysis of organizational aspects of outdoor and wilderness recreation programs.

WILDLAND STUDIES

One of the most treasured resources in Montana is its wildland resource. In addition to the 2,785,000 classified Wilderness acres, including all of the Selway-Bitterroot, there exist 5,380,089 additional acres of Forest Service Roadless Areas in Montana. These Roadless Areas

were defined and mapped into 211 separate areas as a result of the Forest Service's Roadless Area Review and Evaluation (R.A.R.E.) of 1972. Thirty-six R.A.R.E. areas totaling approximately 1,530,000 acres have since become New Study Areas; ones in which a formal Forest Service study shall determine their suitability for Wilderness designation. The future of the remaining 175 R.A.R.E. areas will be decided through the Multiple Use planning process. It is projected that all of the Multiple Use plans will be completed in 10 years, most within 5 years. There is both limited potential for additional classification of wilderness areas and an increasing demand for other resources. Thus it is necessary to give the wildland resource adequate consideration in the Multiple Use planning process. To help ensure this adequate consideration, the Wilderness Institute is continually filing all information pertaining to the wilderness resources of these R.A.R.E. areas.



Certain areas are considered to be top priority in the process of wilderness study and classification. Nine of these areas in Montana are presently before the Senate in the Montana Wilderness Study Act of 1975.

In addition to these areas, the Wilderness Institute has determined the following areas to be top priority study areas for summer field study teams:

<u>AREAS</u>	<u>ACRES</u>	<u>NATIONAL FOREST</u>
Snowcrest	48,800	Beaverhead
Red Rocks	4,600	Beaverhead
Tobacco Roots	25,582	Beaverhead-Deerlodge
Sheephead	88,500	Bitterroot
Jewel Basin	133,035	Flathead
Mt. Hefty	13,440	Flathead
Bridger	41,320	Gallatin
Big Belt	35,980	Helena
Badger Creek	96,819	Lewis and Clark
McGregor-Thompson	87,040	Lolo-Kootenai
Mt. Henry	16,950	Kootenai

YOU CAN HELP

An invitation is extended to interested individuals to aid in the study of the wildland resource. If you plan any spring or summer outings into roadless country, the Institute would welcome your thoughts and reflections regardless of your technical expertise.

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(406) 243-5361

Copies of the following materials are available upon request. Check the publications you wish to receive; then just fold this sheet in thirds, stamp it, and drop it in the mail. Our address has been provided on the other side.

1. ____ Wilderness Institute Statement of Purpose
2. ____ Weigand, Frank Wilderness Institute Roadless Area File (WIRF)
3. ____ The Wilderness System, reprinted from LIVING WILDERNESS, winter 1974-75
4. ____ Metcalf, Sen. Lee and Sen. Mike Mansfield, Montana Wilderness Study Act of 1974
5. ____ Akey, Larry and Melissa Patterson, Hilgard-Monument Peaks
6. ____ Gibbs, Andy, Middle Fork Judith
7. ____ Bass, Medora, Ten Lakes
8. ____ Bass, Medora, Sapphire Area
9. ____ Moore, Bud, Sapphires
10. ____ Swanson, Fred, Blue Joint
11. ____ Ski Yellowstone
12. ____ Roberts, Dexter, Bean-Bacon defacto Wilderness
13. ____ Milton, Bill and Larry Akey, Guidelines for Reviewing EIS's
14. ____ Bryon, William L., Jr., Toward a Viable Environmental Movement
15. ____ Bugby, Henry, Wilderness in America
16. ____ Hart, Ray L., The Poiesis of Place
17. ____ JG & LH, Planet Drum Material
18. ____ Moore, Bud, America Needs a Land and People Ethic
19. ____ Snyder, Gary, Gary Snyder on Wilderness
20. ____ Bradley, Jim, Nezperce National Forest, USFS, Environmental Outfitting

STAMP

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