



1972-73...

12,000 letters to President Nixon

1974-75...

Decision 1422

THE STANISLAUS
Save the Stanislaus
PROPOSITION 17

yes 2,447,812

500,000

no 2,705,699

signatures on 80,000 petitions

STILL LIVES

1976-77...

SB 1482 4 Senators yes

AB 4460 4 Senators no

14,000 letters to Governor Brown

1978

...

?



THIS ISSUE OF HEADWATERS

Friends of the River's Second Annual **Wild Rivers Confluence** was a thorough even-better-than-expectations, success.

Over 300 people from all over the State gathered in Sacramento to share experience, expertise and enthusiasm. As the drought breaking rain drenched the Sacramento State campus a general feeling of big expectations and optimism prevailed—replacing last year's grim determination.

For a photographic image of what took place, turn to pages 3 and 4.

Also in this issue is a special report on the **Van Duzen River** management plan which drew enough flak in its first three weeks to send the Department of Fish and Game back to their drawing boards for another try.

Slightly further south, two streams, **Pinole Creek** and the **San Lorenzo River**, have attracted a group of local friends. A report on their activities is found on page 5.

In addition to these items: The **Middle Fork of the Feather** is threatened, Brad Welton provides an update on the **North Fork of the Stanislaus**, and a new bottle bill is being contemplated.

And, of course, the **Stanislaus**.

Friends of the River is a political, research, and educational organization dedicated to the preservation of our remaining magnificent free-flowing waters, and to the conservation of our water and energy resources.

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Friends of the River Foundation is an independently established, non-profit, non-political, educational organization associated with Friends of the River.

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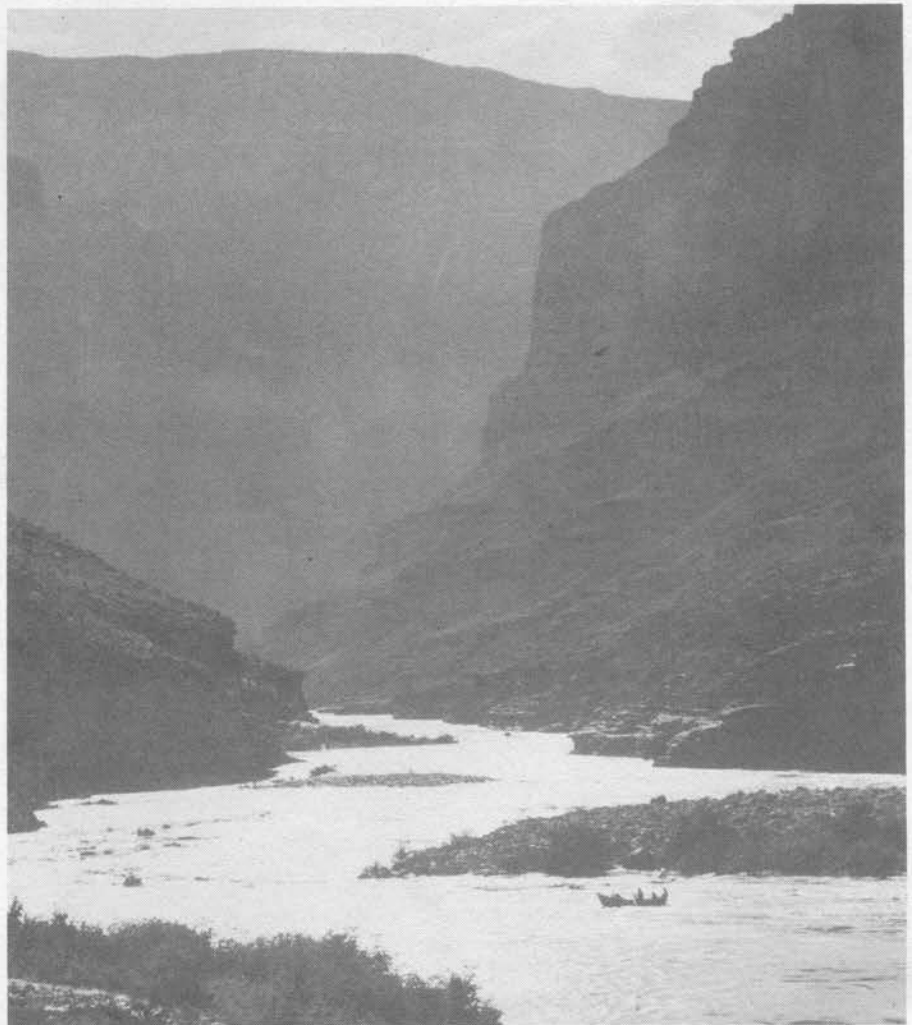
Readers Please Note: Should your copy of **Headwaters** be improperly addressed, or if you fail to receive an issue, or if you are planning on moving, please contact our Sacramento office.

About the Cover.

In an almost literal sense, Friends of the River was born on the banks of one river—the Stanislaus. And although our interest and commitment have grown to embrace all the flowing streams, creeks and rivers, all over the State, we still have a special commitment and feeling for the Stanislaus.

The cover depicts in a graphic kind of way the battles that we've been through over the past five years to save the Stanislaus—battles that we've lost; but, at least we'd like to think, they've been closer than the score indicated.

Now, however, it's April, 1978, and our time is finally running out. But, as the cover says, the Stanislaus still lives. Read the article to see how you can help keep it that way.



John Blaustein



Bob Krips

THE STANISLAUS RIVER—1978

After a decade of political struggle, the flooding and destruction of the Stanislaus River by the New Melones Dam is about to begin.

The dam's diversion tunnel will be plugged in August, and water will begin to back up the river in November. As early as next March, Parrott's Ferry could be underwater.

WILL IT REALLY HAPPEN?

A last, powerful campaign to save the upper Stanislaus is underway, and needs your help.

The key to the effort is Secretary of the Interior Cecil Andrus. If Andrus can be convinced that a lot of people still care about the Stanislaus, then there is still time to opt for partial filling of the reservoir—as the State has requested. If an intense letter writing campaign is not mounted, the decision makers will simply decide nothing—and the canyon will be lost.

The Friends of the River staff feels that such a campaign has two distinct goals. The first is to protect as much of the upper canyon as possible, not just from flooding but from Army Corps defoliation plans as well. The second is to make a powerful statement for all to see and hear. It must

be made unmistakably clear that there are many very concerned and active people who will not be silent partners in the callous destruction of a living canyon and are prepared to make their objectives as forceful as necessary.

As the campaign unfolds, defenders of the Stanislaus will be responding to specific events, the dates of which will be communicated to members in the form of Action Alerts.

In the meantime, the Friends of the River staff is asking you once again to write a letter for the Stanislaus. Address it to Secretary of the Interior Cecil Andrus, (Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240) and send a copy to Governor Jerry Brown, (State Capital, Sacramento, CA. 95814).

Four short sentences can make a powerful letter if you communicate a sincerely held conviction. Ask that the Stanislaus be saved above Parrott's Ferry bridge.

We have enough dams. And we have enough reservoirs. Wilderness, and wild rivers, are among those precious things that man can only destroy, and not create. The Stanislaus, a nine million year old river, is standing at what could be its final hour. Don't let it happen.

**IF YOU WRITE ONLY ONE LETTER TO AN ELECTED
OFFICIAL THIS YEAR, MAKE IT THIS ONE.**

THE SECOND ANNUAL FRIENDS OF THE RIVER WILD RIVERS CONFLUENCE



The Confluence -- 1978



Mark Dubois



Norman Murray and Bill Fairbanks courageously defending
the water developers' point of view.

**“Man has effected
every part of
the water cycle”**

Peter Warshall

**“The health of our river
is an indicator to
the health of
our community”**

Mary Hammer



Brad Welton and Jerry Meral
help with a workshop.

Photography by Don Briggs

Benefit Raft Trips for FOR

SEE THE STANISLAUS RIVER (OR SEE IT AGAIN)!!

--oOo--

Several Stanislaus River Outfitters are generously offering to schedule raft trips, or open up spaces on already scheduled trips, as a benefit for FOR's Stanislaus Campaign. This is a great year to see the Stanislaus - and help renew your conviction that it should not be destroyed. One-day and overnight trips are being offered, and all trips are scheduled for weekdays when the river is uncrowded. The trips will be run by experienced Whitewater Guides. There are many ways to experience this canyon and this is one of the best ways to do so. Besides the excitement of the rapids, great meals cooked in the out-of-doors, and the typically clear, starry night skies, the Stanislaus Canyon is giving us the finest display of wildflowers this year that anyone can remember.

The price for the trip is \$39 per person *
for one day trips and \$70 per person for two *
day overnight trips (\$30 and \$56 for 18yrs. *
and under). The money will be used to *
further FOR's work to protect the Stanislaus. *
Parties of one to 25 can be accomodated, and *
some of the dates can be changed to suit *
your convenience. *



NAME ADDRESS ZIP TELEPHONE

Length of trip: One day _____ Two day _____

Desired date (or approximate date): _____

Outfitter: _____

Number in party: _____

Please make out payment in full to: FOR
Attn: ALEXANDER
401 San Miguel Way
Sacramento, CA 95819
(916) 451-9955

***A full refund will be made if no)
acceptable date can be found or if)
the trip for some reason must be)
cancelled.)

ECHO (Joe Daly, Dick Linford): Two-day trip on Wed.-Thurs. July 26-27
OARS INC. (George Wendt): A total of 10 spaces on already scheduled week-
day, one-day trips and 10 spaces on weekday two-day trips available.

WILDERNESS WATERWAYS (Marty McDonnell): One-day trip Mon. June 19. Min-
imum party of six (or six parties of one).

ZEPHYR (Bob Ferguson): Two-day trips, May 17-18 and June 20-21
(both Wed-Thurs). One-day trip Thurs. June 15. Other dates available.

ARTA: Contact FOR for dates.

STANISLAUS CAMPAIGN ALERT AND UPDATE

1. Letters are beginning to come in to Interior Secretary ANDRUS (Washington D.C. 20240) and Governor BROWN (State Capitol Sacramento, CA 95814) in favor of partial filling of New Melones and protection for the Stanislaus. Good Start! Many, many more letters will be needed to offset TWENTY FIVE YEARS of momentum which New Melones has behind it. Although BROWN and HUEY JOHNSON have been publicly saying they don't hear from environmentalists enough, they are listening. MORE LETTERS ARE NEEDED!

2. The May 17th hearing in Placerville is shaping up to be a big public launching for the campaign. Although the Corps of Engineers wants the hearing to address using the South Fork American River as "whitewater mitigation" for the Stanislaus, defenders of the Stanislaus and the South Fork will be turning out in mass to speak for continued life for BOTH rivers. Partial filling for New Melones and no \$300 million hydroelectric development for the South Fork will be the specific themes. The Corps was forced to change the hearing's location because considerably more interest has been expressed than they expected. The location listed on the last page of this HEADWATERS is the old one - the new location is Eldorado County Fairgrounds. (Take Hiway 50 east to the first Placerville Drive exit, cross over the freeway. The fairground is 1/4 mile on the right) Time is still 7:30 P.M. Try to attend - let the coordinators, listed below, know you are coming. WE CAN'T BE SILENT ANY LONGER!!!!!! River Lives Are At Stake. Contact: Sacramento-Alexander:451-9955; Davis-Shawn:756-4938; Bay Area-Brad or Catherine:527-0851; Calaveras/Toulumne-Melinda:532-8067; Hayward/Bay-Shelly 582-6186; El Dorado-Donna:677-2292.

3. The Corps will be holding their Archeological "Mitigation" public hearing on May 31 in Angels Camp . Anyone can help us organize for this - especially people with contacts with archeologists or historical societies. The Corps would again like to whitewash the destruction they will bring to all values of the Stanislaus.

4. Date Correction: The Stanislaus Gathering listed on the last page of this issue has been changed to May 26, beginning at noon. It is still held at the Confluence Ranch, Vallecto. We hear RONIT RIESER'S beautiful Stanislaus slide show will be unveiled, and there will be squaredancing. . . .

5. Saturday June 3: There will be a Tour of the New Melones Dam Site. YOU really ought to see it to believe it, and the Army Corps will be showing it to us. Contact FOR.

6. NEED FOR THE WATER On April 29, a headline story in the Stockton Record said that in 1977 San Joaquin County's agricultural output topped half a billion dollars for the first time in history. THIS WAS DURING THE SECOND DRIEST YEAR ON RECORD, and Without New Melones Dam! San Joaquin and neighboring Stanislaus County are slated to receive most of New Melones'Water. It makes you wonder WHO IT IS WHO NEEDS THE WATER SO DESPERATELY??? "The earth has enough for every man's need, but not for every man's greed" (Gandhi).



**“From a legal point of view,
the only real hope
is to pass new laws
establishing nature’s rights”**

Robert Lutz



The Skit: B.C. Rimbeaux, Zeke Cornell, Craig Rieser



Dave Brower



*A Panel on Agriculture and Irrigation
Faligh Aljibarh, Charles Gardinier, Ken Turner, Phil Levine*



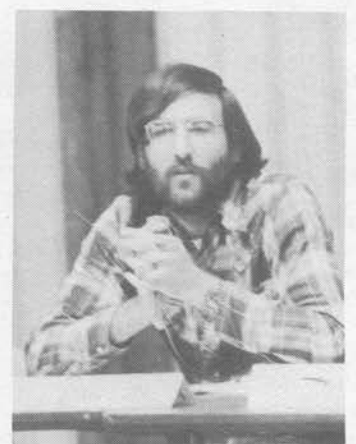
Ronit Rieser



Catherine Fox



Alexander Gaguine



Tom Burton

The recently organized Friends of the River Coalition is a group of organizations focussed on smaller watersheds. They meet on a regular basis to discuss common problems and strategies.

What follows are two case histories about the experience of two separate groups in trying to protect their own community watershed.

One is written by Mary Hammer, from the Save the San Lorenzo River Group in Monterey county and the other by Mignone Allen, an employee of the City of Pinole's Community Development Department.

The two "histories" are quite different in their approach to creek rehabilitation, but both share a similar regard for the value of a natural stream.

TWO STUDIES IN COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The City of Pinole Community Development Department recently prepared preliminary plans for the restoration of Pinole Creek from a Flood Control Channel to a linear park. Among the city's objectives in beginning this project are: Provide a recreational experience while improving pedestrian circulation; improve the image and character of the city; and increase public awareness and respect for the surrounding environment and the delicate balance of nature.

We are hoping, as much as possible, to recreate the natural environmental state of Pinole Creek. We hope to establish different plant communities as the trail and creek head inland from the Bay, changing from a salt-water marsh, to a salt intrusion zone, and finally to a freshwater zone as the creek meanders down from its headwaters.

In addition to restoring the native habitat and providing a highly valued recreation opportunity, the creek project will also improve the image of Pinole's historic downtown, and is considered a major element of the Pinole Old Town revitalization program. Portions of the creek provide a park-like setting that meanders through historical old Pinole. A network of footpaths will provide pedestrian access to commercial establishments, parking and recreational areas, as well as the neighboring residential communities.

As the project progresses we hope to involve as much of the entire community as possible. Already, a high school class has been asked to develop a preliminary design for a mini-park adjacent to Pinole Creek and the Pinole Valley High School. Other community participants the commission hopes to involve are Boy and Girl Scout Troops, as well as Women's Clubs and fraternal organizations.

The ultimate hope of the city is to make the Pinole Creek a community project, with community involvement at all stages of its development, in order to further public acceptance and commitment and also awareness of the ecological balances that sustain a living creek.

During 1977, members of the Save the San Lorenzo River carried on a wide range of activities designed to educate the public to the importance of the San Lorenzo River to the life of our valley.

We attended and testified at a number of State and County meetings regarding the passage of a protective ordinance. We have worked in close accord with the Department of Fish and Game in formulating a County Watershed Plan, to be completed in December of this year.

Our fourth fact sheet on the siltation problem was published this year and we also wrote an article on the river which will be published this Spring in *Angler* magazine.

A four month program of river education, to be repeated this Spring, was conducted at the Boulder Creek Elementary School. The program included talks and slide presentations, river walks, clean-up activities, as well as stories, poems, and pictures produced by the students.

Funds were raised primarily through the sale of T-shirts as well as the operation of a recycling center.

Over the years our interest and action have paid off in a number of concrete ways. The San Lorenzo has now been placed among California's Protected Waterways, a crucial step toward maintaining a high quality river environment. We have also been instrumental in beginning a septic tank inspection program, and we successfully pursued our complaint against the City of Santa Cruz for over-pumping at a diversion dam.

These victories along the way have encouraged us but our ultimate goal is full protection of the watershed. If you would like to be a member of our organization, contact us at P.O. Box 118, Felton, California, 95018. Single memberships are \$2.00, family memberships are \$3.50 and student memberships are \$.75.

The Van Duzen River Management Plan

Earlier this March, the California Resources Agency recalled the Van Duzen River Waterway Management Plan, for revision, following two public hearings on the final document.

The plan was mandated by the 1972 California Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Its purpose was to provide compatible means for protecting the values that qualified the Van Duzen for protected status.

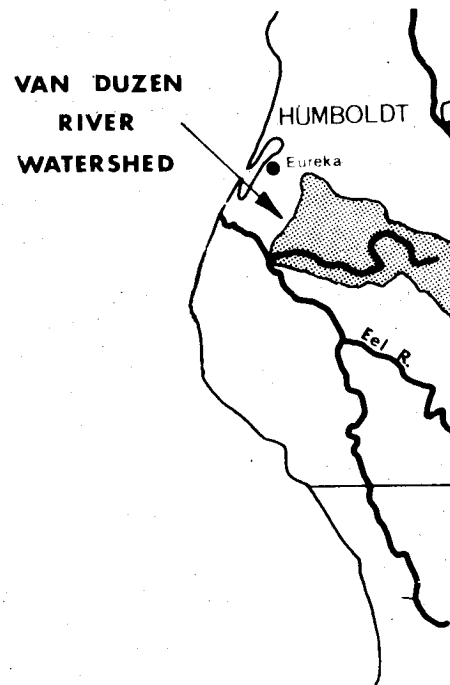
Public hearings were conducted on the plan to insure community involvement. Local reaction to both the plan and planners was largely hostile, the general feeling seeming to be that it offered too much protection.

A public hearing held in Fortuna however, and attended by large numbers of river supporters, gave indication that another large group wanted to see *more* safeguards built into the plan.

The basic bone of contention is this: How much additional government regulation is necessary in order to protect the natural resources of the Van Duzen River?

In the midst of the controversy, the DFG withdrew the plan and intends to make substantial revisions.

Friends of the River has taken this as an opportunity to submit suggestions and we have formally requested that the planning area be withdrawn to include all areas which have a direct impact on the river. The current planning area does not include many of the important tributaries to the Van Duzen, including the upper portion of the river itself, above Dinsmores. This points out a problem with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act itself—it calls for protection of the rivers and their related resources but, except for the Smith, does not clearly allow for consideration of entire watersheds.



RIVER-WATCH

Washington Update

Last year at this time, newly elected President Jimmy Carter, in charge of a shiny new administration, called for a "comprehensive reform of water resources policy, with conservation as its cornerstone."

Now, a year later, and bearing a lot of dents and scratches, Carter's administration is showing signs of weakening.

Secretary of the Interior Cecil Andrus was quoted in a recent interview with the Washington Post, in reply to a question about Carter's "comprehensive reform," as saying, "...a reform? No, a major effort to review and see where we were, but not a comprehensive effort to reform...A great deal more has been made of it than should have been."

* * *

Friends of the River has joined with the Environmental Defense Fund, the Natural Resources Council and the Friends of the Earth in urging President Carter to stand firm on his original commitment.

The four groups further asked that the following four reforms be made a part of a new national policy.

1. Beneficiaries of water projects should bear the cost of development, rather than the general taxpayer.
2. Discard the current practise of making development monies available at bargain interest rates and instead insist that current, fair interest rates be charged.
3. Reevaluate the economics of authorized projects under these new interest requirements and scrap those that fail to meet the 1.1 cost/benefit test.
4. Withhold more Federal money for water related activities to States that fail to develop water conservation and wastewater reclamation programs.

Eel River Plans

A bill has been introduced into the State Senate which would authorize a \$3.5 billion bond measure with the ultimate intention of damming the Eel River.

SB 1477 (Boatwright and Campbell) is a particularly outrageous measure in that it attempts to authorize development on a stream already protected within the State's Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

Few bills will deserve a more summary fate in this year's legislative session than this one.

What You Can Do: Write your State Senator and inform him of your feelings on this bill. Its first hearing, May 2, will be in the Senate Agriculture and Water Resources Committee. If a second hearing occurs, it will be in the Senate's Finance Committee.

Middle Fork Feather

The Continental Quicksilver Corporation, a wholly owned subsidiary of Continental Materials Corporation of Arizona, has filed an operation plan to mine gold in the Wild segment of the Middle Fork of the Feather River, a component of the Federal Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

This is the first major commercial enterprise to intrude into a Wild and Scenic corridor in California. The operation will directly impact 2 miles of river and create serious fishery problems in the watershed.

The plan is for an 18 foot by 50 foot barge, utilizing a suction dredge, to scour the river bottom, excavating some 100 cubic feet per hour of operation.

There is no stated intention on the part of the Continental Quicksilver Corporation to record baseline fisheries data, or to file an environmental impact statement for the project.

What You Can Do:

Write to Lloyd Britton, Forest Supervisor, Plumas National Forest, Box 1500, Quincy, CA 95971 and express your concerns. Send a carbon copy to Doug Leisz, Regional Forester, U.S. Forest Service, 630 Sansome Street, S.F., CA 94111.

Or, you can help us in a monetary way by contributing to a special legal defense fund established for the purposes of blocking this proposed mining operation. Please make your checks payable to Friends of the River Foundation, and note on the check that the contribution is for the Feather River Legal Defense account.

N. Fork Stanislaus Update

The battle to prevent construction of a hydroelectric project on the North Fork of the Stanislaus took a new turn last February 14 when the Calaveras County Water District applied to have its water rights extended. At issue was the very survival of the plans. Unfortunately the application was approved by the State Water Resources Control Board, despite legal arguments by FOR that the district had not shown "due diligence" in defining a water supply project for the North Fork Stanislaus.

The Board granted an extension until December 1, 1978, sufficient time to allow the CCWD to place the project before the voters of Calaveras County in the form of a bond issue.

The Concerned Citizens of Calaveras County is mounting a campaign to defeat this bond issue (Measure A) when it comes before the electors this June 6.

What You Can Do:

Send campaign contributions to, Concerned Citizens of Calaveras County, c/o Lynn Doroh, P.O. Box 131, Vallecito, CA. 95251.

Creek People's Report

The 1978 Confluence provided an opportunity for the Friends of the River Coalition—an organization of independent environmental groups focussed on creekshed issues—to regroup and formulate their objectives.

The statement of objectives they arrived at is worthy of being reprinted in full:

"To help make every child in California, every parent, teacher, and public servant aware of their neighborhood creek as a last remaining heritage of nature close by; and to aid in the restoration of native riparian plants, wildlife, and ample clear water flow, so that tree shaded creekside trails can be provided whenever possible as nature parks for the enjoyment of all, forevermore."

Independent groups wishing to join in the coalition, to become a link in their telephone tree, and to attend their quarterly meetings should contact: Coalition Coordinator, Friends of the River, 401 San Miguel Way, Sacramento, California 95819.

New Bottle Bill

A new container deposit bill is currently being prepared for introduction into the State Assembly later this session.

Support for this kind of legislation has been growing over the past two or three years and backers are confident that 1978 holds the best chance yet for a substantive bottle bill.

What You Can Do: Write your assemblypersons and indicate your strong support for a container deposit bill; and contact Californians Against Waste, P.O. Box 289, Sacramento, CA. 95802.

Note: Federal legislation on this issue, in the form of S.276, is also in the works. It is currently stalled in the Senate Committee on Science, Commerce and Transportation. Write Alan Cranston and Transportation, U.S. Senate, Washington D.C. 20002 with your support for the bill.

Redwoods Bill Passes

President Carter signed into law legislation which will add 48,000 acres to Redwood National Park, provide for a 30,000 acre park protection zone, and allocate \$40 million in a job protection packet designed to mitigate job losses in the timber industry.

The bill was the focus of a bitter struggle between environmentalists and timber interests. Its approval is a major victory for wilderness lovers who find a special kind of peace amongst California's giant redwoods.

Want-ads and announcements

NORTH FORK AMERICAN TRIPS

Friends of the River is coordinating two one-day river trips on the North Fork of the American River between the Colfax-Iowa Hill Road and the Ponderosa bridge.

Besides being an absolutely amazing river canyon in an entirely wilderness environment, the river falls rapidly, creating some rather intense whitewater.

Most important from our point of view however, is that this stretch of river is scheduled for inundation by the Auburn Dam. Our hope for the two trips is three-fold: (1) create a better awareness of what is really at stake in the Auburn Dam controversy (2) raise some money for our depleted coffers and (3) have a great time on an incredible river.

Volunteers have offered to provide us with boats and waterproof baggage. Our plan is to provide two boats with oars and experienced oarsmen, and two other boats to be powered by six paddlers (that's you), led by FOR staff people.

The trips will be one day each, so there will be no camping involved. The river itself is located an easy hour's drive from Sacramento.

Food for lunch on the river will be handled on a shared cost basis. There will be no charge for the trips themselves. However, we are asking that each participant recognize that one of our purposes in coordinating the trips is to raise money for the Auburn Dam battle. Consequently, we are asking for \$50 donations.

Date: The trips will take place on a single weekend in June, either the 9/10, 16/17, or 23/24. Due to the uncertainty of predicting water flows we will not be able to establish a firm date until later this month.

If you are interested in becoming a participant on one of these trips please contact FOR Sacramento for more details.

Stanislaus Gathering

On June 6, an outdoor meeting is scheduled to take place near Angel's Camp, by the Stanislaus River, to celebrate Spring in the canyon.

We would like to make this an occasion of recommitment to the Stanislaus' right to survive, and we could think of no more appropriate place than to hold the meeting in the hills surrounding the river's home.

We would like to combine in the meeting a lot of just plain fun and music with a serious awareness of the time limits that are confronting us and the Stanislaus canyon.

One item which we will be discussing has to do with an idea that has been circulating for years, but has never been acted upon.

And that is, a Stanislaus scrapbook. Much has been written about this river by the many people who have seen it, and floated upon it, but it has never been collected.

If you would like to contribute drawings, poems, stories or whatever, bring them with you, or send them to FOR Sacramento.

In the meantime make plans to attend the gathering.

Date: June 6, all day

Place: The Confluence property one mile south of the Vallecito post office on the Parrott's Ferry Road.

Army Corps Meeting

On May 17, at 7:30 pm at the El Dorado County Planning Commission, 360 Fairlane, Placerville, California, the Army Corps of Engineers will be holding a public meeting to discuss whitewater mitigation plans for the inundation (sic) of the Stanislaus River as they relate to construction of facilities on the South Fork of the American River.

A Riverside Seminar

A meeting to discuss the current status of the dam plans on the South Fork of the American River will be held at the Lotus Campgrounds, Lotus, California, between 11 and 4 pm on June 3.

Sponsored by the Concerned Citizens for Rural Resources; the meeting will focus on ways that the public can influence the decision making process on land and river use in El Dorado County.

There will be experts on county agricultural practices, water conservation and land use planning on hand to lead small group discussions.

Please bring your own lunch and a \$1.00 campground fee.

Trinity River Trips

North Coast Friends of the River is coordinating two river trips down the Trinity River on May 20 and May 21. Lunch will be provided (and necessary equipment) in exchange for a \$10 donation.

Space is limited so contact NCFOR at 1091 H Street, Arcata, Ca 95521 or phone them at 707 822-6918.

FOR in Washington

Friends of the River sent a six person delegation to the Third Annual Dam Fighters Conference in Washington, D.C. this year, sponsored by the American Rivers Conservation Council. The delegation, composed of Mark Dubois, Zeke Cornell, Katrina Maye-Smith, Cathy Duncan, Bruce Simbala, and Brad Welton, also met with a number of Federal officials and Congressmen including a special meeting with the California delegation.

Funds for the trip were partially provided for through the help of the Sierra Club River Touring Section, the Northern California Fly Fisherman's Association and the Mother Lode Chapter of the Sierra Club.

As of this writing the group is still in transit and will provide a full report on their activities for the July/August issue.

Friends of the River
401 San Miguel Way
Sacramento, CA 95819
Phone: 916/451-9955

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