

From the Office of:
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SENATOR HUMPHREY CALLS FOR STEPPED-UP OUTDOOR RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS

Senator Hubert H. Humphrey (D., Minn.), the Senate Majority Whip, told the American Camping Association National Convention in New York last night that Congress welcomes the "vigorous leadership on conservation and outdoor recreation" which President Kennedy is providing.

The Minnesotan outlined a broad program for Federal, State and local action to implement the President's recent messages on conservation.

"We must act to set aside lands which will make good parks and recreation areas," he declared, "and to ensure that every public agency -- federal, state, and local -- which administers land or natural resources does all it can to provide and preserve outdoor recreational opportunities."

Specifically, Senator Humphrey called for Congressional action on the following twelve points:

- 1) Creation of three new national parks, four new national seashores, one national monument, and 1 historic site proposed by the President.
- 2) Preservation of the wilderness remaining in federal hands (the Senate has already passed S.174 to establish a wilderness system).
- 3) Authorization for a new system of national recreation areas near centers of population.
- 4) Funds to permit the opening up of multiple-purpose reservoir projects for recreational use.
- 5) Authorization to the Forest Service to acquire land which would open to public use now inaccessible public forests.
- 6) Support of a "land conservation fund": to purchase new federal recreational lands as proposed by the President in his conservation message.
- 7) Amendment of the Federal Surplus Property Disposal Act to permit states and local government to acquire surplus federal lands for park-recreation or wildlife uses on more liberal terms.
- 8) Federal matching grants to the states for planning the purchase and use of outdoor recreation lands.
- 9) Federal grants in aid to states and local governments for purchase of recreation lands.

M O R E

10) Authorization and funds for the Bureau of Land Management and Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife to develop camp sites and other facilities on their almost 200 million acres.

11) Authorization to the Forest Service and Soil Conservation Service to designate areas of "special beauty and suitability" as recreation areas.

12) Passage of the Youth Conservation Corps to provide authority for thousands of young American boys to work with the conservation agencies in developing recreational areas and in conserving our natural resources.

Senator Humphrey called on the American Camping Association and all groups interested in sound conservation "to make your voice heard in Washington and in your state capitols."

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ADDRESS BY SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

AMERICAN CAMPING ASSOCIATION

NATIONAL CONVENTION

New York City
March 7, 1962

Cuba, Forrestal, Interpina - TV - Radio

- miami - Albert Einstein med College

- Building & Construction Trades

- Postal Employees

- French Parliamentarians

- Pol Speech Fri Nite

Disarm hearings

Introduction

- Father liked it

Mother believed it,

Girl Scouts
Color Guard

Talman
Song Leader - Henry Cohen

Rabbi Freedman

Mr Chairman
Stan Michaels

ADDRESS BY SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

AMERICAN CAMPING ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL CONVENTION

New York City
March 7, 1962

Friends of U.S.
Canada
So Africa
Brazil

Stan Michaels?
Exhibitors

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: It is a very

great honor and a magnificent opportunity

to be asked to sound the keynote for the

1962 Convention of the American Camping

Association.

Stan Michaels, Fred Rogers

Your assembly comes at a most fortunate

moment, ~~in the course of the year's events.~~

We have been called to action in the

cause of outdoor America. ^{and we} I know you are

as eager to respond to this call, ~~as am I.~~

Two important messages -- the report of the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission at the end of January, and the President's Special Message on Conservation of last Thursday -- have sounded a common theme. On the back cover of its report the Commission has set forth the challenge so beautifully that I want to quote it to you in full:

"The outdoors lies deep in American tradition. It has had immeasurable impact on the Nation's character and on those who made its history. . . . When an American looks for the meaning

of his past, he seeks it
not in ancient ruins, but
more likely in mountains and
forests, by a river, or at
the edge of the sea. . . .

↳ Today's challenge is to assure
all Americans permanent access
to their outdoor heritage."

↳ The President and the Commission have
proposed a number of steps which should
be taken now to meet that challenge.

You may want to add to their recommendations.

↳ I, too, have a few pet suggestions of my
own to make.

△ But, the time for talk has passed.

The time to act has come.

△ Two fundamental principles run

through the report and the special message:

① First, we must act now to set aside those lands which will make good parks and recreation areas. The need is especially acute in the northern and eastern states where population density is greatest.

② Second, we must make sure that every public agency, federal, state, and local, which administers land or natural resources does all it can, consistent with its primary goals, to provide and preserve outdoor

recreational opportunities and to protect
fish and wildlife values.

now lets see
Let us first ~~examine~~ what must be
done to set aside and preserve recreation
lands.

We must establish new national parks
and seashores. Areas of truly national
significance must be chosen to advance the
National Park System plan to preserve for
us all the nation's great scenic wonders;

*New Parks
&
Seashores*

to preserve
our outstanding examples of plants, animals,
and rock and land formations; and the scenes
of significant historical events. ~~The~~

Kennedy
President urged creation of three new

national parks, four new national seashores,
one national monument, and one historic site.

We in the Congress are pushing action on
these and other proposals. Your support
can help make them a reality this year.

I'll
tell you
how!

Next, we must preserve the wilderness
which remains in federal hands. As you know,

I have long been ^{an} ~~a~~ ~~been~~ advocate of

wilderness preservation and introduced the
first bill in 1956. Last year the Senate

Wilderness

passed S. 174, a bill introduced by Senator
Anderson, ^{and myself} which would set up a wilderness

system. Both the President and the Outdoor

Recreation Commission have urged such

legislation.

House Action

*Need your help
Mining &
Cattlemen*

#3

We need, in addition, ~~provision for~~

a new system of national recreation areas

to meet the growing demand for opportunities

to camp, picnic, hike, fish, swim, and enjoy

the forests and wildlife. ~~Such areas~~

~~could take advantage of opportunities to~~

Such areas should provide

~~develop~~ outdoor recreation facilities near

centers of population, regardless of their

significance in rounding out our National

Park System. For example, a magnificent

national recreation area can be provided

on the reservoir of the proposed Tocks

Island dam on the Delaware river. It

will be within easy reach of 30 million

Americans and could be one of our greatest
national recreation assets. Another
such opportunity is afforded by the
construction of Barkley dam on the
Cumberland River. A narrow belt of land
there divides the Tennessee River from
the Cumberland. Nearby, on the Tennessee
River, a great lake has long since been
created by the Kentucky dam. The area
between the two man-made lakes offers
one of the *best opportunities* ~~most outstanding bases~~ for
fresh water recreation on earth. / We
should actively seek other such opportu-
nities, even on lands which may continue

to be used in part for purposes other
than recreation, so that our heritage of
the out of doors may be available wherever
we may live.

So Dak
Dak Dam
Fish h

#4 A fourth way to set aside and preserve
recreation lands is to use to their full
advantage most of the lakes created by
our multiple-purpose dams. Wonderful
opportunities for water-based fun have
been opened to people who live far from
nature's lakes. Last year 175 million
visits -- more than half of all the
recreation visits recorded on Federal
lands -- were at the reservoirs built by

the Corps of Engineers, the Bureau of
Reclamation, and the Tennessee Valley
Authority. The TVA perhaps has shown us
~~best~~ what can be done. It has turned the
Tennessee river into a summer playland
for all of America. Forty-two million
recreation visits were recorded on that
one river last year!

Let me also take this occasion to
offer special praise to the Corps of
Engineers and the Bureau of Reclamation.
On February 23, 1962, less than two weeks
ago, these two agencies announced joint
agreement on a new policy for land

acquisition for recreational purposes at
all their projects. Henceforth, at both
old dams and new, each agency will buy
lands needed to provide public access to
the reservoir, to protect fish and wildlife,
and to provide sites for outdoor recreation
developments such as camp grounds, picnic
areas, swimming beaches and boat ramps. I
~~am delighted by this action and intend to~~
~~support both agencies fully in these efforts~~
~~to serve all our people.~~

Note this

State *can*
The National Forests ~~also could~~ afford
us still greater opportunities for
recreation. The Forest Service should be

Forests

empowered to acquire small quantities of
land which would open to ^{the} public ~~use~~ now
inaccessible public forests. New camp
sites, new trails, and new scenery could
be opened at relatively little cost.

↳ These, then, are the steps we can
take to set aside needed recreation lands:

Summary

- ↳ * We can create new parks and
seashores
- ↳ * We can preserve the wilderness
- ↳ * We can establish a new system
of recreation areas
- ↳ * We can open up our multiple-purpose
reservoir projects *for recreational purposes.*

✓ * We can permit the Forest Service
to acquire lands which will
provide access to new forest
recreation areas.

But, All this is easier said than done.

Many of these proposals mean that the
federal government must buy land which
private individuals now own. For one
hundred and eighty-five years, our
national government has been disposing of
land -- giving it away, selling it at
"bargain basement" rates, and exchanging it
for other lands which no one wanted. Now
we must change ^{the} direction and begin to

bring back to the people a few key beauty

spots which should be preserved for

~~the~~ *allof us,*
generation after generation.

L How to go about getting the new lands
has been of concern to many of us in the

Congress.

L In many western states, where the

Federal government already holds large

acres, the best policy probably will be

to build park and recreation areas by

using existing Federal lands and by exchanging

suitable federal lands for lands in private

hands. For every dollar's worth of land

thus removed from the tax rolls, a dollar's

/ How

worth would be replaced, and perhaps more
acres would actually be put in private
ownership than returned to the government.

But in the East, where the government
owns little land, new parks and recreation
areas must be created principally by buying
the acres. Because land costs are rising
constantly, ~~the part of wisdom is to~~ *the time to* acquire
the lands ^{is} now, as rapidly as possible, and
to develop appropriate facilities on them
later, as we can afford them.

To provide funds for land acquisition,

Buy
now!
Build
later!

the President in his conservation message proposed creation of a "Land Conservation

Fund." { Initially, he proposes that the

Treasury advance \$500 million for the fund.

The money would be repaid by earmarked

revenues derived largely from charges made

to those using recreational facilities.

{ He also proposes that the fund benefit from

a user tax on boats, the unclaimed refundable

taxes paid on gasoline used in motor boats,

and receipts from the sale of surplus

Federal non-military lands.

{ The user-fee proposal, of course, raises ?
the basic question of whether our out-of-doors

ought to remain free for everyone. The

^u Outdoor Recreation Resources Review

^u Commission distinguished between outdoor

activities which were made possible by

government development and maintenance

~~of facilities~~, and activities which require

no special investment. The Commission felt

that for the use of developed facilities,

reasonable charges should be made which

would "not prevent or curtail the possible

use and enjoyment of basic outdoor recreation

opportunities."

∟ The President has adopted the position
recommended by the Commission. I support him.

Fees are now charged at some 30 percent
of the public outdoor recreation areas.

It certainly seems reasonable to suggest
that all agencies should follow the same
policy. It also seems reasonable to

expect that those who wish to use developed *and maintained*
facilities should contribute to the building *+ maintenance*
of such facilities.

In this connection, perhaps we should
recall that hunting and fishing have not
been free for many years. The license fees
which hunters and fishermen pay have supplied
financial
the backbone of State fish and game preserva-
tion and development programs. ~~which have~~

made possible the continued enjoyment of those sports.

↳ An excellent example is the Federal Duck Stamp, which is providing the funds to set aside the remaining wetlands for migratory waterfowl.

↳ In some instances, fees collected from fishermen and hunters have been diverted to emergency protection of park and scenic objectives. Sportsmen have given sympathetic support to such aid, but have understandably felt that fees for hunting and fishing should not become an ordinary source of support for general

Protect those funds!

recreational objectives.

The President did not specify what user fees and what methods of collection he would recommend. However, Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall is considering an automobile sticker which would have to be displayed to enter any Federal recreation area.

Although some have voiced concern that user fees would restrict recreational use, ^{the} fees need not be large to provide significant aid. Even 10 cents per visit last year would have returned \$34 million.

I know that you who camp and hike want to be sure that scenic spots will be preserved

for public use and that adequate facilities
will be available for you and your families
and their families in the years to come.

I suspect that most of you would be willing
to buy an automobile sticker and even to
pay reasonable fees for the use of developed
facilities, especially if you could be sure

Be sure

that all of the money collected would be
used ~~to make it possible for you to enjoy~~

~~for~~ out-of-doors *recreational purposes.*

The Congress will have to decide
these matters in the coming weeks. I,
therefore, earnestly solicit your advice
~~on the matter.~~

State & Local

- 22 -

State and local governments also must play a major role in providing outdoor recreational opportunities. Indeed, facilities which a great many camping families will use must be provided by the States. Many States are displaying wisdom and foresight in meeting the needs of their people. New York, New Jersey, and Wisconsin have approved outstanding programs for the acquisition and development of park lands and recreation areas. Pennsylvania will lay "Project 70," a comprehensive statewide outdoor recreation plan, before its voters next November.

West Virginia is exploring ways to

take advantage of the recent study by
the National Park Service of its recreation
potential. The importance of such an effort
for a State which is suffering severely from
the effects of technological dislocation is
obvious. ~~Their courage and determination set~~
~~an example for us all.~~

West
VIRG

Other States are developing comprehensive
recreation programs. We must make every effort
to encourage and support them.

To assist the States, the President has
offered two immediate measures. He has
~~recommended~~
recommended "that the Federal Surplus Property
Disposal Act be amended to permit States and

local government to acquire surplus Federal
lands for park, recreation or wildlife uses
on more liberal terms." He also has proposed
that the Congress provide matching grants to
the States for planning the purchase and use
of outdoor recreation lands.

I favor such planning grants to the
States. I also would like to see grants of
~~financial aid~~ for the purchase of recreation
lands. ~~Planning is an important part of the~~
~~job. But the States also need to know that~~
~~we stand prepared to help them carry out their~~
~~plans.~~ If the States can set aside suitable
recreation lands in the next few years they

can be counted on to develop them rapidly

in the years thereafter.

Local governments likewise deserve direct aid. They have received a notable

beginning in the enactment of the Housing Act of 1961, which provided \$50 million in grants to cities for the planning and acquisition of

"open space." The President has recommended

that the authorization be doubled to meet

the requests which have flooded into the

Housing and Home Finance Agency. ~~I am~~

help to assure ~~confident~~ that the Congress will respond to

that call.

Now let me turn to my second major

Open Space

\$100 million

We need your

theme -- doing a better job for recreation
by using the agencies and lands we already
have.

↳ Recreation should be regarded as a
participating partner ^{in Public} ~~in Federal~~ resource
programs.

The Bureau of Land Management has
charge of 180 million acres of reserved
public domain lands, largely in the Western
States. An even larger acreage is in
Alaska.

↳ Although many uses must be made of
these lands, including lumbering, grazing,
mining, and watershed control, many areas

could provide excellent recreational opportunities.

Yet the Bureau has no program to develop and maintain facilities such as camp sites on most of its land. Even so, an estimated 11 million visitors used the undeveloped sites last year, often risking serious fire hazard and dangers to public health. It is urgent that funds for adequate facilities be made available.

The Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife manages 277 wildlife refuges covering nearly 18 million acres. Last year 10 million visitors entered the refuges.

Family
Camping

Yet the Bureau has no authority to construct and maintain facilities, even picnic tables, although they could be appropriately provided in many places. Such authority should be granted.

Recreational opportunities could be greatly improved on Indian lands if a program were instituted by the Bureau of Indian Affairs to provide loans to interested Indian tribes to assist in the development of public recreation facilities.

The Forest Service could improve its recreational services if it were authorized to designate areas of special

beauty and suitability as Forest recreation
areas, so that outdoor recreation could be
the primary purpose for which they are
managed.

^a
The Soil Conservation Service also
provides many promising opportunities for
local recreational development through its
Small Watershed program. It should be
authorized to include recreation as well
as fish and wildlife purposes in its projects.

Recreation generally could be better
provided by improved coordination among
Federal agencies which manage our land
resources. To that end the President has

approved the Outdoor Recreation Commission's
suggestion that he create an Outdoor Recreation
Advisory Council, made up of the heads of
Departments and agencies concerned with
recreation. He has also approved establishment
of a Bureau of Outdoor Recreation in the
Department of the Interior.

One of my special projects -- a Youth
Conservation Corps -- would greatly assist
achievement of all these objectives. The
President made clear his enthusiasm for
establishment of the Corps by making it the
first item of business in his Special Conserva-
tion Message.



YCC

↳ Much of the work to be done in developing recreation facilities, in preserving our forests, in reseeding our ranges, in protecting our watersheds, and in conserving our soil requires the devoted labor of healthy young men. The service to the public of the Civilian Conservation Corps in the 1930's still is meeting many needs. A Youth Conservation Corps would aid the young men themselves to build healthy bodies and minds. They would gain useful skills and knowledge of the protection and use of natural resources. And they will have the joy of working out-of-doors.

↳ There is a huge backlog of conservation

CCO
Physical fitness!

work to be done in almost every State --
work for which it is frequently
impossible to hire regular workers.

The Corps would give many men work and
would displace no man from his job. As
you know, I have been a very active
sponsor of the bill now before Congress.

I look forward confidently to its enactment
this year.

Two other significant Federal programs
are going to affect the quantity and
quality of outdoor recreational opportuni-
ties. I have a deep interest in them both.

First, my fellow Minnesotan, Orville Freeman,

*Need
your
help.*

Secretary of Agriculture, has recently
announced a program to adjust farm
production by converting 50,000,000 acres
of cropland to other productive uses.

*Ag
Program*

Among the uses will be recreation. Some

land would be converted directly into

parks and recreation areas. More

importantly, the Extension Service will

give farmers tips on how to add to their

income by providing opportunities for

city dwellers to swim, picnic, fish, hike,

camp, and even hunt on their land. In

aiding farmers to help meet the recreational

needs of their city cousins, and at the

same time to help themselves, we can also
build better understanding and greater
respect among our people.

Second, the Water Pollution Control
Act of 1961 will enable us to protect and
improve our lakes and streams for public
enjoyment. For the first time, the Public
Health Service has real authority to reduce
over-pollution by requiring release of
water from Federal reservoirs during
periods of low streamflow and to enforce
control measures against polluters of all
navigable waters. In addition, the program
of matching grants to local governments for

get on
this!

the construction of municipal sewage disposal plants was increased at a rate which will double assistance by 1964.

State
+
Local
enforcement
needed.

L The immediate result this year has been a new high of \$430 million in municipal investment in waste treatment facilities.

Thus a very good start toward reaching the necessary level of \$600 million each year required to meet national needs.

L Thus by many avenues can the cause of outdoor America be served:

Z The call to action sounded by the President and the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission can be met

if we will set aside new lands for
recreation in parks, wilderness,
recreation areas, and forests. It can
be met if we aid the states and local
governments to acquire parks and open
space now for their future needs.

It can be met if we authorize our
executive agencies to protect for
recreational use our public domain, our
refuges, our Indian lands, our forests,
and even our soil conservation projects.

It can be met by a new Youth
Conservation Corps, by a sound farm
policy, by effective control of pollution,

and by improvements in administrative organization.

△ But, in the larger sense, it can be met by every sound measure to promote the conservation of all our natural resources.

- Human + Physical

For, important though outdoor recreation is to the restoration of our tranquility, to the building of healthy bodies, and to the enhancement of our knowledge, recreation must remain but one of the many demands we place upon our natural resources.

△ As President Kennedy reported, much has been accomplished this last year to move the Nation forward in a comprehensive

conservation program. A new program for
the National Forests has been prepared
and presented to Congress. A new system
of classification has been undertaken to
guide the wise conservation and use of
the remaining public domain. ~~I could site~~
~~many more~~

Yet much remains to be done. The
President has offered many recommendations
and will forward more to us. The States,
the local governments, organizations like
your own, all must contribute to the stream
of ideas and support necessary to the
conservation of our natural resources.

In a sense, all such conservation efforts contribute to the goals of those of us who enjoy the out-of-doors, for recreation depends on the lakes and rivers, the forests, and the land. ~~In the same~~

~~and~~ ^{and} all of us can contribute to conservation by support for sound public programs, by considerate public conduct, and by the enthusiasm we bring to the use of our heritage.

But it takes action to get action.
Outdoor minded citizens must actively
support the objectives they seek. The
American Camping Association can play a

vital role in achieving a dynamic recreation
program as part of sound resource conservation,
if you will make your voices heard in
Washington and in your state capitols.

Resolutions are not enough. You must write,
call upon, and impress both legislators and
administrators with the importance of your
cause and with the determination which moves
you. (Candidates too)

Pol
Action
Get
into
Politics

Now, let me close with two brief
thoughts.

First, an invitation. We in Minnesota
are especially proud of our natural vacation
land and of our conservation program to

preserve it for us all. So, when you're

camping this year, let me invite you to

our land of ^{Twenty} ~~ten~~ thousand lakes -- to the

Lake of the Woods, or perhaps to our Quetico-

Superior canoe area ^{to the Arrowhead} -- to share them with us

and to see what we have done.

Second, a brief quotation from Wallace

Stegner's description of "The Wilderness

Idea" -- for it applies to all we seek:

" . . . We need wilderness
preserved -- as much of it as is
still left, and as many kinds --
because it was the challenge
against which our character as

a people was formed. The
reminder and the reassurance
that it is still there is good
for our spiritual health even
if we never once in ten years
set foot in it. It is good for
us when we are young, because
of the incomparable sanity it
can bring briefly, as vacation
and rest. . . . It is important
to us when we are old simply
because it is there -- important,
that is, simply as ^{an} idea."

Thank you very much for this opportunity
to share with you my enthusiasm for the
objectives we seek.

(END)



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