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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."

ADDRESS BY SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

AMERICAN CAMPING ASSOCIATION

NATIONAL CONVENTION

New York City  
March 7, 1962

Cuba, Forastal, 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?  
if inhibitors

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. <sup>and we</sup> 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.

h 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!

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

I have long been <sup>an</sup> ~~a~~ ~~been~~ advocate of

wilderness preservation and introduced the

first bill in 1956. Last year the Senate

passed S. 174, a bill introduced by Senator

Anderson, <sup>and myself</sup> which would set up a wilderness

system. Both the President and the Outdoor

Recreation Commission have urged such

Wilderness

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  
Oahe Dam  
Fishes*

*#4* L 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 <sup>the</sup> 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  
185 hundred and eighty-five years, our  
national government has been disposing of  
land -- giving it away, selling it at  
a bargain basement<sup>"</sup> rates, and exchanging it  
for other lands which no one wanted. Now  
we must change <sup>the</sup> direction and begin to

bring back to the people a few key beauty

spots which should be preserved for *all of us,*

~~the~~ generation after generation.

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

Congress.

*How*  
In many western states, where the  
Federal government already holds large  
acreages, 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

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 time to~~ <sup>the time to</sup> ~~the part of wisdom is to~~ acquire  
the lands <sup>is</sup> 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

<sup>u</sup> Outdoor Recreation Resources Review

<sup>u</sup>  
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 <sup>the</sup> use, 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

*Bureau*

that all of the money collected would be

used ~~to make it possible for you to enjoy~~

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

The Congress will have to decide

these matters in the coming weeks. I,

therefore, earnestly solicit your advice <sup>o</sup>

~~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

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 <sup>in Public</sup> ~~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.

^ The <sup>a</sup> 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 pro-  
tection and use of natural resources. And  
they will have the joy of working out-of-doors.

↳ There is a huge backlog of conservation

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)

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

Pol  
Action  
Get  
into  
Politics

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

camping this year, let me invite you to

our land of <sup>Twenty</sup>~~ten~~ thousand lakes -- to the

Lake of the Woods, or perhaps to our Quetico-

Superior canoe area <sup>to the Arrowhead</sup> -- 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 <sup>an</sup> idea."

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

(END)



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