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Santa Barbara

The Channel Islands National Park
The United States' 40th National Park
5 March 1980

A Thesis submitted in partial satisfaction
of the requirements for the degree of

Bachelor of Arts

in

History of Public Policy

by

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Committee in charge:

Professor Robert Kelley, chairman
Professor Roderick Nash

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I wish to thank the following people:
The Thesis Of
Bard J. Salcido Jr. is approved:
my Mother and Father, Mr. Robert Sollen, The Rev. Don Stivers,
Mr. Shirley Bony, my Fraternity brothers, Dr. Roderick Wash,
and the people at both The National Park Service and The
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Introduction

wilderness (wilder-ness) n. 1. a wild region, as of forest or desert. **Wilderness** 2. any desolate tract, as of water. 3. a part of a garden set apart for plants growing with unchecked luxuriance. 4. a bewildering mass or collection. (M.E. *wiðer(n)* wild (OE *widderan*) + *-ness*) --Syn. 1. See desert.

-The American College Dictionary
(2nd edition 1966)

Throughout the 1986-87 academic year, I have been searching out and trying to identify Wilderness. In attending guest lectures on the campus of the University of California Santa Barbara and studying world history, United States history, and environmental studies, I have studied under such renowned experts in their respective fields of study as Dr. Roderick Nash, professor of history and environmental studies; Dr. Garret Hardin, professor emeritus of human ecology; and Dr. Robert Kelley, professor of history and academic advisor to the History of Public Policy major.

I have come to learn that Wilderness is a perceived element. Wilderness can be defined as a state of mind.

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Having recognized that Wilderness is a personally perceived element, I have discovered it in everything from sitting alone on the windswept bluffs of Campus Point and thinking to backpacking and exploring the rarely visited caves, valleys, and beaches of the Channel Islands National Park. The Wilderness experience, in being a very special personal event, can be experienced and found, if one looks hard enough, in everyday life, whether in public or private.

In Wilderness and the American Mind, Dr. Roderick Nash defines the etymology of the word Wilderness which he describes as "a noun which acts like an adjective"¹ to be originally derived from:

"Early Teutonic and Norse languages, from which the English word in a large part developed, the root seems to have been 'will' with a descriptive meaning of self-willed, willful, or uncontrollable. From 'willed' came the adjective 'wild' used to convey the idea of being lost, unruly, disordered, or confused. In Old Swedish, for instance, wild derived from the figure of boiling water; the essential concept was that of being ungoverned or out of control. Applied initially to human conduct, the term was extended to other life forms. Thus, the Old English 'dēor' (animal) was prefixed with wild to denote creatures not under the control of man. From this point the derivation of wilderness is clear. Wildēor, contracted to 'wilder,' gave rise to 'wildern' and finally 'wilderness.'² Etymologically, the term means 'wild-dēor-ness,' the place of wild beasts."³

Keeping in mind my understanding of the Wilderness experience along with Dr. Nash's etymological definition, with the emphasis on wild, inner-self, and open spaces, I call on this personal philosophy when interpreting

everything from enjoying the aesthetics of life to carrying out my disciplined academic study habits. In being a graduating History of Public Policy major with an Environmental Studies minor, keeping the concept of Wilderness in mind at all times has aided me in successfully completing the intense curriculum required by this major at the University of California Santa Barbara.

Wilderness preservation organizations: the National Park Service and The Nature Conservancy.

I will define the original ideas behind the movement for Wilderness preservation which resulted in the creation of the National Parks concept. I will also trace the political legislation, policy making decisions and the political appointments that made the National Park Service into a reality. The structure and management methods of the National Park Service will also be discussed.

In direct correlation to the historical account of the National Park Service, I will present the history behind The Nature Conservancy and the philosophies and ideals responsible for its great success as a private Wilderness preservation organization.

The organizational background information of The Nature Conservancy will be presented as well as its project structure and management methods.

Concerning permanent Wilderness preservation, I am

In this Senior Thesis I will address one of today's more controversial ecological issues that is of great concern locally in the Santa Barbara area, as well as internationally. I will analyze by comparing and contrasting; the political and environmental legislative policies, public and private attitudes, future ideas and goals, and the proper management methods of two specific Wilderness preservation organizations: the National Park Service and The Nature Conservancy.

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interested to see how the National Park Service, which is publically overseen and controlled, differs from the privately run and regulated Nature Conservancy.

I have always been intrigued by and on clear days have gazed out upon the grand procession of islands which run parallel to our Southern California coastline. I will present a study of these California Channel Islands.

The five northern-most islands of the California Channel Island chain present a perfect example upon which to provide an in depth case study of a national park.

San Miguel, Santa Rosa, Santa Cruz, Anacapa, and Santa Barbara and their surrounding waters are the chain which are under the protection of the Channel Islands National Park and National Marine Sanctuary.

This national park being only seven years old and having such a rich biological, geological and human historical background, the excellent documentation of the political and environmental legislation involved in the making of this, our country's fortieth national park, makes the study of this all the more facinating.

In choosing to first analyze, by comparing and contrasting, the National Park Service and The Nature Conservancy, I did so because within the protected boundaries of the publically governed Channel Islands National Park, The Nature Conservancy privately owns and manages the western nine-tenths of Santa Cruz Island,

the largest island in the national park.

The following study of the California Channel Islands and the Channel Islands National Park will allow the reader to visualize and fully understand why we must unconditionally and permanently preserve such rich environmental Wilderness areas. The reader will also be able to see how the National Park Service manages its preservation methods directly alongside and cohesively with The Nature Conservancy, exemplified by The Nature Conservancy's Santa Cruz Island Project.

Chapter I

A Comparative History Of The National Park Service and The Nature Conservancy

THE ORIGIN OF IDEAS BEHIND THE MOVEMENT
FOR WILDERNESS PRESERVATION.

THE CREATION OF THE NATIONAL PARK CONCEPT

The National Park Service and system are said to have been "the best idea America ever had."⁴ In tracing the origin of the national park idea, William C. Everhart in his book, National Park Service, and Alfred Runte in his book, National Parks: The American Experience, suggest that the concept of permanent preservation of Wilderness areas was based on the thesis that the natural "wonders" of the United States should not be handed out to a few profiteers, as exemplified with the disaster and exploitation of Niagara Falls in the 1860's, but rather held in trust for all people for all time.⁵ William C. Everhart outlines four theories as to why the national park idea was first conceptualized, identified and developed here in the United States.

But first, the origin of Wilderness preservation and the national park idea can be dated back in history with some precision. In 1832 the artist George Catlin arrived at Fort Pierre in present day South Dakota to paint the Indians of the region. But he found many of them drunk and helpless before the advancing white civilizations.⁶ Saddened at the prospect of the disappearance of both Indian and buffalo from the Great Plains, Catlin raised in his journal the question of preserving the primitive in both man and nature. In an excerpt from his journal he writes, "If the government intervened by some great protecting policy, the wilderness might in the future be seen...preserved...in a magnificent park. This would be a nation's park, containing man and beast, in all the wild and freshness of their nature's beauty."

In 1890, with Frederick Jackson Turner announcing the end of the frontier in his "Wilderness Thesis," Americans began to voice appreciation for nature and regret at the passing of the frontier. People began realizing that such slogans as "Westward Ho" and "Manifest Destiny" had lost their meaning of opportunity and hope. The value of aesthetically pure Wilderness was now viewed as priceless. With this growing appreciation of Wilderness beauty, Americans saw on the horizon an intellectual revolution in the making, based on the

Wilderness experience.

At the end of the eighteenth century the romantic movement in Europe began to articulate a new attitude toward nature, that it was beautiful and restorative rather than stern, aggressive and oppressive. Witnessing the effects of industrialism in Europe and its filtration into New England in the early nineteenth century, resulting in the conversion of once lovely villages into grimy repressive factory towns, the prophets of transcendentalism, Thoreau, Emerson and later Muir, found a receptive audience when they preached that a return to nature was the only remedy.⁷ Henry David Thoreau and Ralph Waldo Emerson were considered at this time "half-savages" and in 1845 wrote about "self-reliance," and believed that "in Wilderness is the fertilizer for civilization." Other such intellectual artists as Thomas Cole, Frederick Church, Albert Bierstock, Thomas Moran, and later, Ansel Adams attracted a very large clientele for Wilderness appreciation through their beautiful painted and photographed pieces of majestic peaks, grand views, colorful fauna, and wild beasts, these artists created a huge "armchair clientele" of Wilderness support. The growing support of Wilderness preservation was a result of society's visual appreciation of the natural "wonders" out "west."

Thirdly, and one of the more interesting theories

behind Wilderness preservation and the creation of the national park idea, is the subject of the preservation of ruins and artifacts dating back to the time of our native-born American Indian ancestors. I am in full support of the movement for preservation of specific lands which hold still-intact Indian dwellings and artifacts. Realizing how much European and world history is based on and studied at the ancient ruins in Greece and Rome, as Americans we should acknowledge the great wealth of personal and ancient world history we have right here in the United States. Out in Chaco Canyon Cultural National Historical Park, in northern New Mexico, stands the remains of this native-American civilization, the Anasazi, or Ancient Ones, dates back in history to the same time as when William the Conquerer invaded England.⁸ By having such ancient ruins and artifacts preserved in national parks, we should study, appreciate, and take advantage of the great historical value we have right here in America. I believe, we as Americans should place as much emphasis, finance, and attention on the perservation of our ancient artifacts as those that the Europeans place on Athens and Rome. We have such a wealth of personal and ancient history right here at home.

Finally, and probably the most important reason and motivating factor for the creation and development of Wilderness preservation and the national park idea, was

that back at the time of the end of the frontier, 1890, our country was starving for a need to establish a national identity. Our country is so rich in national heritage, dating back to Chaco Canyon with the Anaszi, and further back still, that we developed a cultural and patriotic identity of "NATIONALISM THROUGH NATURE."⁹

Recognizing that the United States could not match the cultural achievements of the Old World, as manifested in its cathedrals, castles, museums, jewels and ancient cities, Americans began to take pride in their own natural monuments. Americans had "bragging rights" to the last of the civilized world's wild mountains, canyons, rivers, plants, and beasts. The United States' "West" far surpassed the more tranquil scenery of Europe. America's personal legacy and the remnants of our frontier past are preserved in our national parks. Such landscape artists as Albert Bierstock produced huge spectacular canvases and similar photographs taken by Thomas Moran for government survey parties mapping the "West" appeared in our national press as well as the world's press. Our national parks have been described as the caretakers of America's historic shrines and treasures. These national parks which contain the "Crown Jewels of America" gave a young nation considerable self-assurance to realize it had something unique to contribute to world culture.

THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

THE POLITICAL LEGISLATION, POLICY MAKING DECISIONS
AND POLITICAL APPOINTMENTS
THAT MADE THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE A REALITY.

The National Park Service was founded on March 1, 1897, when Yellowstone was established as the world's first national park. Over the next forty years, until the ratification of the National Park Service Act in 1916, thirty-four wilderness areas were set up on an ad hoc basis, without a central administration. The resulting lack of an overall policy and battles with land-hungry developers--most notably the unsuccessful fight to prevent Secretary of the Interior Henry R. Lane and President Woodrow Wilson from damming Yosemite's Hatch Hatchy Valley--led conservationists to seek increased protection for these areas.

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In 1916, only two years after the death of the Wilderness' best friend and most loyal protector, John Muir, did the National Park Service Act pass entrusting

the Service with the task of managing National Parks so as to "conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and wildlife therein, and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for future generations." With both the increasing and intensive use of the parks, the twin functions of preservation and recreation have proven to be not always compatible. Luckily, in the last twenty years the National Park Service has opted for preservation.

Although the Forest Service was authorized by its organ In 1916, the United States was involved in World War I which was raging out of control in Europe. With the oceans closed to tourist traffic due to the War there was a huge national propaganda movement to "stay home and visit America."¹⁰ Unfortunately it is a fact that through war comes "progress," and as a concession of World War I the automobile was now a fairly reliable mode for family transportation.

In chapter five, "See America First," of Alfred Runte's book, National Parks: The American Experience, he quotes John Muir to describe why Americans in 1916 were flocking by the thousands to the country's national parks due to the War in Europe, national politics, and the strain of everyday life in the United States. "Thousands of tired, nerve-shaken, over-civilized people were beginning to discover that going to the mountains is

going home, that Wilderness is a necessity, and that mountain parks and reservations are useful not only as fountains of timber and irrigating rivers, but as fountains of life."¹¹

One of the crucial reasons for the creation and development of the National Park Service was that in 1910 the United States Forest Service, under the control of the Department of Agriculture, had become aggressively utilitarian in its outlooks and aims concerning Wilderness areas under the directorship of Gifford Pinchot. Although the Forest Service was authorized by its organic act of 1897 to manage its land for a mix of ends, including recreation and preservation, it showed little interest in activities other than those which involved resource extraction or harvesting.¹² The controversy erupting over whether to build a dam in the Hetch Hetchy Valley of Yosemite National Park, and this utilitarian policy toward Wilderness, coupled with the introduction of legislation supported by Pinchot to bring all the national parks under the jurisdiction of the Forest Service, greatly alarmed preservationists who feared for the integrity of the parks under Forest Service management.

On January 21, 1915, Secretary of the Interior Henry K. Lane, swore in Stephen T. Mather to the newly created position of National Park Service Director. Mather, a distant descendent of the stanch Puritan

Cotton Mather, was a millionaire turned conservationist.

Mather at heart was a preservationist with an aesthetic appreciation of Wilderness, in direct contrast to the utilitarian platform towards Wilderness held by the directorship of the U.S. Forest Service, Gifford Pinchot.¹³

Soon Mather was assisted by a "young fellow who knew the ropes (of Washington D.C.) and who would handle the legal routine of the park service."¹⁴ These two men,

Stephen T. Mather and his loyal assistant and protege,

Horace M. Albright, realized that the National Park

system in those early formative years needed clients

and must cater to people's needs. They needed to attract

people to the parks and they established a national park

system based on a Wilderness policy known today as

"resortism," or the construction of attractive and

lucrative luxurious parks. They had to make the parks

attractive to the people, not dangerous or threatening.¹⁵

This act of "resortism" in the national park systems

physically pacified nature and took the wilderness out of

the Wilderness.

United States and its territories. The administrative structure

of the National Park Service is broken down into five distinct

parts: personnel, concessions, finances, control of visitor

numbers and land acquisition for future parks. Here is a brief

overview of the operation of a national park.

The park staff is the basic administrative unit in the

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THE STRUCTURE AND MANAGEMENT METHODS OF THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

In 1918 the National Park System's first full year of operation focusing on the concern for wilderness management, was granted a U.S. budget appropriation of \$747,280. By 1978 the National Park Service received over \$422 million in appropriations plus \$101 million from other sources, mostly money from the Land and Water Conservation Fund for the purpose of land acquisition. The Park Service's expenditures included \$165 million for construction and maintenance and \$224 million for wages and salaries.

Today there are over forty-eight national parks in the United States and its territories. The administrative structure of the National Park Service is broken down into five distinct parts: personnel, concessions, finances, control of visitor numbers and land acquisition for future parks. Here is a brief overview of the operation of a national park.

The park staff is the basic administrative unit in the national park. A superintendent is responsible for the management

of the area. One or more rangers with the professional knowledge needed to protect and interpret the park act as assistants to the superintendent. For most park visitors the ranger is a direct representative of the National Park Service. But technicians, fiscal officers, and maintenance persons work behind the scenes. Six regional officers provide the link between the individual parks and the central office in Washington D.C. The director of the National Park Service presides over the Washington staff and reports to the Secretary of the Interior. Congress appropriates money for the parks.¹⁶

The National Park Service of the United States utilizes more than eight thousand full-time and almost the same number of seasonal employees. Hiring is based on a civil service examination. College backgrounds in resource and recreation management are favored for top-level positions. Selected employees are trained in fiscal administration, interpretation and visitor services, search and rescue, historical and archeological research, and law enforcement. Under the Volunteers in Parks Act, interested citizens can serve without pay on interpretative efforts in the parks. The presence of employees in the National Park has enabled the parks to be responsive to the public's demands and has promoted visitor education in environmental responsibility.¹⁷

- The provision of food and accommodations in the national parks is generally not a government operation of the National Park Service. In the early years no federal appropriations were available for this purpose. Whatever services were provided came from private enterprise. But free competition among businesses proved to be

hopefully soon policy would be similar to the concession system at

ineffective. A perfect example of the inefficiency of free competition in the concession market in national parks can be exemplified in Yosemite in 1973. Universal Studios bought the rights to all of the concessions in this park. They had grand plans of turning Yosemite National Park into a kind of Disneyland-Adventureland with an accompanying huge convention center.¹⁸ Another example of the problem is shown in the construction of the "chalet-like" restaurant, bar and hotel called the "El Tovar" on the south rim of the Grand Canyon. This restaurant, built in the 1880's, physically sits on the edge of the south rim of the Grand Canyon.¹⁹ We must ask ourselves if this is an appropriate place to build such an unnatural structure, do people want to have a Wilderness experience sitting in a huge velvet chair staring over a martini at the view through a tinted glass window?

Private organizations thought to be capable of serving tourist needs and of operating according to government standards and park ideals received leases or contracts to conduct business on federal property. In effect, the concessionaires enjoy a monopoly, like the Ralph Henry Cameron and Fred Harvey Companies in the Grand Canyon, and Universal Studios in Yosemite, but since under strict government scrutiny they have been regulated and do not make exploitive or unreasonable profits. But the presence of concessionaires with long histories and substantial property like the "El Tovar" in the Grand Canyon or the pioneer village of Wawona in the Yosemite Valley makes it difficult to phase out these tourist facilities in accordance with new preservationists ideals. A new trend, and hopefully soon policy would be similar to the concession system at

Rocky Mountain National Park where tourist services are provided by freely competing private businesses outside the park boundary.²⁰

In theory, in the early years the national parks were supposed to pay for the federal operation of the areas.

There has never been strong support for charging user fees sufficient to cover operating costs. Americans feel that public recreation like public libraries and schools, ought to be "free." As a result the national parks compete for the federal tax dollar and chronically face shortages.²¹

In controlling visitors and securing land for parks is where the National Park Service and The Nature Conservancy most greatly differ. In the national parks masses of people cannot enjoy solitude together. As national parks increased in popularity and their preservation function received more emphasis, controls on visitors became essential. Parks limited the number of visitors granted overnight camping permits. When the daily quota was reached, prospective campers were turned away. For example, in Yosemite Valley, where years of exploitive development had taken place, automobiles were banned in several areas and the roadways given over to foot and bicycle travel.²²

It has long been a national park goal to get visitors away from the roads and into the wilder backcountry of the Wilderness areas. Success in this endeavor proved ironic. Even the Wilderness areas could be "loved to death." Using the concept of "carrying capacity," park personnel

determined how many people could enter the backcountry without reducing its wilderness qualities below an acceptable level. Protests that these regulations violated the essential freedom of the wilderness were countered with arguments that protection of the resource had to be the park managers primary consideration.²³ This is one of the most controversial issues facing the park service today.

National Parks are easiest to establish when the desired land is already in public ownership. But usually in the United States, securing land for parks has meant extinguishing the titles of private owners. In the case of the Jackson Hole area where in 1929 the National Park Service established Grand Teton National Park.²⁴ Here, only the philanthropy of John D. Rockefeller, Jr. enabled the government to buy the land in question.²⁵ Today, private interests continue to complicate the creation of new parks in settled regions.

Private inholdings are also an administrative problem. A private title that cannot be extinguished remains an "island" within the national park. Activities inconsistent with park purposes frequently occur on the inholdings. In Yosemite Valley there is a golf course within, but not part of, Yosemite National Park.²⁶ Federal lawyers work to acquire nonpublic holdings inside parks and to acquire key lands on the edges of reserves. The Leopold Commission in 1963 examined this suggestion of buying land around the national parks to ensure the preservation of the migratory routes of many animals who live in the parks.²⁷ Guest

lecturer, Ed Grumbine, in Environmental Studies 112B: National Parks, explained how land must be bought around the boundaries of Yellowstone National Park, in Wyoming, to ensure the safety and continued procreation of the spirit of the grizzly bear native to that region of the Rocky Mountains.²⁸

In presenting the origin of ideas for wilderness preservation and the National Park Service, the policy making decisions and development of the National Park Service, and the structure, administrative and preservation management methods of the National Park service, I will now address The Nature Conservancy, a private non-profit membership organization directed toward wilderness preservation, and present its history, development, and analyze its components in the battle for permanent wilderness preservation.

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY THE PHILOSOPHIES AND IDEALS BEHIND THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

The philosophy behind The Nature Conservancy is based on the ideal that it "is a national organization committed to preserving natural diversity by finding and protecting lands and waters supporting the best examples of all elements of the natural world."²⁸ This wilderness preservation philosophy of The Nature Conservancy is supported by a national nonprofit membership whose resources are devoted to the protection of ecologically significant natural areas and the diversity of life that they support. First priority is given to preserving those areas that safeguard critical ecosystems of rare or endangered species. The Nature Conservancy also has an International Program that focuses on the conservation of living resources outside the United States.

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Since 1951, The Nature Conservancy and its members have been involved in the preservation of more than 2.5

million acres in all fifty states, the Virgin Islands, Canada, Latin America and the Carribean. Although some areas are transferred for management to other conservation groups, both private and public, The Nature Conservancy owns and manages a national system of some nine hundred preserves.³⁰

The Nature Conservancy's pledge, that "Forests, wetlands, prairies, mountains, deserts and island-refuges for threatened wildlife and rare plants, places of special beauty remain untouched and protected because The Nature Conservancy and its members cared and acted quickly. These safeguarded lands are a record of our accomplishments and a promise for tomorrow-a legacy for future generations."³¹, stands true as evidenced by their accomplishments in wilderness preservation. The Nature Conservancy is a nonprofit, scientific and educational organization exempt from taxation under Section 510 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The Nature Conservancy publicizes that contributions to its causes are tax deductible. The organization is not part of the government nor does it receive or claim government support. The Nature Conservancy's activities are made possible through the reality of contributions, foundation grants, membership dues and recovery of expenses.

It is important to note that it is impressive and amazing that The Nature Conservancy with its membership of only 275,000 has been able to accomplish what it has:

2.5 million acres of preserved lands and the creation of nine hundred preserves. Proportionally, the United States as a nation with a population of over 220,000,000 has only been able to permanently preserve 80,000,000 acres of Wilderness area.³²

The Nature Conservancy has been known to come to the aid of the United States' Departments of Interior and Agriculture by their ability to act faster on crucial projects where the fate of a wilderness area could be decided overnight. The Nature Conservancy is on record in helping the Bureau of Land Management and the United States Department of Fish and Game.³³ In the February, 1987, edition of "Time Magazine," there is an article praising The Nature Conservancy, The United States Fish and Game Service Director, Frank Dunkle, is quoted "The Conservancy is all action and no talk. While others have been out preaching conservation, they have been practicing it."³⁴

In 1946, the two committees became a separate entity, the Ecologists Union. Then in 1950, borrowing the name of an earlier-established British group, The Ecologists Union became The Nature Conservancy. That same year The Nature Conservancy was recognized as a nonprofit association by the Internal Revenue Service. In 1951, The Nature Conservancy was incorporated in Washington D.C., as an organization chartered for scientific and educational

purposes. A major effort, "A Preliminary Inventory of Native Sanctuaries in the United States and Canada," was published in 1951 under the Nature Conservancy's aegis.³⁵ The work was an extension of premier ecologist Victor C. Shelford's "Naturalist's Guide to the Americas" published in 1926.³⁶

THE HISTORY AND ORGANIZATIONAL BACKGROUND INFORMATION OF THE NATURE CONSERVANCY.

1953, the first independent acquisition project was undertaken at Mianus River Gorge in Westchester County,

New York, when a group of residents asked for affiliation

The history of The Nature Conservancy dates back to 1917 when the Ecological Society of America established with The Nature Conservancy in order to raise money to purchase and manage the gorge.³⁷ In the years since, the Committee for the Preservation of Natural Conditions, Nature Conservancy and its volunteer members have been recognizing that the nation's natural communities were involved in conservation projects across the continent, endangered. It is to this committee of scientists, as in Latin America and in the Caribbean. In recent years, well as to its companion, the Committee for the Study of added emphasis has been given to the identification Plant and Animal Communities, that The Nature Conservancy and stewardship ("stewardship" as defined by The Nature can trace its roots.

Conservancy is biological management instead of just

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The administrative structure of the Nature Conservancy Union became The Nature Conservancy. That same year The is set up so that it consists of a membership organization Nature Conservancy was recognized as a nonprofit with an elected board of governors. Membership is open association by the Internal Revenue Service. In 1951, to everyone. In addition to volunteers, The Nature The Nature Conservancy was incorporated in Washington, D.C., Conservancy has paid professional staff members with as an organization chartered for scientific and educational backgrounds ranging from systems ecology, biology and

purposes. A major effort, "A Preliminary Inventory of Native Sanctuaries in the United States and Canada," was published in 1951 under the Nature Conservancy's aegis.³⁵ The work was an extension of premier ecologist Victor C. Shelford's "Naturalist's Guide to the Americas" published in 1926.³⁶

The new organization spent several years experimenting with various methods of natural area preservation. Then in 1953, the first independent acquisition project was undertaken at Mianus River Gorge in Westchester County, New York, when a group of residents asked for affiliation with The Nature Conservancy in order to raise money to purchase and manage the gorge.³⁷ In the years since, The Nature Conservancy and its volunteer members have been involved in conservation projects across the continent, in Latin America and in the Caribbean. In recent years, added emphasis has been given to the identification and stewardship ("stewardship" as defined by The Nature Conservancy is biological management instead of just land management.") aspects of The Nature Conservancy's mission.

The administrative structure of the Nature Conservancy is set up so that it consists of a membership organization with an elected board of governors. Membership is open to everyone. In addition to volunteers, The Nature Conservancy has paid professional staff members with backgrounds ranging from systems ecology, biology and

forestry to real estate, business and law. Their national headquarters are in Arlington, Virginia, part of metropolitan Washington D.C. Regional offices are in San Francisco, Minneapolis, Boston, and Chapel Hill, North Carolina. There are professionally staffed field offices in forty-three states, an International Program in Washington D.C., and thirty-nine volunteer chapters in thirty-two states.

Projects To Date:	4,100
Project Acres:	2,584,470
Location of Projects:	50 States, Latin America, Canada and the Caribbean
Membership:	275,000
Corporate Associates:	447
Chapters:	39 volunteer chapters and one committee
Land Preservation Fund:	\$43,000,000
Sanctuaries Under Conservancy Management:	900+

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

BACKGROUND INFORMATION STATISTICS

March, 1986

TOTALS:

Projects To Date:	4,100 51 (as of 3/31/86)
Project Acres:	2,584,470
Location of Projects:	50 States, Latin America, Canada and the Carribean
Membership:	275,000
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THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

LAND CONSERVATION PROJECTS PER YEAR

1953	1	1981	226
1954	3	1982	206
1955	4	1983	266
1956	8	1984	388
1957	8	1985	367
1958	6	1986	51 (as of 3/31/86)
1959	5		
1960	16		
1961	20		
1962	23		
1963	19		
1964	30		
1965	28		
1966	39		
1967	70		
1968	56		
1969	101		
1970	140		
1971	142		
1972	200		
1973	202		
1974	210		
1975	226		
1976	218		
1977	172		
1978	219		
1979	188		
1980	204		

THE PROJECT STRUCTURE AND MANAGEMENT METHODS OF THE NATURE CONSERVANCY.

The Nature Conservancy's project structure and management methods are organized as such to involve three separate entities: identification, protection, and management. In how successful The Nature Conservancy is in using these three programs, "Time Magazine", February 9, 1987 writes:

"Staffers attribute The Nature Conservancy's success to its philosophy of nonconfrontation. While the Sierra Club and the Wilderness Society, for example, employ litigation, lobbying, and publicity as weapons, The Nature Conservancy prefers to use gentle persuasion and cash. 'We have very little to do with the activist and environmental groups,' says David Moline, The Nature Conservancy's head of land acquisitions. 'We stay away from all that and get along with everyone.'"³⁸

" Operating quietly and unknown to most Americans we have been called the best-kept secret in conservation," says William Blair, The Nature Conservancy's president emeritus. This is the policy of nonconfrontation as stated in the "Time Magazine" article.

"We are the largest private owner of land sanctuaries in the world, and we are either No. 1 of No. 2 in the amount of money we spend on conservation each year."³⁹

In outlining these three administrative methods of guaranteed Wilderness preservation, The Nature Conservancy works by first "Identifying" through systematic evaluation the land that contains the best examples of ecological systems and habitats where the elements of natural diversity are most in need of protection-rare plants, endangered animals, important and threatened nesting areas, etc-can be protected. Natural Heritage Programs, usually undertaken with individual state governments, provide a continuing inventory process to identify what natural elements are rare within a particular state and where they exist. Researchers use techniques and assessment methods developed by The Nature Conservancy. The inventory process also indicates which natural elements are currently protected and which are not. Consequently, the data is useful in guiding both development and conservation efforts.

Secondly, The Nature Conservancy works by "Protecting" habitats and natural systems, usually through acquisitions by gift or purchase. Since the first acquisition of Mianus River Gorge, New York, in 1953, The Nature Conservancy has protected areas in all fifty states, Canada, the Carribean, and Latin America.⁴⁰

Priority lists are drawn from Conservation Data Centers (the heritage programs' international counterpart), or from related scientific data. This information guides acquisition and other innovative protection methods.

Thirdly, and most importantly, The Nature Conservancy can point to where all of its success originates from: its "Management." The Nature Conservancy in progressively, effectively, and thoroughly "Managing" over 900 Conservancy-owned preserves using only staff and volunteer land stewards must be looked at and considered the best privately run conservation organization. In maintaining the largest privately owned nature preserve system in the world, The Nature Conservancy manages preserves ranging in size from less than one acre to over fifty thousand acres. These preserves are managed for the protection and enhancement of the rare or endangered species and ecosystems that they protect. Most Nature Conservancy preserves are open for "passive recreation" (such as hiking, nature study, bird watching and photography), educational uses and scientific research. A high ranking figure-head in The Nature Conservancy made a very interesting comment toward the general public and this "passive recreation."

"This 'passive recreation' privilege is sometimes abused, says David Morine, The Nature Conservancy's head of land acquisition: 'If we had our druthers, we would just as soon no one came. The general public is not very kind to natural presenses. Its' usually beer drinking bumper-to-bumper.'"⁴¹

management methods of The Nature Conservancy. If there are any differences to be drawn between the two wilderness preservation administrative organizations, they are few, whereas the similarities are numerous.

In gathering research for this study from published environmental books and lectures given by Dr. Frederick Nash

and Dr. Garrett Hardin. I found that personal interviews with both Rangers at the Channel Islands National Park and National Marine Sanctuary and Naturalists from The Nature Conservancy to be the most helpful sources of clear and interpretive information.

In speaking with a Ranger and a naturalist from their respective Wilderness preservation organizations, I was struck by the similarities between the National Park Service and The Nature Conservancy:

THE DISSIMILARITIES AND SIMILARITIES IN
THE WILDERNESS PRESERVATION MANAGEMENT
OF
THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE vs. THE NATURE CONSERVANCY.
(PUBLIC) (PRIVATE)

I have outlined the origins of ideas behind the movement for wilderness preservation, the creation of the national park concept, the philosophies and ideals behind The Nature Conservancy, the political legislation, policy making decisions, and political appointments that made the National Park Service a reality, the history and organizational background information of The Nature Conservancy, the structure and management methods of the National Park Service, and the project structure and management methods of The Nature Conservancy. If there are any differences to be drawn between the two Wilderness preservation administrative organizations, they are few, whereas the similarities are numerous.

In gathering research for this study from published environmental books and lectures given by Dr. Roderick Nash

and Dr. Garrett Hardin, I found that personal interviews with both Rangers at the Channel Islands National Park and National Marine Sanctuary and Naturalists from The Nature Conservancy to be the most helpful sources of clear and interpretive information.

In speaking with a Ranger and a naturalist from their respective Wilderness preservation organizations, I was able to identify at least five conflicts between the National Park Service and The Nature Conservancy: philosophy, finance, preservation, attitude, flexibility and spontaneity and acquisition methods of gaining new lands for permanent preservation.

Concerning the philosophy and ideals behind permanent Wilderness preservation, the National Park Service is sworn to provide both recreation and preservation in their national parks. (Although fortunately they have been swaying more towards the preservation philosophy than recreation) The Nature Conservancy's philosophy is based on the ideal of "strict preservation," permanent preservation first, "passive recreation," second.

The funding and financial standing of these two organizations are quite dissimilar also. The National Park Service and System must compete with all the other federal agencies for the federally collected tax dollar and chronically face shortages. The National Park Service is caught up in a financial dilemma. Americans feel that public recreation, like public libraries, ought

to be "free." In 1976 with visitations the previous year reaching 229 million (up more than 100 million since 1965), the National Park Service saw its request for an increase in operating funds cut back sharply.⁴² Obviously this created reductions in services and deferrals of needed maintenance became inevitable. All of the financing that The Nature Conservancy obtains for preserve acquisition, preserve maintenance, and scientific and educational research, is provided through corporate and personal contributions, foundation grants, membership dues, and the recovery of expenses. The Nature Conservancy being a nonprofit scientific and educational organization is exempt from taxation under Section 501 (c) (e) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Looking at the physical action taken on an environmentally endangered area, the two organizations are quite different. The National Park Service being under the restrictions of a government agency, the Department of the Interior, must deal with the "red tape" that every government agency is subjected to. This "red tape" can get so thick that sometimes endangered lands are exploited and ruined by developers because the hands of the National Park Service were tied up in the legislative process. Fortunately though, and probably the best action that President Carter took in his four years as President, was that by executive signature on December 31, 1978, he rescued, as "National Monuments" 56.3 million acres of Alaskan

Wilderness for permanent preservation.⁴³ The Nature Conservancy in being a practicing private nonprofit wilderness preservation organization has little legislative "red tape" regulations on its preservation activities. Its speed and reputation for being a "red tape cutter" has saved many endangered wildlands from destruction or depletion of valued species or ecosystems.

The Nature Conservancy has set up a "revolving fund" which is financed so that whenever there is an emergency, where emergency action must be taken immediately, there are funds available. These "revolving funds" allow The Nature Conservancy to litigate and purchase property quickly. Through this "revolving fund" The Nature Conservancy can work quickly and thoroughly to preserve undeveloped wilderness areas that could be lost forever if the purchase of these lands depended on government action which is hindered by miles and months of "red tape."

In tracing back the history of the National Park System and its original preservation policy of "securing for all time" such natural wonders as the Yosemite Valley, Grand Canyon and the geysers of Yellowstone, it is encouraging to see that the System has changed its policy of "Natural Monument Preservation." The National Park Service's policy of "natural monumentalism," changed as it now allows for consideration, as national parks, such wilderness and historical areas as the Everglades or Chaco Canyon. Not having majestic peaks or spewing geysers these areas were

considered as important areas because of their fragile ecosystems, endangered species, and ancient native-American Indian ruins and artifacts of great historical significance.⁴⁵

In preserving such historical and wilderness showcases the National Park System faces the reality that it cannot take the time or expropriate funding to make national parks on every individual square acre where there is an endangered nesting ground or a sensitive ecosystem. This is where The Nature Conservancy steps in. The Nature Conservancy is willing and able to purchase any size land where there is an environmental disturbance. It will preserve areas ranging for one acre to thousands of acres. Through its "Data Base" program it can identify an ecological problem of any size and will immediately attempt to preserve the area. If it is of environmental concern, The Nature Conservancy will do all it can to preserve the land.

Closely following this policy of what and how much to preserve, the actual acquisition of land for permanent preservation is a main topic of discrepancy between the National Park Service and The Nature Conservancy. The National Park Service must be very diplomatic in its actions for securing lands. Usually in securing land for parks, the National Park Service has had to extinguish the titles of private owners. The problems surrounding this dilemma are best described in William C. Everhart's

book, The National Park Service, where in chapter six he tells about the controversies involved in securing the land for Grand Teton National Park, 1950.⁴⁶

On the other hand, The Nature Conservancy, being a private wilderness preservation organization with private lawyers, real estate people, scientists and tax-consultants, can use all of these resources to acquire lands with a minimum of uproar and confusion. There people working for The Nature Conservancy know how to use the laws and loopholes surrounding the purchase of certain areas and how to deal with sensitive issues in the purchase.

The Conservancy knows how to work around certain laws and legislation to secure endangered lands for permanent preservation and can ensure tax breaks and deductions for people who donate their land and monies.

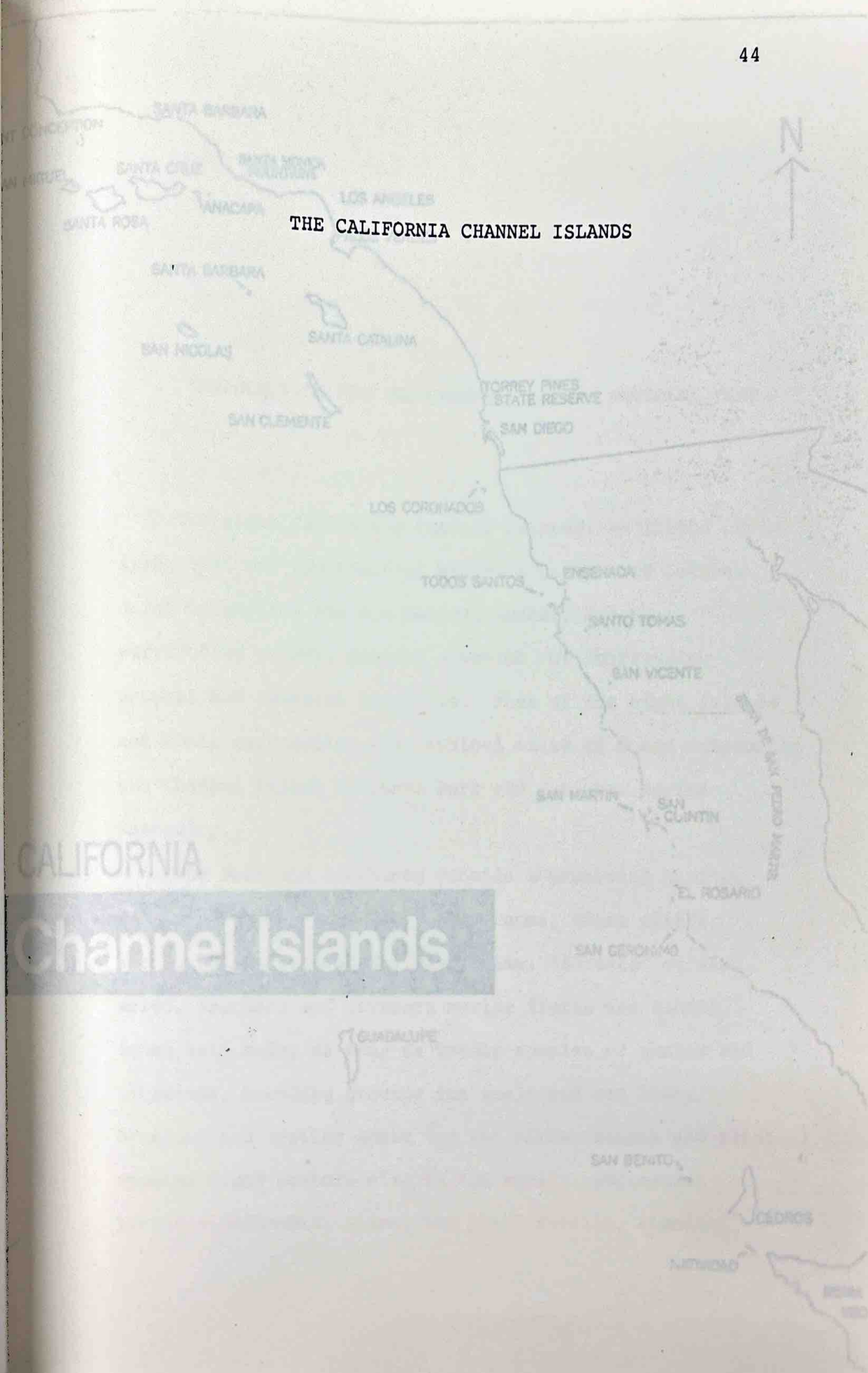
The dissimilarities between these two Wilderness preservation organizations are many, but the similarities and the cohesive work that the National Park Service and The Nature Conservancy have accomplished together is very encouraging and impressive. The California Channel Islands, a chain of eight islands off the coastline of Southern California, provide a perfect example of how the National Park Service conducts its preservation methods and protects the five northern islands and their surrounding waters. Housed inside the Channel Islands

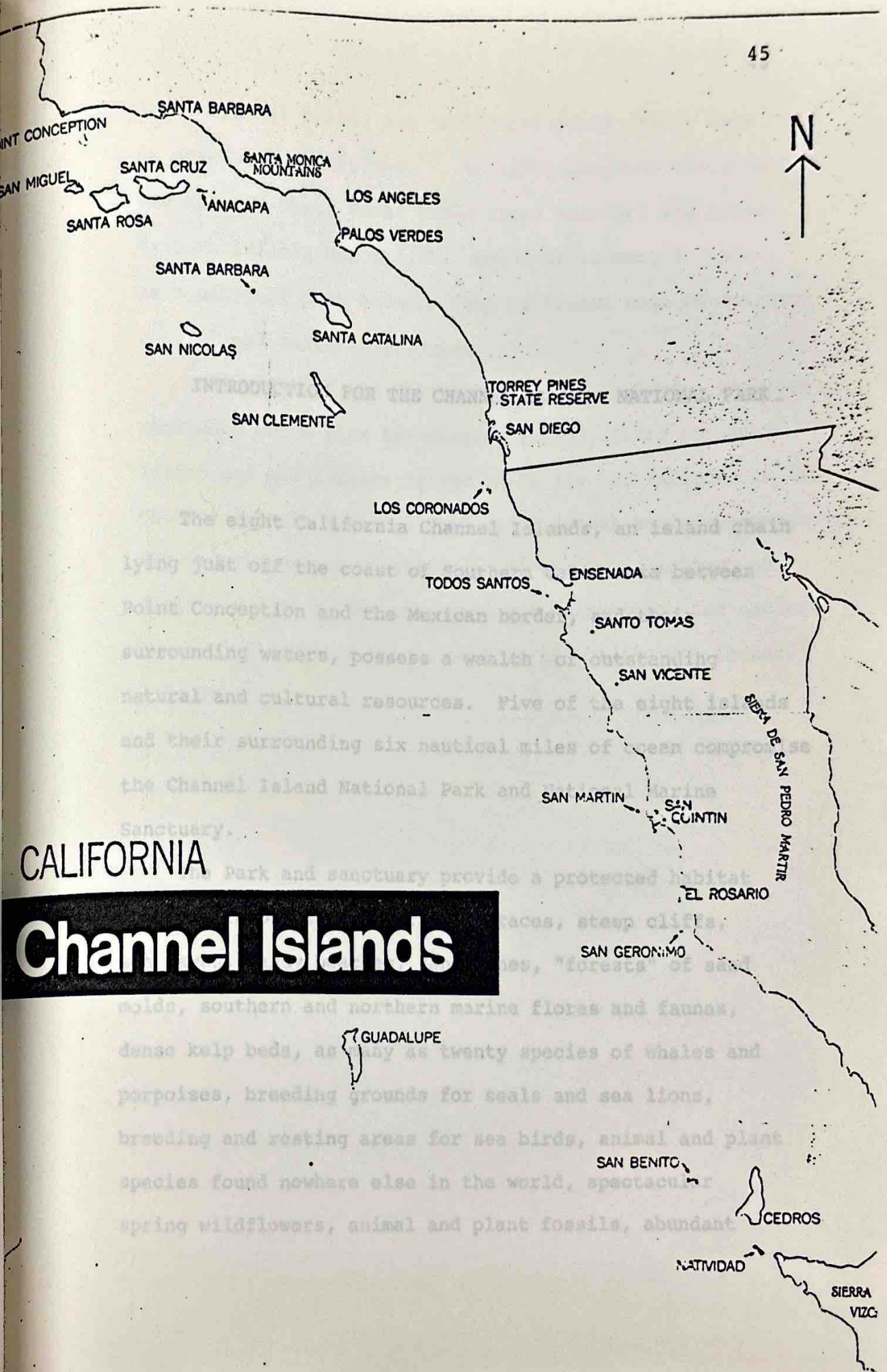
National Park and National Marine Sanctuary is the Santa Cruz Island Project. This project is a permanent, private preservation enterprise which is located within the established boundaries of the Channel Islands National Park. The Project encompasses the western nine/tenths of Santa Cruz Island. This Santa Cruz Island Project is privately owned and managed by The Nature Conservancy. In the following material we will explore now the National Park Service and The Nature Conservancy work cohesively alongside one another in their ensuring of the continued healing and preservation of the California Channel Islands which are legally protected by the Channel Islands National Park.

THE CALIFORNIA CHANNEL ISLANDS

Chapter II

The Channel Islands National Park
Featuring The Eight California Channel Islands





archeological sites, and historical finds dating back to Spanish explorations.⁴⁷ In 1980, Congress designated San Miguel, Santa Rosa, Santa Cruz, Anacapa, and Santa Barbara Islands and 125,000 acres of submerged lands as a national park because they contained such outstanding natural and cultural resources.

INTRODUCTION FOR THE CHANNEL ISLANDS NATIONAL PARK.

mentioned above plus San Nicolas Island, Santa Catalina Island and San Clemente Island which are not included in the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary. The eight California Channel Islands, an island chain lying just off the coast of Southern California between Point Conception and the Mexican border, and their surrounding waters, possess a wealth of outstanding natural and cultural resources. Five of the eight islands and their surrounding six nautical miles of ocean compromise the Channel Island National Park and National Marine Sanctuary.

The Park and sanctuary provide a protected habitat for such resources as: marine terraces, steep cliffs, sea caves, sandy beaches, sand dunes, "forests" of sand molds, southern and northern marine floras and faunas, dense kelp beds, as many as twenty species of whales and porpoises, breeding grounds for seals and sea lions, breeding and resting areas for sea birds, animal and plant species found nowhere else in the world, spectacular spring wildflowers, animal and plant fossils, abundant

archeological sites, and historical finds dating back to Spanish explorations.⁴⁷ in 1980, Congress designated San Miguel, Santa Rosa, Santa Cruz, Anacapa, and Santa Barbara Islands and 125,000 acres of submerged lands as a national park because they contained such outstanding natural and cultural resources.

All eight of the California Channel Islands, the five mentioned above plus San Nicolas Island, Santa Catalina Island and San Clemente Island which are not included in the Channel Islands National Park and National Marine Sanctuary, are very important to the world of biology, geology, and history due to ecosystems, geologic formations, and ancient human civilizations unique only to the California Channel Islands.

THE LAYOUT OF THE CALIFORNIA CHANNEL ISLANDS.

The California Channel Islands are among the most conspicuous landmarks of Southern California. The four northernmost islands; San Miguel, Santa Rosa, Santa Cruz, and Anacapa are readily visible from the adjacent mainland on clear days. Millions of travelers along U.S. Highway 101 along the coast of southern Santa Barbara and Ventura counties are treated to a grand procession of islands paralleling the coastline. From the vicinity of the University of California Santa Barbara campus, all four islands stretch in a broken silhouette across much of the Pacific horizon. A beacon to local researchers, the islands remain a tantalizing mystery to the general public.

These four northern islands are separated from each other by relatively narrow and shallow passages from three to six miles wide. Because of their shared biological, geological, and human histories, we can readily examine patterns of

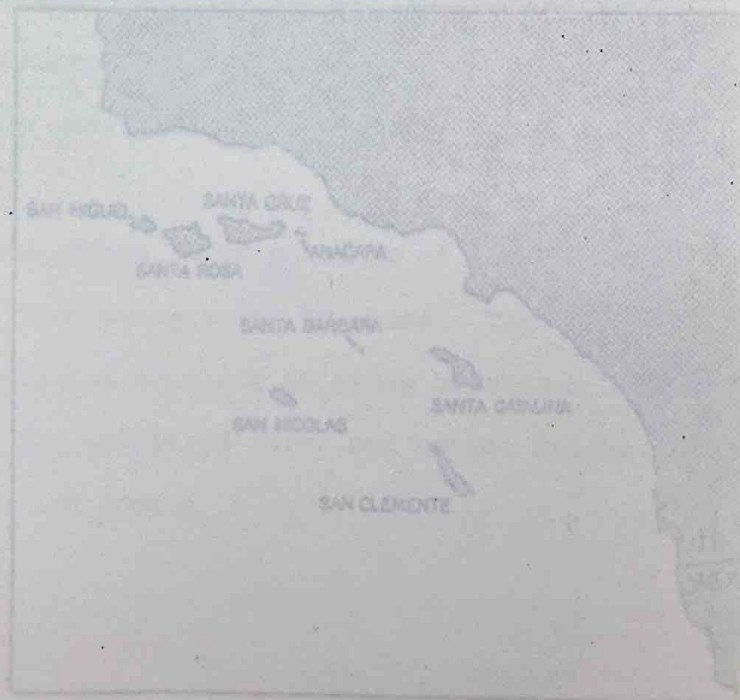
variation in the island group as a whole, rather than treating each island as a special case. Although intensely studied in many ways, very little work of a synthetic nature has been published concerning the island's ecology and new studies are constantly being suggested by research in various fields.

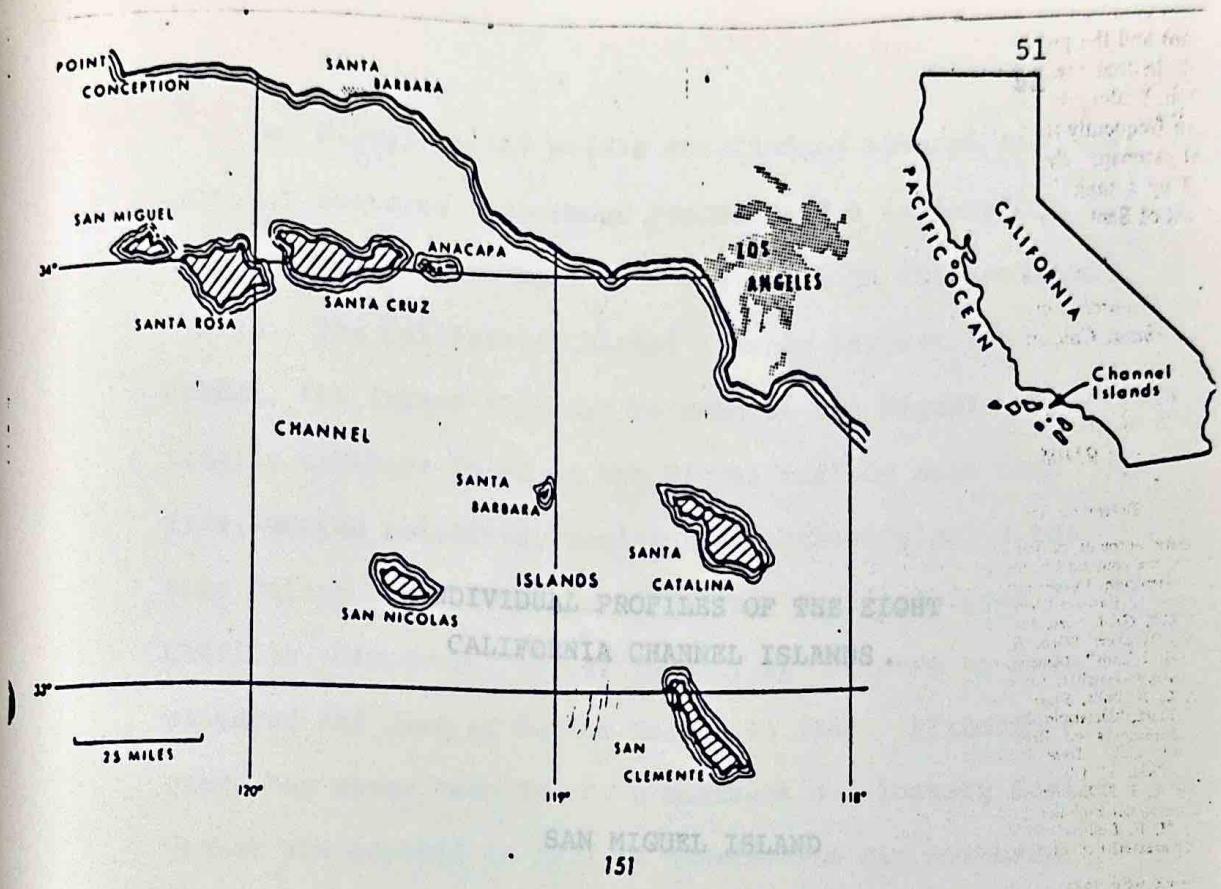
Lying in order from west to east the islands are San Miguel, Santa Rosa, Santa Cruz and Anacapa. This is also the order of increasing area, except for little Anacapa Island at the eastern end of the chain. When listed according to increasing size, the Northern Channel Islands form a series which closely parallel the other Channel Islands to the south; Santa Barbara, San Nicolas, Santa Catalina and San Clemente. Little Eastern Anacapa Island and Santa Barbara Islands are small, dry and rocky. They share similar histories, and they support relatively few species of plants and animals. San Miguel and San Nicolas are both low, sandy, and windswept outliers at the western extremes of their groups. Lying in the full force of the cold California Current they support low, scrubby vegetation and spectacular colonies of seals and sea lions. Next in size and isolation are Santa Rosa and San Clemente islands; which are not greatly similar except for their gentle grassy slopes dissected by precipitous wooded canyons. Close to shore, large and mountainous, Santa Cruz and Santa Catalina islands are the most prominent and biologically diverse of the Channel Islands.

The northern islands are less arid and closer to shore and to each other, than their southern counterparts. They are also

generally larger and higher in elevation. Although the northern group is not as thoroughly studied as most of the southern islands, the northern islands probably support more species of plants (especially trees) and animals (especially birds) than do the southern islands. The incidence of endemic forms is slightly higher on the southern channel Islands, however, due to their greater isolation from each other and the mainland. Although each island is unique, the similarities are often greater between these island pairs than between the adjacent islands of the northern and southern groups. On the northern islands, however, the western end of each island resembles the eastern end of the adjacent island in many ways.

The California Channel Islands.





The California Channel Islands.

Wind and weather sweep across the North Pacific to batter the shores of San Miguel Island, the westernmost island of the California Channel Island chain. San Miguel Island is about eight miles long and four miles wide. Along with Prince Island, it covers slightly less than ten thousand acres. The island is generally a plateau at four hundred feet, but two rounded hills emerge from the windwept landscape. Wind driven sand covers the plateau, which is recovering from overgrazing. The twenty-four mile shoreline consists of sandy beaches, rocky bluffs, and a few sheltered coves and pocket beaches. Fog and strong winds are common.



San Miguel Island boasts outstanding natural and cultural features. Numerous seabirds and a variety of seals and sea lions "haul out" and breed on its isolated shores. The California Channel Islands largest land mammal, the Island Fox, can be seen on San Miguel. Other fragile treasures found on San Miguel include more than five hundred relatively undisturbed archeological sites, some dating to the late 15th century.

INDIVIDUAL PROFILES OF THE EIGHT CALIFORNIA CHANNEL ISLANDS.

Cabrillo, Juan Rodriguez, is believed to have wintered and died at Cuyler Harbor in 1543. Although his grave has never been found, a monument overlooking Cuyler Harbor was erected in 1909 to mark his northern voyage of discovery.

SAN MIGUEL ISLAND

Wind and weather sweep across the North Pacific to batter the shores of San Miguel Island, the westernmost island of the California Channel Island chain. San Miguel Island is about eight miles long and four miles wide. Along with Prince Island, it covers slightly less than ten thousand acres. The island is, generally, a plateau at four hundred to five hundred feet elevation, but two rounded hills emerge from its beautiful, and windswept landscape.

Wind driven sand covers large portions of the island, which is recovering from overgrazing by sheep. The twenty-four mile shoreline consists of sandy beaches, rocky bluffs, and a few sheltered coves and pocket beaches. Fog and strong winds are common.

San Miguel Island boasts outstanding natural and cultural features. Enormous numbers and a variety of seals and sea lions "haul out" and breed on its isolated shores. The California Channel Islands largest land mammal, the Island Fox, can be seen on San Miguel. Other fragile treasures found on San Miguel include more than five hundred relatively undisturbed archeological sites, some dating back thousands of years. Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo, discoverer of California, is believed to have wintered and died at Cuyler Harbor in 1543. Although his grave has never been found, a monument overlooking Cuyler Harbor was erected in 1937 to commemorate his northern voyage of discovery.

In the 1850's, Captain George Nidever brought sheep, cattle and horses to San Miguel. An adobe he build may be the earliest structure built on any of the Channel Islands. Later in the 1890's, Captain William G. Waters settled on the island, brought more sheep and build a large ranch house. In 1929 Robert Brooks obtained the government lease from Waters. In 1930, Herbert Lester and his bride, Elizabeth, became the islands' caretakers, overseeing Brooks' ranching operations. Because of Herbert Lester's love of the island's isolation and beauty, he became known as the "King of San Miguel."

As a child in Santa Barbara, I attended Trinity Episcopal Church with Mrs. Lester and her family. She was a spunky, old woman and full of stories about her life.

In her book, The Legendary King of San Miguel, Mrs. Lester, widow of the "Legendary King" Herbert Steever Lester, writes about their lives with their two daughters on their ranch on San Miguel Island. The lives of this family at Rancho Rambouillet, from the fall of 1930 to the spring of 1942, was filled with adventure, education, tragedy and love. In her writings Mrs. Lester describes her family's adventures, good and bad, in very positive and loving prose. Her book leaves the impression of a family faced with uncertain hardships but enduring them with a strength rarely seen.

After the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor in December of 1941 and the Declaration of War in the Pacific, the idyllic life of the Lester family on San Miguel was to come to a tragic close. "The final curtain was ringing down on the reign of The King of San Miguel."⁴⁸

The account of the suicide by the Legendary King, written by Elizabeth Lester, perfectly depicts the man's love for his beautiful island:

"As indicated by his note, we found him in his favorite spot, a grassy swale covered with blossoming mustard overlooking Prince Island where he often went to sit and meditate barking to the song of the wind."⁴⁹

When the Navy occupied San Miguel Island for wartime defense purposes on June 18, 1942, Mrs. Lester eulogized her family's life on their beloved island saying:

"He created a life and a world for himself, and for us on San Miguel. It is all buried, as he is buried, here but not alone. I am glad I had the privilege of sharing it all-for in his imagination we dwelt on an island paradise, the King, and the Queen and the two little Princesses. We will always be here in spirit, for those who seek us-those who have the skill to dream of what it must have been. 50

After the United States entered World War II and throughout the Korean War, the United States Navy used the San Miguel Island as a bombing range. Although today the island is managed by the National Park Service it is still owned by the United States Navy, whose uses take precedence over other uses. The island has been used for ranching, as a missile tracking station and as a bombing range but is now essentially void of development except for a quonset hut that houses research personnel. Low levels of visitor day-use are now being allowed on San Miguel; visitation is limited to ten people or one group, and visitors must have a permit and be accompanied by a ranger while on the island.

Staying on the marked trail is particularly important on this island because live ordnance is still occasionally uncovered by shifting sands.

the Channel Islands.

Beneath Santa Rosa Island's non-native grasslands are the remains of a rich cultural heritage. Over one hundred and eighty largely undisturbed archeological sites

SANTA ROSA ISLAND

Santa Rosa Island is the second largest island in the national park. About fifteen miles long and ten miles wide, its fifty-three thousand acres exhibit remarkable contrasts. High mountains with deeply cut canyons give way to gentle rolling hills and flat marine terraces. Vast grasslands blanket about ninety percent of the Santa Rosa Island, yet volcanic formations, extensive fossil beds, and highly colored hill slopes are visible.

Rocky terraces on the west end of the island provide superb habitat for intertidal organisms, including astounding concentrations of black abalone. Harbor seals haul out and breed on the island's sandy beaches.

On the eastern tip of Santa Rosa Island, a unique coastal marsh is among the most extensive freshwater habitats found on any of the eight California Channel Islands. The entire island is surrounded by expanses of kelp beds. Consequently, Santa Rosa Island's surrounding waters serve as an invaluable nursery for the sea life that feeds larger marine mammals and the sea birds that breed along the coastal shores and offshore rocks of all the Channel Islands.

Beneath Santa Rosa Islands's non-native grasslands are the remains of a rich cultural heritage. Over one hundred and eighty largely undisturbed archeological sites

have been discovered. These include several associated with early man's presence in North America. Chumash Indian villages and historic-era camps of early explorers and fur hunters have also been uncovered. Some historians believe that Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo's final resting place is located somewhere on Santa Rosa.

Beginning in the 1840's and carrying over into the 1850's, Santa Rosa was a cattle racheria. After the cattle industry of the Californiano's and the old Spanish families collapsed in the 1860's, sheep grazing continued on Santa Rosa Island until 1902, when the Vail and Vickers Company immediately removed the sheep and reintroduced cattle ranching. The Vail and Vickers company still run cattle on the island today, but the ranching operations are slowly being phased out.

Marilyn Vickers Fowkes is a friend of our family and she tells many interesting stories about her family and their operations in Ventura County and on Santa Rosa.

Fortunately, today many of Santa Rosa's native plant communities still survive. Luckily these hearty native plants endured man's barrage of non-native plants, grains, insects, sheep, pigs, deer, elk and cattle. These native plant communities had to retreat to rocky canyons and upper slopes to survive.

Such native and endemic plants include the tree poppy, island manzanita, and an endemic sage. Hardwood forests are found on the island's north-facing slopes

while two groves of Torrey pine are visible near Beachers Bay. More than one hundred and ninety-five bird species are found on Santa Rosa Island. Shore birds and waterfowl favor the freshwater habitat found on Santa Rosa Island's eastern tip. The miniature island fox may be frequently seen while the endemic spotted skunk, found only on Santa Rosa and Santa Cruz Islands, is only rarely observed.

On February 9th of this year, the Department of the Interior purchased all the rights to Santa Rosa Island. The Vail and Vickers Company had been the private owners of Santa Rosa Island for last eighty-five years, but recently sold their fifty-three acre island for 29.5 million dollars. The purchase of the newest island to be admitted into the Channel Islands National Park was delayed for seven years due to negotiations and a lawsuit.⁵¹

Being a privately owned and managed island before its purchase this year, the Vail and Vickers Company allowed little if any public access onto their ranching lands. "Now under National Park ownership, opening Santa Rosa to visitors will not adversely affect the island," National Park Service Superintendent Bill Ehorn claimed.⁵² "There will be limited entry to a small number of people at a time. We do not know the exact number yet. We must learn more about the island and how many people can be allowed on without impact on the environment."⁵³

Santa Rosa is one of the last spots in California where old fashioned vaqueros work on horseback to tend cattle, and Park Superintendent Ehorn envisions the continuation of the cattle operations as "interpretative history" for visitors.⁵⁴ The Vails are now negotiating a lease-back agreement with the Park Service to continue their operations on the island. Although the ranching operations are presently being phased off, Ehorn supports the continued ranching operations as a human historical asset to the Park.⁵⁵

"A few years ago, as the National Park Service was revising the park's General Management Plan, the overwhelming message we received from the public was to proceed slowly with development and visitor use until we could be sure, through studies and planning, that the park's natural and cultural resources would not be compromised. This is what we are trying to do. We ask the patience of members of the public."⁵⁶

SANTA CRUZ ISLAND

Santa Cruz Island is the largest and most diverse of all the islands within the national park boundary. Santa Cruz Island is about twenty-four miles long and has a land area of about ninety-six square miles. The Island consists of two ridges parallel to its long axis whose north

slope is a rugged ridge while the south slope is an older and more weathered ridge. Both ridges have slopes deeply scarred by stream valleys. Freshwater springs and creeks, arboreal vegetation, and numerous high peaks give this large island the appearance of an undisturbed California mainland. Many people think the island looks like the Santa Ynez Valley area.

The highest of all Channel Islands mountains is found here. Santa Cruz Island's seventy-seven mile varied coastline has steep cliffs, gigantic sea caves, pocket coves and sandy beaches. The shoreline cliffs, beaches, offshore rocks, and tidepools provide important breeding habitat for colonies of nesting sea birds and diverse plants and animals.

Santa Cruz Island is home to more than six hundred plant species, one hundred and forty land bird species, and a small distinctive group of other land animals. Of the forty plant species endemic to the California Channel Islands, eight occur only on Santa Cruz Island. Santa Cruz is the most densely wooded of all the Channel Islands. The Santa Cruz Island ironwood and the island oak make up the vast majority of tree species on the island. These two species of trees, the island fox, scrub jay, and other distinctive plant and animal species have adapted to Santa Cruz Island's unique environment. To biologists internationally, Santa Cruz Island is exceptionally significant in its great diversity of habitat, greater than any other of the

California Channel Islands.

The Chumash Indians inhabited Santa Cruz Island for more than six thousand years. When the first European explorers arrived in 1542, as many as two thousand Chumash Indians are expected to have been living peacefully on Santa Cruz Island. The Chumash Indians are said to have had two specific villages on Santa Cruz Island, the villages of Limo and Tocane.

In 1839, 25 years after the last of the Chumash Indians were removed to missions, the island was granted to Andres Castillero by the Governor of California. In 1857, Castillero sold the island to an Englishman, William E. Barron, who in 1869 sold to a group of San Francisco businessmen who formed the Santa Cruz Island Company.

In 1869, Justinian Caire purchased the 60,000 acre Santa Cruz Island, the first thing he did was build ranch facilities to launch his sheep ranching enterprise. An aerial view of Santa Cruz confirms his choice of sites for the main ranch facility. The island has interior valleys that stretch along much of the twenty-four mile length of the island. At the east end of a valley accessible from Prisoners Harbor, Justinian Caire built his village. It included a main ranch house, bunkhouse, stables, a winery which exported Santa Cruz wines which were some prize-winners in their day, a bakery and a chapel.

On my recent visit to Santa Cruz Island in January of this year, I ate my lunch on a rock in Justinian Caire's garden. Many of the original buildings are still intact and their ornate iron balustrades and French ornamentations reflect Justinian Caire's Mediterranean background. The buildings are well maintained and are used by the caretakers who live there now as employees of the Gherini family.

Sheep on Santa Cruz Island today are considered more of a problem than a business. Attitudes have changed since May 25, 1858 when the island's owners placed an advertisement in the "Daily Alta California" trumpeting the fact that no wild animals on the island would interfere with sheep raising.

"For Sale: An Island containing about 60,000 acres of land, well watered and abounding in small valleys of the best pasturage for sheep. There are no wild animals on it that would interfere with livestock. There is a good harbor, and safe anchorage..."

Daily Alta California
May 25, 1858

There are an estimated 1,000 sheep left on The Nature Conservancy side of the island. About 20,000 sheep were killed by The Nature Conservancy after it entered a purchase agreement for the remainder of the island.⁵⁸

The National Park Service, which will eventually acquire the Gherini property, has recommended the removal of the remainder of the sheep to protect the

island from overgrazing.

On my recent visit, the naturalist told us that the area protected by The Nature Conservancy, where most of the sheep have been removed, has shown a remarkable "rebirth" of plants and grasses. Sheep from the National Park area stray over into the lush area protected by The Nature Conservancy as there is a disagreement over the property line and a fence cannot be constructed. Hunting "parties" are held in the National Park to keep down the number of sheep but on the whole this method is not effective in controlling the numbers of sheep.

Overall, the physical development of Santa Cruz Island has been minimal. The physical construction on the island has consisted of the two ranches, one in the central valley and one on the east end where I visited. There is also an airfield and a research station operated by the University of California. With The Nature Conservancy owning, managing, and "moth-balling" the western nine-tenths of Santa Cruz Island, the eastern one-tenth owned by the Gherini family is today privately used for small-scale ranching, "Island Tours," and game hunting.

In 1978 The Nature Conservancy acquired from the Santa Cruz Island Company an irrevocable conservation easement, ensuring the preservation of this western nine-tenths of Santa Cruz Island.

ANACAPA ISLAND

Anacapa Island is actually composed of three small islets connected by submerged narrow reefs. The three small islets are inaccessible from each other except by boat. Anacapa Island is the closest of all of the California Channel Islands to the mainland. Anacapa Island lies only eleven miles across the Santa Barbara Channel, to the southwest, from Oxnard, California.

Anacapa Island totals almost seven hundred acres, is generally less than a half mile wide and, collectively, almost five miles long. Perpendicular cliffs, rise to two hundred and fifty feet above the sea. For much of the year, Anacapa Island looks brown and lifeless. With winter rains, its plants emerge from summer's dormancy and turn green.

Sea mammals are often seen around Anacapa's shores. January through March is "whale watching" season and migrating whales can be seen in the Santa Barbara Channel between the mainland and Anacapa Island. Western gulls, cormorants, black oystercatchers, and the endangered brown pelican may

be seen year round. West Anacapa's slopes are the primary West Coast nesting site for the brown pelican. To protect the pelican rookery, West Anacapa is a Research Natural Area closed to the public.

A Coast Guard navigation station on East Anacapa is a major development on the island and consists of six structures. All but the lighthouse are used by the National Park Service. Recreation use predominates on East and Middle Anacapa, but when the foghorn is on, the lighthouse on East Anacapa is "off-limits" to visitor use, severe hearing damage may result. There is a park ranger stationed on East Anacapa year round. Anacapa Island and Santa Barbara Island are the only islands in the Channel Islands National Park to have a permanently stationed park ranger.

The island is barren of trees and large shrubs.

Santa Barbara Island was named by Sebastian Viscaíno, who arrived on the island on December 4, 1602-Saint Barbara's Day. Santa Barbara Island being one of the driest of all eight California Channel Islands was never inhabited by the Chumash, but the Indians occasionally stopped off there on journeys to other islands.

Not until the 1920's was Santa Barbara Island settled. At this time, farming, grazing, intentional

SANTA BARBARA ISLAND

Santa Barbara Island is the smallest island of the five under the protection of the Channel Island National Park. Santa Barbara Island also lies furthest south of the other four islands. This island is triangular in shape and is about one and a half miles long. At its widest point, the island is one mile wide. Santa Barbara Island and associated islets total about six hundred and fifty acres, its steep vertical cliffs rise to a marine terrace topped by two peaks. Signal Peak, the highest point on Santa Barbara Island, rises up six hundred and thirty-five feet from sea level. The island is barren of trees and large shrubs.

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Not until the 1920's was Santa Barbara Island settled. At this time, farming, grazing, intentional

burning by island residents, and the introduction of rabbits severely damaged the island's native vegetation.

During World War II the United States Navy used Santa Barbara Island as an early warning outpost, and constructed the quonset hut now used as the ranger station and visitor center. My grandfather who worked for Pacific Bell Telephone was involved in establishing the communication system to the island during the War. He remarked how lonely and desolate the island was.

Today, non-native grasses including oats, barley, and brome dominate the island's landscape. On Santa Barbara Island's shoreline, California sea lions and, in the winter, elephant seals, breed on the rocks and in the sandy pocket coves. Western gulls nest in abundance, and occasionally brown pelicans nest here too. Land birds, including barn owls, American kestrels, horned larks, and meadowlarks, also nest here. A park ranger is stationed on the island year round.

Bill Halverson, a full time plant ecologist working for the National Park Service, is studying ways to return Santa Barbara Island to its natural self. The Island's fauna was attacked by rabbits who were imported by island stewards attempting to create a food source for future travelers to the island. In allowing the rabbits to roam and multiply freely, the rabbits nibbled the Island's beautiful plants to the

ground. In destroying the succulent *Dudleya* flower and the giant sunflower trees, the rabbits stripped the island of its protective covering and a cycle of erosion began that has not stopped.⁵⁹

The title of "badlands"⁶⁰ has been given to many parts of Santa Barbara Island where the land is "caked and cracked, like a dry riverbed that has not seen water in years. The clay gulleys are a stark contrast to the surrounding green and golden fields of native barleys and oatgrasses."

The dilemma, of the now removed rabbits, and plants on Santa Barbara Island is a perfect example of the delicate ecological balances that exist on all the Channel Islands

Working with Bill Halverson to reverse the erosion problems on Santa Barbara Island was Dennis Tenn, a soil expert who heads the Cooperative Park Studies Unit at Texas A & M University. Fenn said "The clay based soil in the badlands area is so salty that most island vegetation cannot grow on it."⁶¹

Dennis Fenn and Bill Halverson had considered transplanting something to the area that could grow, but they decided against it. The National Park Service has adopted a pure-science approach to the ecological problems on not only Santa Barbara Island but on all the islands creating the Channel Islands National Park and refrains from interfering with the natural process.⁶²

A long time friend of our family is George Batzianis. His grandfather was one of the soldiers who finally "rescued" this unfortunate woman from the island. The "Blind Woman" did not survive long after within the Channel Islands National Park boundaries but are members of the California Channel Islands.

SANTA CATALINA ISLAND

SAN NICOLAS ISLAND

Santa Catalina, twenty-six miles off the coast of Los Angeles, is privately owned. Developed as a resort and ranch in the past, most of the island is now part of an easement open to the public for a variety of recreational use under the joint management responsibility of the Santa Catalina Island Conservancy and for the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation. This island is most distant from the Southern California coastline and is Navy owned. It is used as a missile tracking station and has a landing strip, numerous roads, military support facilities, and dormitories. San Nicolas Island is a mesa that has been dissected by steep gulches, giving it a "badlands" appearance. The island has experienced a great deal of wind and water erosion following overgrazing by sheep and denudation. At present, sand dunes and badlands topography cover much of the island, but low grasses and shrubs are gradually revegetating the 15,000 acre island.⁶³

Extensive private development has taken place both at the resort town of Avalon, the only incorporated city on the California Channel Islands, and at scattered points around the island. The numerous coves and beaches are heavily used by boats from the mainland.

Scott O'dell's popular children's novel The Island of the Blue Dolphin is based on the true story of a Chumash woman who was left behind on the island when the Spanish removed the Indians to the Santa Barbara Mission.

A long time friend of our family is George Batzianis. His grandfather was one of the soldiers who finally "rescued" this unfortunate woman from the island. The "Bird Woman" did not survive long after she was introduced to the civilized world.

my family on August 31, 1850. On October 13, 1853

my great-great-great grandfather lost the deed to

Santa Catalina Island SANTA CATALINA ISLAND a poker game.

Santa Catalina, twenty-six miles off the coast of Los Angeles, is privately owned. Developed as a resort and ranch in the past, most of the island is now part of an easement open to the public for a variety of recreational use under the joint management responsibility of the Santa Catalina Island Conservancy and for the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation. Santa Island's 36,000 acres is undeveloped.

About Santa Catalina Island is about 52,000 acres in size, is very rugged and has a high narrow ridge along its length. Sea cliffs are precipitous, making the coast inaccessible in most areas. at slope and a

great Extensive private development has taken place both at the resort town of Avalon, the only incorporated city on the California Channel Islands, and at scattered points around the island. The numerous coves and beaches are heavily used by boats from the mainland.

Of personal interest to me, is the fact that Santa Catalina Island once belonged to my great-great-great grandfather Jose Maria Covarrubias. Our family has a copy of the deed dated July 4, 1846 from Governor Pio Pico to Thomas Robbins who then sold the island to my family on August 31, 1850. On October 13, 1853 my great-great-great grandfather lost the deed to Santa Catalina Island to Albert Packard in a poker game.

SAN CLEMENTE ISLAND

This southernmost of the California Channel Islands is administered by the Navy and has been used extensively as a bombing range and to house numerous navigational and defense facilities. Even so, much of San Clemente Island's 36,000 acres is undeveloped. About twenty miles long, and a maximum of four miles wide, the island is dominated by a shrub and herb covered plateau of gentle relief at an elevation of 800 to 1,500 feet, with a steep east slope and a greatly sloping west side.⁶⁵

THE UNIQUE AND DELICATE SIGNIFICANT FEATURES
OF THE CALIFORNIA CHANNEL ISLANDS.

The eight California Channel Islands have been called the "Galapagos Islands in our own backyard." These islands contain a number of natural and cultural features that are not only nationally significant but are, in some cases, the only examples of their kind found in the world. The California Channel Islands' geology, marine resources, marine animals, sea birds, terrestrial fauna, terrestrial vegetation, paleontology and cultural values are of such significance that they have attracted international study and acclaim.

GEOLOGY

The continental shelf of Southern California consists of a series of low depressions and basins separated by high ridges, some of which protrude above

sea level to form the California Channel Islands. The processes that formed the islands and gave them their physical characteristics provide many features of geologic interest, among them the marine terraces at many levels that have developed along the shorelines in response to varying sea levels and the intermittent uplift of the islands. San Clemente Island contains some of the best examples of extensive marine terraces in the world, but significant marine terraces are also present on San Miguel Island, Santa Rosa Island, Santa Cruz Island and San Nicholas Island.

Eolian landforms, both active and inactive dunes, are well represented on San Clemente, San Nicolas, and San Miguel Islands, with smaller dune areas on Santa Rosa. Associated with these sand dunes are calcified root castings known as caliche, formed when vegetation was covered and killed by dunes. A hole in the dune left by the rotted vegetation filled with sand cemented by calcium carbonate; later the wind moved the sand and left "forests" of sand molds standing above the surface. These unusual deposits are among the most interesting of the geologic features of San Miguel's landscape. Caliche is also present on San Clemente and San Nicholas Islands.

One of the most interesting geologic questions that has been a subject of research has been the relationship of the geologic history of the islands to their biological past.

The northern Channel Islands are geologically similar to, and may represent a seaward extension of, the mainland's Santa Monica Mountains. Whether the islands were ever connected to the mainland is still under study, but most of the evidence indicates there was not a land connection. Theories of species dispersal from the mainland to the island are complicated by the lack of evidence of a land bridge, but make interrelated biological and geological research on the islands even more challenging.⁶⁶

MARINE RESOURCES

The tidal and offshore areas of the Channel Islands contain most of the remaining relatively pristine marine assemblages in the Southern California region. The coastline of the Islands is composed mainly of rocky shorelines with precipitous headlands that define isolated stretches of broad beaches. In comparison to the mainland coast, largely disturbed by man's influence and intensive development, Island coastal communities are virtually untouched. Rich, undisturbed tide pools abound on the Islands, their species diversity and abundance unparalleled on the eastern Pacific coast.

Because the Islands lie in an area of transition between southern and northern marine floras and faunas, their marine biota is especially rich in species.

point Conception, twenty-three miles to the north of San Miguel Island, is considered the dividing line between the northern and southern assemblages. San Miguel and San Nicolas islands are, however, surrounded by the cold water of the California current, which supports more northern species, while San Clemente, Santa Catalina, and Santa Barbara islands have predominantly southern species influenced by the warm water of the California countercurrent. Anacapa, Santa Cruz, and Santa Rosa islands have mixtures of both northern and southern forms. Therefore, most of the marine communities that can be found along the entire California coast are found around the islands in a relatively close relationship.⁶⁷

MARINE MAMMALS

The California Channel Islands and their offshore waters are a haven for many species of marine mammals. The waters surrounding the Channel Islands and the Santa Barbara Channel are inhabited by as many as twenty species of cetaceans (whales and porpoises). Recent observations off Santa Rosa and San Miguel Islands suggests that these waters are either a newly utilized or previously unknown migration pathway for several large species of whales, including humpback, blue, finback and sei. A number of these whale species are on the Federal list of threatened and endangered species, as designated

by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

While pinnipeds (seals and sea lions) historically bred in great numbers along the Southern California mainland coast, today they breed and pup almost exclusively on the Channel Islands. The northern elephant seal, once almost extinct, is now found on San Miguel, San Nicolas, Santa Barbara, and San Clemente islands. South of Point Conception, stellar sea lions are found on San Miguel, while harbor seals are found in low numbers on all the islands. The only breeding colony of northern fur seals south of the Alaska Pribilof Islands was discovered on San Miguel Island a little over a decade ago. Since then the population has increased, becoming firmly established. The Guadalupe fur seal, on the State of California list of rare and endangered species, visits San Miguel and San Nicolas islands. At present the population is nonbreeding; however, numerous remains in Chumash kitchen middens suggest former use of the island as a breeding site. These two islands are the only areas outside Mexico where this seal currently lives.

San Miguel is the only island where all six pinniped principal species are found, more species than are found in any other single location in the world. San Miguel's isolation, climate, low sandy beaches, and proximity to the deep feeding grounds of the continental shelf make it an ideal environment for pinnipeds, encouraging both

northern and southern species. The Point Bennet area in particular has a very large population and has one of the world's most outstanding wildlife displays. San Nicolas Island has the second largest hauling out grounds for pinnipeds and hosts four species. Santa Barbara Island is the third most important island for pinnipeds.

Until the extermination by sport hunting in the early 1800's, sea otters formerly inhabited the kelp beds surrounding the Channel Islands. Since their rediscovery off central California in 1938, their population has been increasing and their range expanding. Should their range continue to be allowed to expand, repopulation of the kelp beds off the islands is a distinct possibility.⁶⁸

SEA BIRDS

The Channel Islands are important breeding and resting areas for a variety of sea birds including western gull, double-crested cormorant, Brandt's cormorant, pelagic cormorant, black oystercatcher, pigeon guillemot, ashly petrel, Cassins, auklet, Xantus' murrelet and brown pelican. While the mainland provides roosting areas, the sea birds are dependent upon the islands for breeding and nesting success. The populations of nesting

birds now found on the islands are remnants of much larger populations. Each of the eight California Channel Islands contain major seabird rookeries, with different species utilizing each island. Especially important are rookeries located on Santa Barbara Island and Prince Island: a rock island just off San Miguel. Collectively these islands constitute the major sea bird breedings grounds of the eastern Pacific. The protection of the Channel Island' breeding areas and the surrounding waters that provide foraging areas is essential to the survival of those species.

West Anacapa Island is the only currently used nesting area in the Western United States for the California brown pelican, designated by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service as an endangered species. As such, the National Park Service stringently protects it from man's disturbance during the nesting period. Other islands, such as Scorpion Rock on Santa Cruz Island, were used as nesting areas in the past but have not been used since 1973.

The osprey, bald eagle, and peregrine falcon (the two latter on the Federal endangered species list) nested on the islands until a few years ago. Individuals are still occasionally seen there. With adequate protection, these species could make a comeback on the islands.⁶⁹

TERRESTRIAL FAUNA

Although the number of native species present on the islands is lower than the number found on the mainland, many of the island species are special because they do not occur outside the Channel Islands and are distinct as a result of evolution in isolation from mainland populations and other island populations. A high proportion of the species found on the islands have special status as rare, threatened, or endangered species because they are unique and their numbers are low.

Terrestrial invertebrates on the island include mainland forms, but also exhibit differences from species on the mainland. Several invertebrate groups are represented by species endemic to the islands. An ongoing study of invertebrates on Anacapa, Santa Barbara and San Miguel is uncovering information on several species of land snails that may clarify their present status. Some of these species may also occur on San Nicolas and San Clemente.

The number of species of reptiles and amphibians found on the islands is low, but at least two endemic species are present. The endemic island night lizard found on Santa Barbara, San Nicolas, and San Clemente has recently been listed as threatened on the Federal list of endangered species. A species of slender salamander that lives on Santa Cruz is also endemic.

The species composition of birds changes as new mainland species invade, habitats change, competitive or predator species arrive and become extinct, or areas are disturbed by man. As many as eighteen endemic subspecies and species have been recorded on the islands. Two species found on San Clemente Island, the San Clemente sage sparrow and the San Clemente loggerhead shrike have just recently been placed on the Federal list of endangered species.

Several endemic mammal species also inhabit the islands: the island fox, a small form of gray fox, is found on the six largest islands and has evolved so that each island has a different subspecies. This species is listed on the California Department of Fish and Game's rare and endangered species list as rare. A distinct subspecies of deer mouse is also found on each island. The spotted skunk of Santa Cruz and Santa Rosa is also an endemic species that is widespread in wooded valleys and canyons.

A variety of feral and exotic mammals have been introduced to the islands. Some accidentally (stowaways) and some by intent as part of a ranching operation or for sport hunting. These species have resulted in the alteration of native plant and animal communities and the disappearance of several species. Control of introduced animals is a management problem on all the islands.⁷⁰

TERRESTRIAL VEGETATION

The vegetation on the islands is primarily coastal sage scrub and grassland communities mixed with oak woodlands on the larger islands and pine stands on Santa Cruz and Santa Rosa Islands. Spring wildflower displays on the islands are spectacular. The vivid colors are visible from the mainland on a very clear day. While the island communities have been altered by intensive grazing, farming, introduction of exotic species, and even bombing (which started fires), the sea bluffs and interior cliffs have acted as refuges for threatened native species. The islands are floristically unique and differ from the mainland. A large number of species and subspecies have evolved as a result of isolation until they are a distinct species from those on the mainland and sometimes distinct from species on other islands.

There are a total of twenty-seven species, subspecies, or varieties of plants that occur on only one of the Channel Islands and nowhere else. San Clemente, with eleven of these endemics, has more than any other island, while Santa Cruz has seven. On the other hand, the islands have a total of almost eighty species, subspecies, and varieties that occur on one or more islands, but do not occur on the mainland. Of these taxa, forty are found on San Clemente, thirty-one on Santa Cruz, twenty-six on Santa Rosa, twenty-six on Santa Catalina, eleven on

Santa Barbara, ten on San Nicolas, nine on San Miguel, and eight on Anacapa.

A large number of island plants are listed on the California Native Plant Society's rare and endangered plant list (eighty-five species) and as candidates for the Federal threatened and endangered species list compiled by the Smithsonian Institution. At present, only five island species have been formally designated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as endangered species, the live-for-ers on Santa Barbara Island, and four species found on San Clemente Island. Outstanding vegetation features include a Torrey pine stand on Santa Rosa Island-the only other stand is on the mainland near San Diego-and large stands of a giant sunflower, *Coreopsis*, on many of the Channel Islands.⁷¹

PALEONTOLOGY

Fossil discoveries of both plant and animals have been made that provide clues to the natural history of the California coast. Discoveries of the endemic dwarf mammoth on Santa Rosa and San Miguel Islands, an endemic giant mouse, and an extinct gannet have all contributed to modern scientific knowledge. Representatives of the Pleistocene flora of Santa Cruz have been found on the south-western end of the island. Prehistoric fossils

and bones found on the Channel Islands are on display at the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History.⁷²

San Miguel is thought to be the burial place of Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo, the discoverer of California, although no physical CULTURAL VALUES found. Other historians believe that he is buried on Santa Rosa Island.

The California Channel Islands give evidence of having been among the most heavily populated areas in aboriginal North America. The entire island group is rich in archeological values. Midden and village rites of the sea-faring Chumash people are found on all of the islands in great abundance. San Miguel and Santa Rosa Islands are especially significant archeologically, not only because of the number of sites that have been found but also because of the antiquity of the sites. Charred dwarf mammoth bones have been found associated with island rites that have tentatively been dated at up to 40,000 years before present time, possibly indicating the earliest known evidence of man in North America.

While some sites are threatened by indiscriminate collecting and by both natural and man-induced erosion, the islands individually and collectively provide an excellent opportunity for archeological research because of their finite territory, the concentration of resources, and relatively intact sites.

Historical signs related to the exploration by the Spanish; seal, otter, and sea lion hunting; settlement;

ranching activities; navigational protection; and military operations can be found on the Channel Islands.

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Of particular interest are two National Register of Historic Places nomination sites, the Nidever Adobe on San Miguel and the Coast Guard settlement on East Anacapa Island. Important historical structures can also be found in the Central Valley of Santa Cruz Island where Justinian Caire established his headquarters in 1869.

The current understanding of historians, archaeologists and biologists is that there has been human occupation on the California Channel Islands for thousands of years.⁷⁴ The earliest dates of man's presence on these islands, the age of the islands is reportedly in excess of 40,000 years, are of questionable validity. Although the earliest date of man's first arrival on the Northern Channel Islands is not known with any certainty, man was firmly established there by 7,000 B.P., years Before Present.⁷⁵ The lifestyle and origins of these aborigines is largely a matter of conjecture. By about 2,500 B.P. the Canalinos, or Island Chumash, diversified the already maritime economy and developed a flourishing culture among the most advance in California.

The Canalinos, or Island Chumash, held the three

northern large islands of the Santa Barbara archipelago. Anacapa does not appear to have been inhabited permanently. Anacapa was most likely used as a resting place and provision gathering stopover for the Chumash on their journey to the northern most islands. San Miguel, Santa Rosa, and Santa Cruz respectively were home to the Island Chumash villages of Xagua, Nicalqua, Limu, and 76

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF THE CALIFORNIA CHANNEL ISLANDS

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northern large islands of the Santa Barbara archipelago. Anacapa does not appear to have been inhabited permanently. Anacapa was most likely used as a resting place and provision gathering stopover for the Chumash on their journey to the northern most islands. San Miguel, Santa Rosa, and Santa Cruz respectively were home to the Island Chumash villages of Xagua, Nicalque, Limu, and Tocane.⁷⁶ Like the Indians of the Southern California Channel Islands of Santa Catalina and San Clemente, the Canolinos traded heavily with their brothers in the mainland villages to offset the limitation of resources imposed by insular isolation, bartering shells and pelts for food and other items. The mainland Chumash tribes clustered thickly along the calm shore from Malibu Canyon westward to Point Conception, and from there extended northward along the more boisterous and chillier coast as far as Estero Bay.⁷⁷ Marine life along the Chumash island and mainland shores was exceptionally rich. The climate was mild and encouraged outdoor physical activity resulting in the unusual concentration of population among a people living directly upon nature.⁷⁸ It was common thus on every occasion for the inlander to drift to the edge of the ocean, if he could, but there was small inducement for the coastal people to go to the interior, except for occasional visits (This sounds like California today). The Chumash population in the districts away from the

sea must have been comparatively light.

"Helek," the Chumash word for plank canoe was the Chumash mode of transportation used in inter-island and island-mainland passage. The "Helek" was also the primary means of fishing, employed by the coastal and island Chumash.⁷⁹ The size of these Chumash canoes varied from twelve to twenty-five feet in length. There were usually three or four men riding in them, although the average canoe could transport twelve people and a larger one could sometimes hold up to twenty Indians.⁸⁰ The boats were usually quite fragile and light (two men could carry an average sized one), but were effectively used by the Chumash in their main food-producing occupation: fishing. The Chumash often hunted sea mammals such as sea otters, various kinds of seal, sea lion and possibly some porpoise, with the help of harpoons which were hurled from the canoes. The abundance of fish in the kelp beds along the Santa Barbara Channel and the coastal islands and the general calmness of the sea in this area provided additional incentives for the Chumash peoples use of these canoes.⁸¹

From Point Conception north the coast is exposed to westerly winds, fogs, and heavy surfs, and the inhabitants were noted by the Spaniards "as less numerous and poorer than on the Channel of Santa Barbara."⁸² It is highly probable that this early Chumash culture had a profound impact on the ecology of the Northern Channel Islands through agricultural practices such as burning to

encourage food production, hunting, fishing, gathering, and the accidental and purposeful transportation of plants and animals between the islands and the mainland.

Late in 1542, fifty years after Christopher Columbus' "Voyage of Discovery," Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo "discovered" the California Channel Islands and the rest of California, claiming them for the crown of Spain. Over the next few centuries, the Channel Islands were occasionally visited by explorers, including Sebastian Viscaïno, who in great detail mapped the islands and coastline of California in 1602. Through these early European contacts, though brief, undoubtedly they introduced new diseases, fauna, and beasts which were new to the Channel Islands. American, British, and Russian sealers decimated the vast and beautiful herds of pinnipeds and sea otters on the islands early in the 1800's; and their Aleut hunters attacked the peaceful Canalinos.⁸³

By the middle of the 1800's the native Indians and most of the sea mammals were gone and the Mexican government, ruling California at the time, sold or gave the larger islands to various prominent families (including my family). After California was admitted to the United States and achieved statehood in 1850, the islands changed hands many times and were developed into farms and ranches. Mexico today still claims the Channel Islands since they were not specifically mentioned in the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo in 1848.⁸⁴

In the barage of new settlers pouring into the new state, a great diversity of plants and animals were introduced to California and its islands which were totally alien to the insular ecosystem. The most destructive introductions were sheep and other large herbivores, which stripped much of the vegetation on all of the islands by the end of the century. More recently the Northern Channel Islands have served a number of uses, some of which have contributed to the further decline of native vegetation and wildlife.

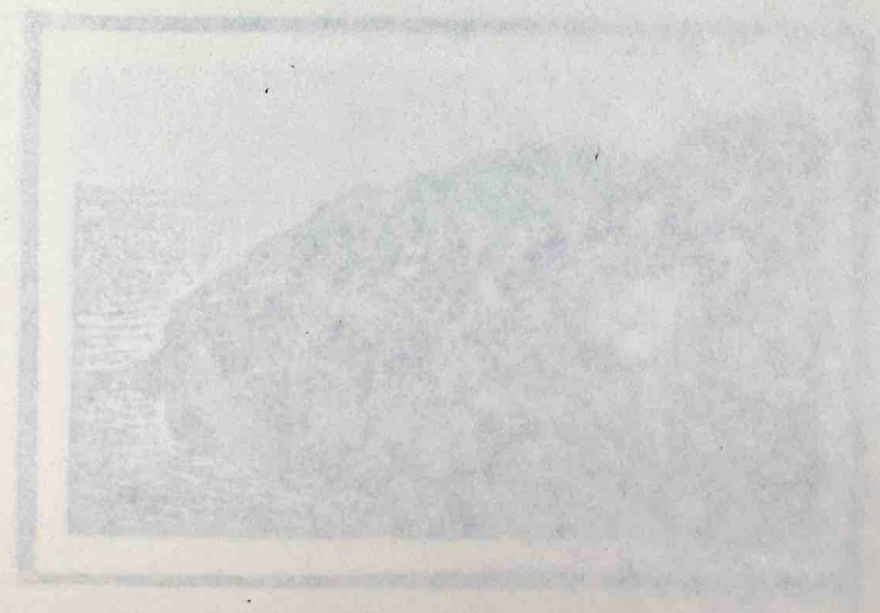
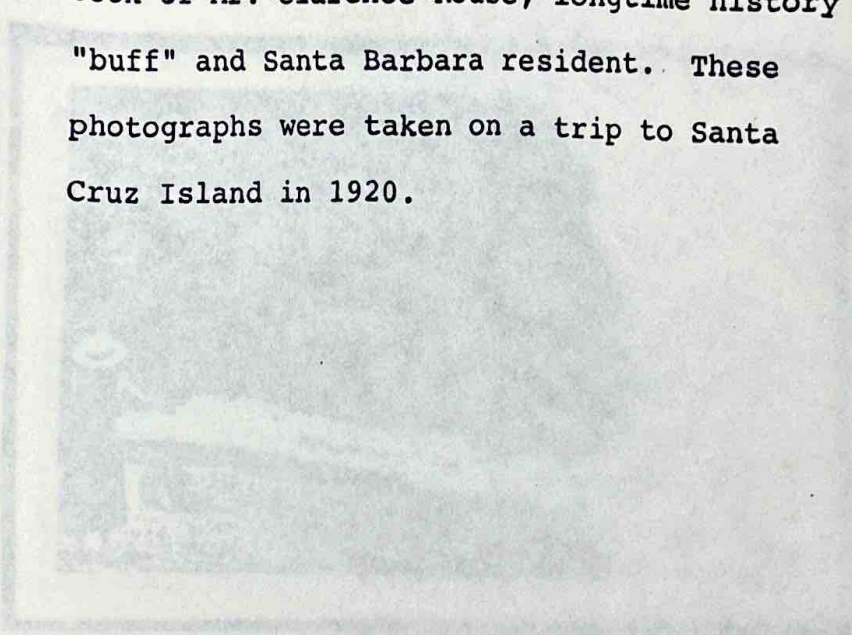
With President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's executive declaration in establishing the Channel Islands National Monument in 1938, only the two smallest Channel Islands, Anacapa Island and Santa Barbara Island, received any formal governmental protection. Not until 1979 was the Channel Islands National Park and National Marine Sanctuary established, encompassing the two islands under the National Monument's protection of 1938 and the rest of the Northern Channel Islands (except for Santa Rosa Island and a large portion of Santa Cruz Island which were protected only by their owners and the California Coastal Commission. Santa Rosa Island was finally purchased in the Spring of 1987 and admitted into the National Park. The eastern one tenth of Santa Cruz Island was admitted to the National Park in 1979 with the rest of the Northern Channel Islands

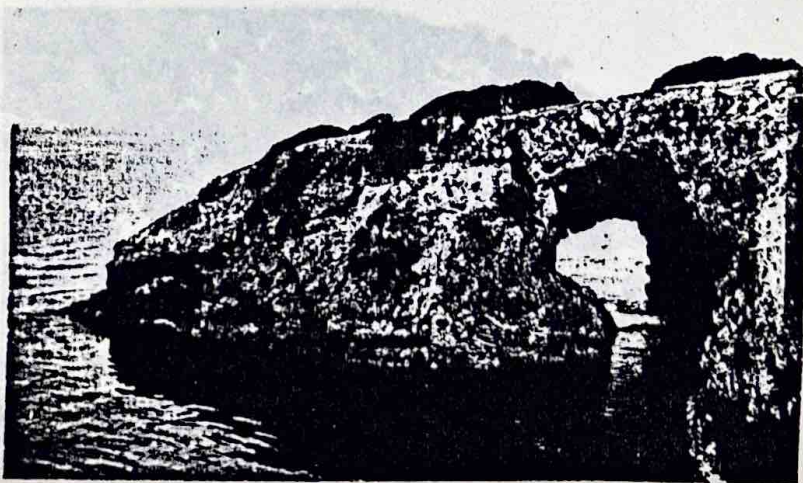
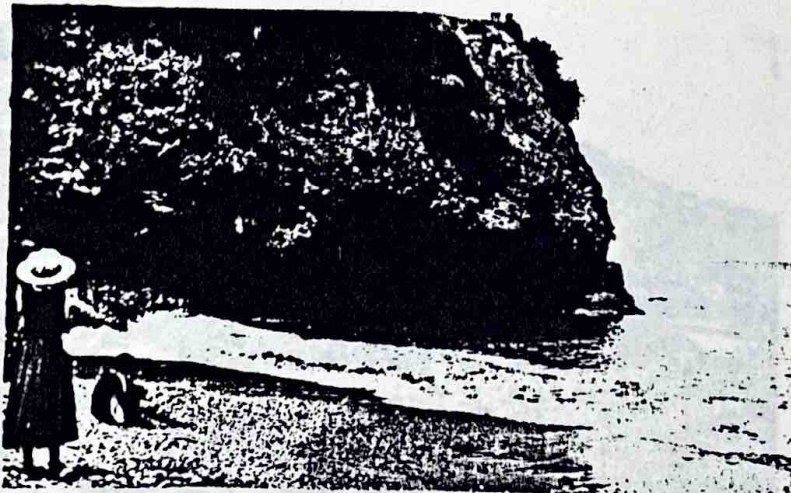
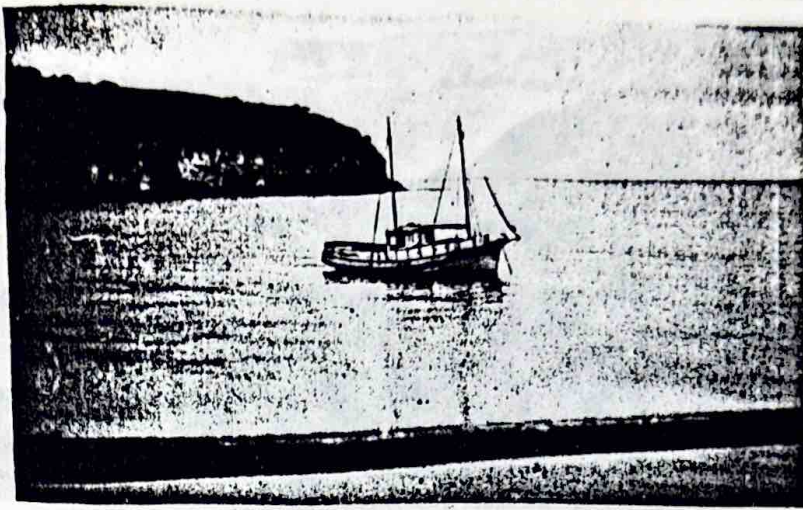
while its western nine tenths came under the permanent preservation protection of the privately run conservation organization, The Nature Conservancy in 1978. Today, in 1987, San Miguel is still jointly administered by the National Park Service and the United States Navy who still maintain the option of resuming use of San Miguel Island as a bombing range.

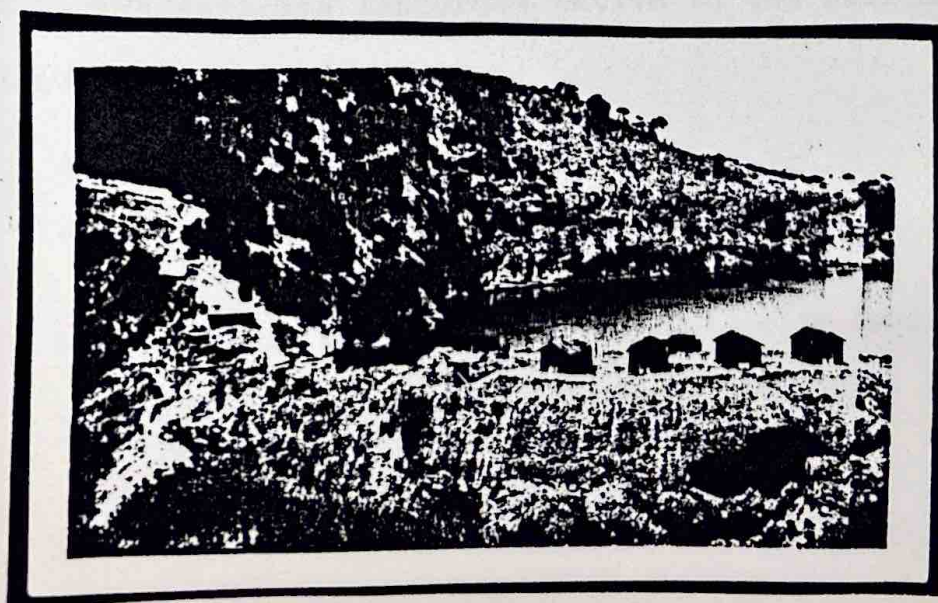
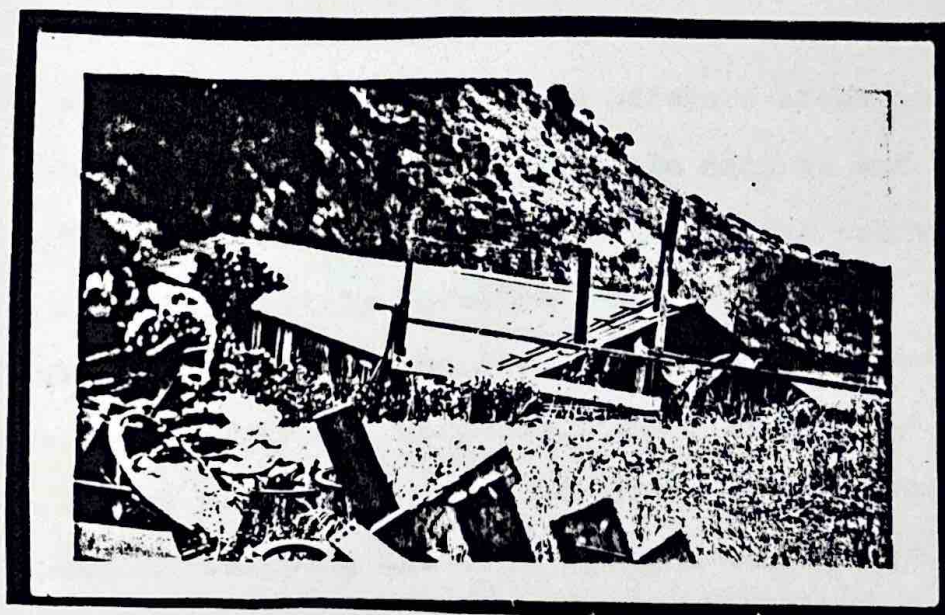
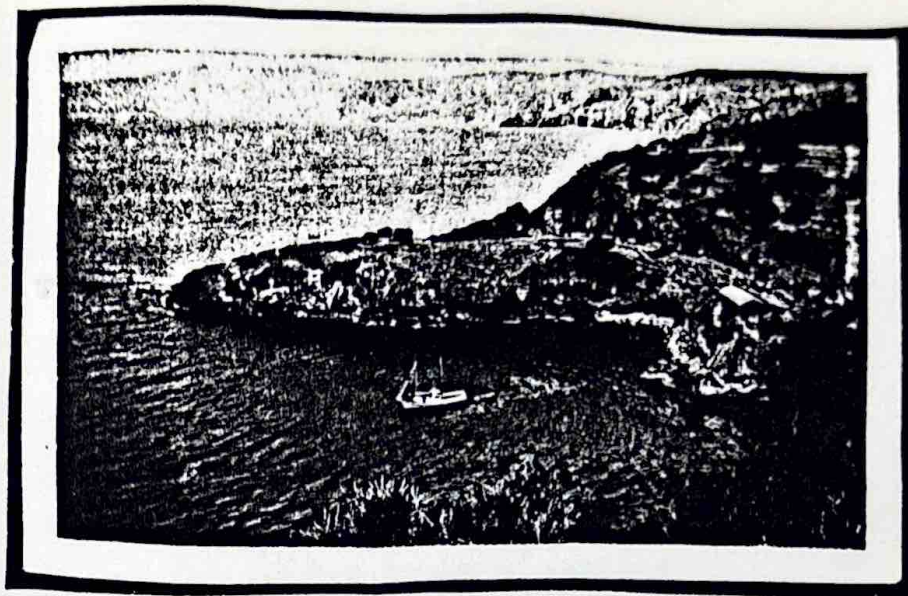
The California Channel Islands still retain much of the paradisaical quality that the Canalinós once knew, and only the diligent conservation and preservation management methods of the National Park Service and The Nature Conservancy will hopefully offset the abuse that these islands have suffered during the past century. Allowing the islands to heal themselves of the wounds inflicted by the early European explorers, the National Park Service and The Nature Conservancy are now fronting attacks directed at today's new and even more destructive threats jeopardizing the unique and delicate ecosystems peacefully recovering and flourishing on the California Channel Islands.



The following snapshots are from the scrap-book of Mr. Clarence Rouse, longtime history "buff" and Santa Barbara resident. These photographs were taken on a trip to Santa Cruz Island in 1920.







THE PRESENT THREATS TO THE PRESERVATION OF THE CHANNEL ISLANDS.

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While Southern California's offshore areas are richly endowed with unique and irreplaceable natural and cultural resources, the areas are also attractive for activities that could ultimately threaten those resources. Several industries, notably fisheries, kelp, and petroleum, depend upon offshore resources. These industries as well as military uses, ranching, recreational use, energy production, shipping and boat terminal facilities, and even the space program could ultimately threaten the unique and delicate resources native to the California Channel Islands.

HARVEST OF MARINE RESOURCES

The Southern California bight has had a long history as a commercially important region for fisheries activity.

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HARVEST OF MARINE RESOURCES

The Southern California bight has had a long history as a commercially important region for fisheries activity.

The offshore islands are heavily fished by sport fisherman in commercial partyboats; sport divers in search of highly prized spiny lobster, rock scallops, and abalone; and by commercial lobster, sea urchin, and abalone fisherman. Demand for high-yield fishing areas, as are found off the islands, is great. While regulated fishing activity on a sustained-yield basis may be compatible with preservation objectives in some areas, the resources of other areas are being severely depleted by selective taking of commercially valuable species. Chain effects can also result when a species is reduced by commercial harvest, so that more than just the fished species is threatened. For example, the endangered California brown pelican, dependent on anchovies as a food source, may be threatened by a reduction in the anchovy population. Currently the resources of the area are not being monitored to assure adequate reserves.

Commercial harvest of kelp is a thriving industry in Southern California. The effects of long-term harvest are not well known, but at least over the short term, the kelp forests-vital as nursery grounds and habitat for many marine species-are diminished by harvest.

At present the tidelands and submerged lands out to one nautical mile around Anacapa, Santa Barbara, and San Miguel islands are under state administration and management and have been designated "ecological reserves." While regulations restrict sport and commercial taking of

marine species in certain areas, some commercial activity will continue.⁸⁵

OFFSHORE OIL AND GAS DEVELOPMENT

Federal and state leases are actively pursuing exploration and development off the Southern California coast for oil and gas production. Federal leasing of offshore lands was first initiated in 1963, following ten years of state leasing of offshore areas. As a result of lease sales in 1966 and 1968, seventy-two leases were sold in the Santa Barbara Channel. In 1975 the Department of the Interior held Southern California OCS Lease Sale #35, which resulted in the leasing of fifty-six tracts and the opening up of the Santa Barbara Channel for future well exploration.

It is expected, and unfortunately almost assured, that outer continental shelf oil and gas leasing activity will increase in the future. Although leases are not being offered within three miles of the islands, due to their protection by the National Marine Sanctuary, a department of the Sanctuary Programs Division of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, conflict with the environmental protection of the Channel Islands will result both on land and offshore. Presently several leases abut the three mile buffer zone and increase the

almost inevitable possibility for disturbance to island resources. Potential impacts include the disturbance of archeological resources and terrestrial biota if any of the islands are used as onshore staging areas; the possibility, and learned reality in 1969, of an oil spill, which is always present, that could and has damaged pinniped and sea bird rookeries, rocky intertidal areas, kelp beds, and offshore reefs; and the reality that drilling operations and offshore noise and activity could disturb marine mammals and cause their ultimate demise on the Channel Islands.

MILITARY USES

Past military uses have at the same time protected and threatened the Channel Islands. Military ownership has enhanced protection by limiting development, closing the islands to public uses that could have been destructive, and confining ownership to a single owner. On the other hand, some military uses have been destructive to the islands native resources; for example, bombs have been dropped on San Miguel and San Clemente islands where archeological sites are concentrated; fires resulting from bombing practice have altered vegetation; and exotic species have been introduced that have greatly changed the native species composition. It is probable

that many archeological sites were damaged or destroyed when roads and other military facilities were developed.⁸⁷

RANCHING

Ranching activities and limited farming have taken place on the California Channel Islands since the early 1800's. Santa Catalina was stocked with sheep as early as 1827. The complex of island flora and fauna developed free of the disturbing impact of large grazing animals and therefore has been greatly affected by the introduction of cattle, sheep, burros, buffalo, pigs and a myriad of other barnyard and domestic animals. Overgrazing by sheep rendered large areas of both San Nicolas and San Miguel completely barren by a combination of wind and water erosion. While vegetation has partially reclaimed the waste land, deep parallel trenches remain, and many of the grasses, forbs, and shrubs that once occurred on the islands are no longer found. Grazing management is now practiced on those islands that are still grazed—Santa Rosa, Santa Cruz, and Santa Catalina. However, the presence of exotic herbivores continues to compromise natural and archeological resources and to increase erosion of those islands.⁸⁸

RECREATIONAL USE

As more people learn about the islands and numbers of the boating public increase, the threat to island resources from recreational use will increase. The recreational potential of the California mainland coastline has obviously been realized, but not without wholesale disturbance of the natural values in large areas. Tapping the recreational potential of the islands without jeopardizing their values is the most difficult management problem facing the islands.⁸⁹

SPACE SHUTTLE PROGRAM

The launch and reentry of rockets as part of the space shuttle program is a major threat to the resources of the islands. The proposed launching path over San Miguel island could subject the resources there to overpressures with a force of up to thirty pounds per square foot. Such overpressures may be disastrous to pinniped populations on Point Bennett, particularly when many young are present. Sonic booms created by both launch and reentry could startle pinnipeds and

sea birds and cause stampeding of beached animals and trampling of pups by larger animals rushing to the sea. Strong overpressures during launching could also have a number of other effects on island resources, at present not fully understood, but that could include nest abandonments by sea birds, collapse of burrows and nests, physical and physiological damage to wildlife and collapse of geological features, such as caliche.

The Air Force is considering suggestions to modify the trajectory route or to schedule takeoffs during less critical periods of the year when few species of sea birds and pinnipeds would be breeding, but these suggestions have not been adopted.⁹⁰

OIL TANKER ROUTES

There is a major concern throughout Southern California over the possibility of major oil spills in the Santa Barbara Channel and in areas adjacent to the Channel Islands. Tanker traffic within the Santa Barbara Channel is expected to increase as a result of the portage of oil from Alaska. Alternate routes for supertankers, well-defined sea lanes, monitoring by radar, and an emergency operations plan are measures being considered to reduce the impacts of increased routes that would pass close to San Miguel Island

as a turning point and would pass close to Santa Barbara Island. These islands represent two of the most significant breeding areas for pinnipeds and sea birds. A shipwreck or oil spill in the Point Bennett rookery area would be particularly disastrous. While effects on these two islands are of particular concern because they are part of the Channel Islands National Park and National Marine Sanctuary, marine and bird life on any of the California Channel Islands could be severely impacted.⁹¹

LIQUID NATURAL GAS

Controversy over the importation of liquid natural gas (LNG) to the United States centers around possible terminal locations and shipping routes that could effect the California Channel Islands. Sites on the islands and the surrounding mainland have been considered for LNG terminal locations. This use of the islands would disturb resources by committing land to development and by possible leaks and blow-outs. Shipping tankers to send from the terminal sites would also add to the traffic in the already heavily used Santa Barbara Channel increasing the possibility of collision and damage from spills. Hopefully we have learned from our mistakes so we do not have to ruin

the beautiful Wilderness area of the Channel Islands by ill-thought development of LNG plants. The memory of the disastrous 1913 Hetch Hetchy Valley decision should be a constant reminder of our responsibility to preserving Wilderness.⁹²

Public Law 96-199

8 March 1980

The Establishment of The Channel Islands National Park

Chapter III

THE PUBLIC POLICY DECISIONS AND LEGISLATION

ACTION TAKEN IN CREATING THE

CHANNEL ISLANDS NATIONAL PARK

Public Law 96-199

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA 48TH NATIONAL PARK

The Establishment of The Channel Islands National Park

THE CHANNEL ISLANDS NATIONAL PARK

PUBLIC LAW 96-193

5 MARCH 1980

THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE
CHANNEL ISLANDS NATIONAL PARK

THE PUBLIC POLICY DECISIONS AND LEGISLATION
ACTION TAKEN IN CREATING THE
CHANNEL ISLANDS NATIONAL PARK

THE UNITED STATES' 40TH NATIONAL PARK

March 5, 1980

THE CHANNEL ISLANDS NATIONAL PARK

The Channel Islands National Park was established in 5 March 1980 by the United States' 96th Congress.

The ratification of Public Law 96-199 called for immediate environmental protection of the five northernmost Channel Islands.

PUBLIC LAW 96-199

5 MARCH 1980

THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CHANNEL ISLANDS NATIONAL PARK

"Sec. 201. In order to protect nationally significant, archeological, cultural, and scientific values of the Channel Islands in the state of California..."

The law called for the preservation of the following but not limited to:

- (1) the brown pelican resting area;
- (2) the undisturbed tide pools providing species diversity unique to the eastern Pacific coast;
- (3) the pinnipeds which breed and pup almost exclusively on the Channel Islands, including the only breeding colony for northern fur seals south of Alaska;
- (4) the Eolian landforms and caliche;
- (5) the presumed burial place of Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo; and
- (6) the archeological evidence of substantial populations of Native Americans.

SPECIFIC CONGRESSIONAL PROVISIONS

Public Law 96-199 and supporting legislative documents clearly indicate that Channel Islands National Park is to be managed as a natural area, with the respect for existing cultural resources. In recognition of the value of the

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park's natural resources, Congress made a stipulation that a natural resources study report be prepared. The report included an inventory of all terrestrial and marine species, indicating their population dynamics, and probable trends as to future numbers and welfare. An initial report, primarily covering marine resources, was presented to Congress in 1983, and updates are to be prepared and submitted for congressional examination at two year intervals until 1990.

The Channel Islands National Park is to be administered in accordance with the provisions of the National Park Service organic act of August 25, 1916, as amended and supplemented.⁹⁵ For the conservation and management of wildlife and natural and cultural resources, available statutory authorities may be used as appropriate. The national park is to be "administered on a low-intensity, limited-entry basis."⁹⁶

In recognition of the special fragility and sensitivity of the park's resources, Congress intended "that visitor use within the park be limited to ensure negligible adverse impacts on the park resources."⁹⁷ This allows the establishment of appropriate visitor carrying capacities to protect fragile and environmentally sensitive resources, while other portions of the islands may be able to withstand substantial visitor use.

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Broad authority for the acquisition of lands, waters, or interests through easements, donations, purchases, transfers, exchanges, or other means is provided in section 202(a) of PL 96-199. However, no lands, waters, or interests of the state of California are to be acquired. This section also permits the continued use of park lands for essential national security missions and for navigational aids, subject to terms and conditions to protect park resources.

The lands, waters, or interests owned by The Nature Conservancy (or any similar national, nonprofit conservation organizations) can only be acquired with the consent of the owner. Alternatively, such lands can be acquired if the property is undergoing, or is about to undergo, a change in use that is inconsistent with park purposes (sec. 202(b)).

Basic policies on the right of retained use and occupancy or leaseback by property owners are repeated in section 202(d). This section states that "the former owner may continue any existing use which is compatible with the administration of the park and with the preservation of park resources."

The National Park Service is authorized to enter into cooperative agreements with the Department of Commerce and the state of California, under section 203(b), for the enforcement of federal and state laws and regulations on state-owned lands.

The authority to expend federal funds for the cooperative management of property owned by The Nature Conservancy and other private interests is contained in section 208. Cooperative management is to include research, resources management, and visitor protection and use. Under this authority, the National Park Service has entered into agreements for law enforcement and fire protection on private lands. Expenditures for stabilization or preservation of historic structures, for temporary management and visitor facilities, and for research, resource monitoring, interpretation, and transportation would be permitted.⁹⁸

Public Law 96-199
96th Congress

An Act

Mar. 5, 1980

(H.R. 3757)

National Parks
and Recreation
Act of 1978,
amendment.

To establish the Channel Islands National Park, and for other purposes.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the
United States of America in Congress assembled,*

TITLE I

Title I applies to other areas of the National Park
System and has been omitted.

TITLE II

Channel Islands
National Park,
Calif.
Establishment.
16 USC 410ff.

SEC. 201. In order to protect the nationally significant natural, scenic, wildlife, marine, ecological, archaeological, cultural, and scientific values of the Channel Islands in the State of California, including, but not limited to, the following:

- (1) the brown pelican nesting area;
- (2) the undisturbed tide pools providing species diversity unique to the eastern Pacific coast;
- (3) the pinnipeds which breed and pup almost exclusively on the Channel Islands, including the only breeding colony for northern fur seals south of Alaska;
- (4) the Eolian landforms and cañiche;
- (5) the presumed burial place of Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo; and
- (6) the archaeological evidence of substantial populations of Native Americans;

there is hereby established the Channel Islands National Park, the boundaries of which shall include San Miguel and Prince Islands, Santa Rosa, Santa Cruz, Anacapa, and Santa Barbara Islands, including the rocks, islets, submerged lands, and waters within one nautical mile of each island, as depicted on the map entitled, "Proposed Channel Islands National Park" numbered 159-20,008 and dated April 1979; which shall be on file and available for public inspection in the offices of the Superintendent of the park and the Director of the National Park Service, Department of the Interior. The Channel Islands National Monument is hereby abolished as such, and the lands, waters, and interests therein withdrawn or reserved for the monument are hereby incorporated within and made a part of the new Channel Islands National Park.

Channel Islands
National
Monument.
Abolishment.

16 USC 410ff-1.

SEC. 202. (a) Within the boundaries of the park as established in section 201, the Secretary of the Interior (hereinafter referred to as the "Secretary") is authorized to acquire lands, waters, or interests therein (including but not limited to scenic easements) by donation, purchase with donated or appropriated funds, transfer from any Federal agency, exchange, or otherwise. Unless the property is wholly or partially donated, the Secretary shall pay to the owner the fair market value of the property on the date of its acquisition, less the fair market value on that date of any right retained by the owner. Any lands, waters, or interests therein owned by the State of California or any political subdivision thereof shall not be acquired. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, Federal property located within the boundaries of the park shall with the concurrence of the head of the agency having custody thereof, be transferred to the administrative jurisdiction of the Secretary for the purposes of the park: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall permit the use of federally owned park lands and waters which (i) have been transferred from another Federal agency pursuant to this section or which (ii) were the subject of a lease or permit issued by a Federal agency as of the date of enactment of this title, for essential national security missions and

California lands
or interests,
exemption.

for navigational aids, subject to such terms and conditions as the Secretary deems necessary to protect park resources.

(b) Notwithstanding the acquisition authority contained in subsection 202(a), any lands, waters, or interests therein, which are owned wholly or in part, by or which hereafter may be owned by, or under option to, the National Park Foundation, The Nature Conservancy (including any lands, waters, or interests therein which are designated as "Nature Conservancy Lands" on the map referred to in section 201 of this title) or any similar national, nonprofit conservation organization, or an affiliate or subsidiary thereof shall be acquired only with the consent of the owner thereof: *Provided*, That the Secretary may acquire such property in accordance with the provisions of this Act if he determines that the property is undergoing or is about to undergo a change in use which is inconsistent with the purposes of this title.

Nature Conservancy Lands, acquisition.

(c) With respect to the privately owned lands on Santa Rosa Island, the Secretary shall acquire such lands as expeditiously as possible after the date of enactment of this title. The acquisition of these lands shall take priority over the acquisition of other privately owned lands within the park.

Santa Rosa Island lands, priority acquisition.

(d)(1) The owner of any private property may, on the date of its acquisition and as a condition of such acquisition, retain for himself a right of use and occupancy of all or such portion of such property as the owner may elect for a definite term of not more than twenty-five years, or ending at the death of the owner, or his spouse, whichever is later. The owner shall elect the term to be reserved. Any such right retained pursuant to this subsection with respect to any property shall be subject to termination by the Secretary upon his determination that such property is being used for any purpose which is incompatible with the administration of the park or with the preservation of the resources therein, and it shall terminate by operation of law upon notification by the Secretary to the holder of the right, of such determination and tendering to him the amount equal to the fair market value of that portion which remains unexpired.

(2) In the case of any property acquired by the Secretary pursuant to this title with respect to which a right of use and occupancy was not reserved by the former owner pursuant to this subsection, at the request of the former owner, the Secretary may enter into a lease agreement with the former owner under which the former owner may continue any existing use of such property which is compatible with the administration of the park and with the preservation of the resources therein.

Right of use and occupancy not reserved by former owner, lease agreement.

(3) Any right retained pursuant to this subsection, and any lease entered into under paragraph (2), shall be subject to such access and other provisions as may be required by the Secretary for visitor use and resources management.

SEC. 203. (a) The Secretary is directed to develop, in cooperation and consultation with the Secretary of Commerce, the State of California, and various knowledgeable Federal and private entities, a natural resources study report for the park, including, but not limited to, the following:

Natural resources study report, development. 16 USC 410(f)-2.

(1) an inventory of all terrestrial and marine species, indicating their population dynamics, and probable trends as to future numbers and welfare;

(2) recommendations as to what actions should be considered for adoption to better protect the natural resources of the park. Such report shall be submitted within two complete fiscal years from the date of enactment of this title to the Committee on Interior and

Submittal to congressional committees.

Insular Affairs of the United States House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the United States Senate, and updated revisions of such report shall be similarly submitted at subsequent two year intervals to cover a period of ten years after the date of enactment of this title.

(b) The Secretary is authorized and directed to enter into and continue cooperative agreements with the Secretary of Commerce and the State of California for the enforcement of Federal and State laws and regulations on those lands and waters within and adjacent to the park which are owned by the State of California. No provision of this title shall be deemed to affect the rights and jurisdiction of the State of California within the park, including, but not limited to, authority over submerged lands and waters within the park boundaries, and the marine resources therein.

SEC. 204. (a) Subject to the provisions of section 201 of this title, the Secretary shall administer the park in accordance with the provisions of the Act of August 25, 1916 (39 Stat. 535), as amended and supplemented (16 U.S.C. 1 et seq.). In the administration of the park, the Secretary may utilize such statutory authority available for the conservation and management of wildlife and natural and cultural resources as he deems appropriate to carry out the purposes of this title. The park shall be administered on a low-intensity, limited-entry basis.

(b) In recognition of the special fragility and sensitivity of the park's resources, it is the intent of Congress that the visitor use within the park be limited to assure negligible adverse impact on the park resources. The Secretary shall establish appropriate visitor carrying capacities for the park.

(c)(1) Within three complete fiscal years from the date of enactment of this title, the Secretary, in consultation with The Nature Conservancy and the State of California, shall submit to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs of the United States House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the United States Senate, a comprehensive general management plan for the park, pursuant to criteria stated in the provisions of section 12(b) of the Act of August 18, 1970 (84 Stat. 825), as amended (16 U.S.C. 1a-1 et seq.). Such plan shall include alternative considerations for the design and operation of a public transportation system connecting the park with the mainland, with such considerations to be developed in cooperation with the State of California and the Secretary of Transportation. The Secretary shall seek the advice of the scientific community in the preparation of said plan, and conduct hearings for public comment in Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties.

(2) Those aspects of such a plan which relate to marine mammals shall be prepared by the Secretary of Commerce, in consultation with the Secretary and the State of California.

SEC. 205. The head of any Federal agency having direct or indirect jurisdiction over a proposed Federal or federally assisted undertaking with respect to the lands and waters within or adjacent or related to the park, and the head of any Federal agency having authority to license or permit any undertaking with respect to such lands and waters, shall, prior to the approval of the expenditure of any Federal funds on such undertaking or prior to the issuance of any license or permit, as the case may be, afford the Secretary a reasonable opportunity to comment with regard to such undertaking and shall give due consideration to any comments made by the Secretary and to

State of California cooperative agreements for law enforcement, administration.

16 USC 410ff-3.

Comprehensive general management plan, submittal to congressional committees.

16 USC 1a-7.

Hearings.

Federal funds, approval for expenditure.
16 USC 410ff-4.

PUBLIC LAW 96-199—MAR. 5, 1980

94 STAT. 77

the effect of such undertaking on the purposes for which the park is established.

SEC. 206. Within three complete fiscal years from the date of enactment of this title, the Secretary shall review the area within the park and shall report to the President, in accordance with subsections 3 (c) and (d) of the Wilderness Act (78 Stat. 890), his recommendations as to the suitability or unsuitability of any area within the park for designation as wilderness. Any designation of any such areas as wilderness shall be accomplished in accordance with said subsections of the Wilderness Act.

Review of
park area;
report to
President.
16 USC 410ff-5.
16 USC 1132.

SEC. 207. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no fees shall be charged for entrance or admission to the park.

16 USC 1131
note.
16 USC 410ff-6.

SEC. 208. The Secretary is authorized to expend Federal funds for the cooperative management of The Nature Conservancy and other private property for research, resources management, and visitor protection and use. All funds authorized to be appropriated for the purposes of the Channel Islands National Monument are hereby transferred to the Channel Islands National Park. Effective October 1, 1980, there are hereby authorized to be appropriated such further sums as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this title, but not to exceed \$500,000 for development. From the Land and Water Conservation Fund there is authorized to be appropriated \$30,100,000 for the purposes of land acquisition. For the authorizations made in this section, any amounts authorized but not appropriated in any fiscal year shall remain available for appropriation in succeeding fiscal years.

16 USC 410ff-7.

Transfer of
funds.

Appropriation
authorizations.

Approved March 5, 1980.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

HOUSE REPORT No. 96-119 (Comm. on Interior and Insular Affairs).
SENATE REPORT No. 96-484 (Comm. on Energy and Natural Resources).
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

Vol. 125 (1979): May 7, considered and passed House.

Vol. 126 (1980): Feb. 18, considered and passed Senate, amended.

Feb. 20, House concurred in Senate amendments.

WEEKLY COMPILATION OF PRESIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS:

Vol. 16 (1980): Mar. 5, Presidential statement.

There were many other federal and state legislative authorities which promoted the establishment of the Channel Islands National Park on 5 March 1980 as well as many influential local personalities.

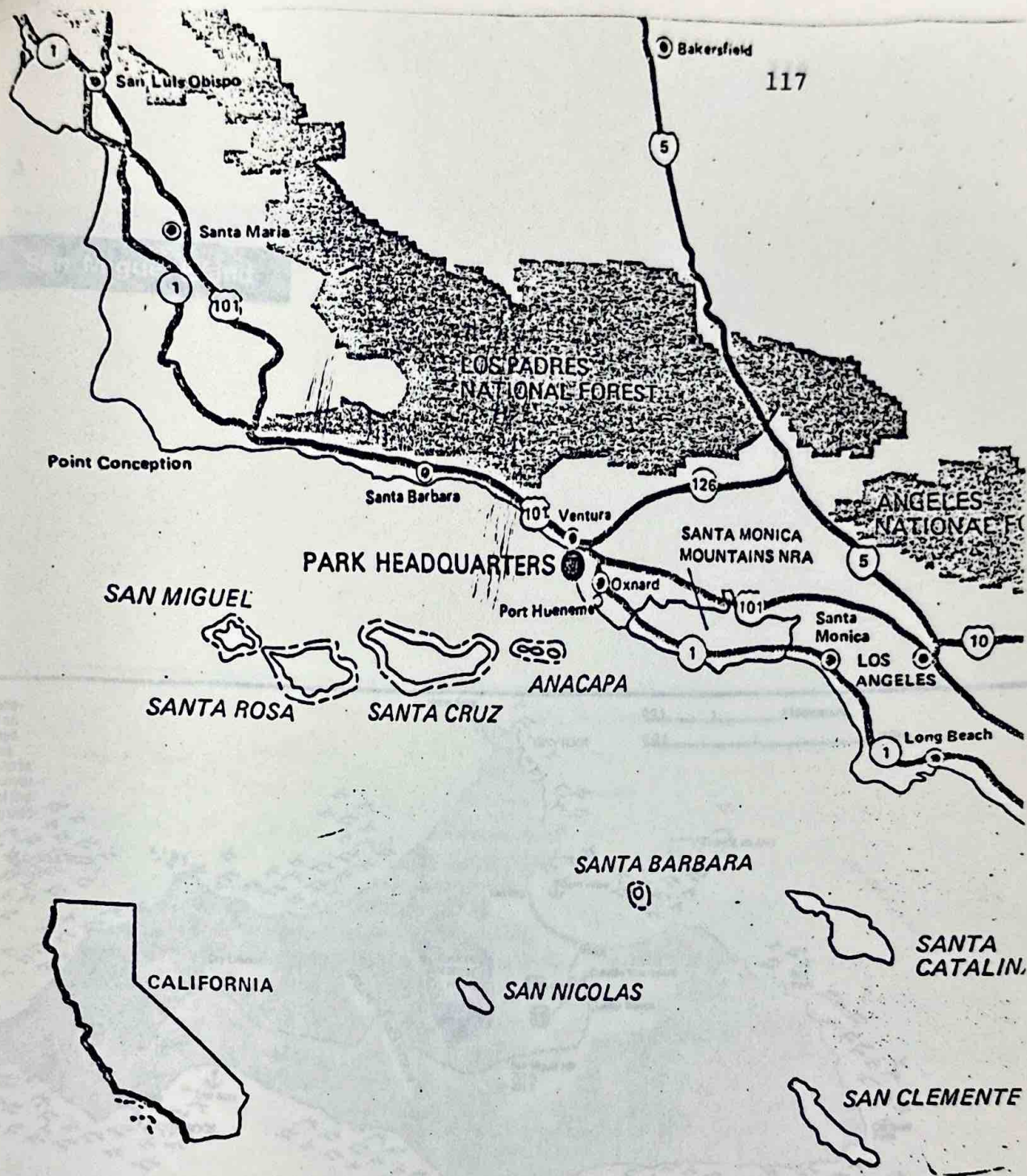
Such crucial early federal legislation as the Fur Seal Treaty Act of 1911 and the much later Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 were enforced by the National Marine Fisheries Service and by the National Park Service to protect the Channel Islands from planned residential and energy-related development. The Channel Islands National Park is also surrounded by the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary, which provides an additional layer of protection out to six nautical miles around the five islands designated by park boundaries. This provided for increased coordination between the National Park Service, the California Department of Fish and Game, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administrations.

The Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 required that proposed federal actions be consistent to the maximum extent practicable with approved state coastal zone management plans.⁹⁹ The California Coastal Act of 1976 established the California Coastal Commission on a permanent basis and charged it with promulgating regulations to protect all of California's coastal strip, including all outlying strips of coastal area on the

California Channel Islands, from unrestricted development. Before 1980, the primary tools for ensuring this coastal protection were county coastal zoning ordinances.

San Miguel, Santa Rosa, Santa Cruz, and Santa Barbara Islands are all located within the boundaries of Santa Barbara County. The county completed its coastal land use plan in January of 1980 which called for the demise of any future zoning for cluster development and energy development/support facilities on Santa Rosa and Santa Cruz Islands.

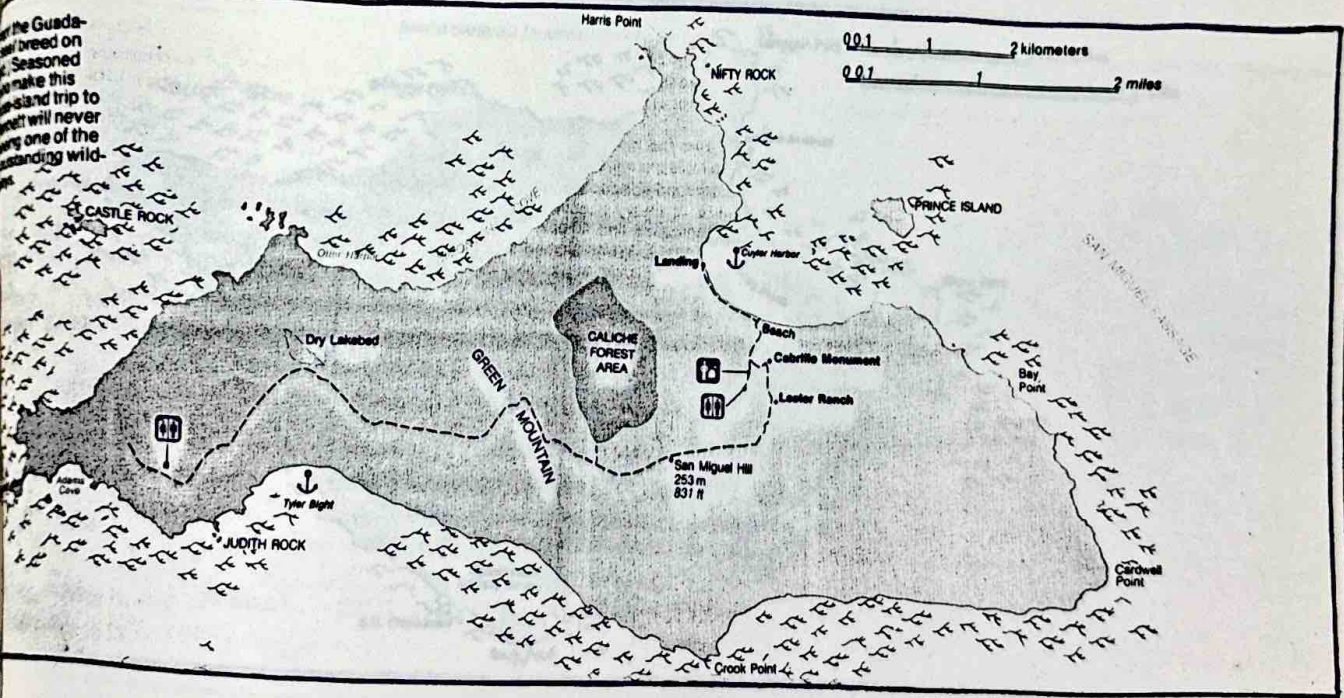
The California Coastal Commission was a strong advocate for protection of the Channel Islands in the late 1970's. It saved the Channel Islands from development even though the commission faced local pressures for subdividing and allowing energy exploration. The Commission afforded strong protection for the Channel Islands in the short term, but it was unrealistic to assume that this body would be able to provide middle-to long-term protection from development. It would take the power of the people "to commence and establish support for the permanent preservation of the California Channel Islands."



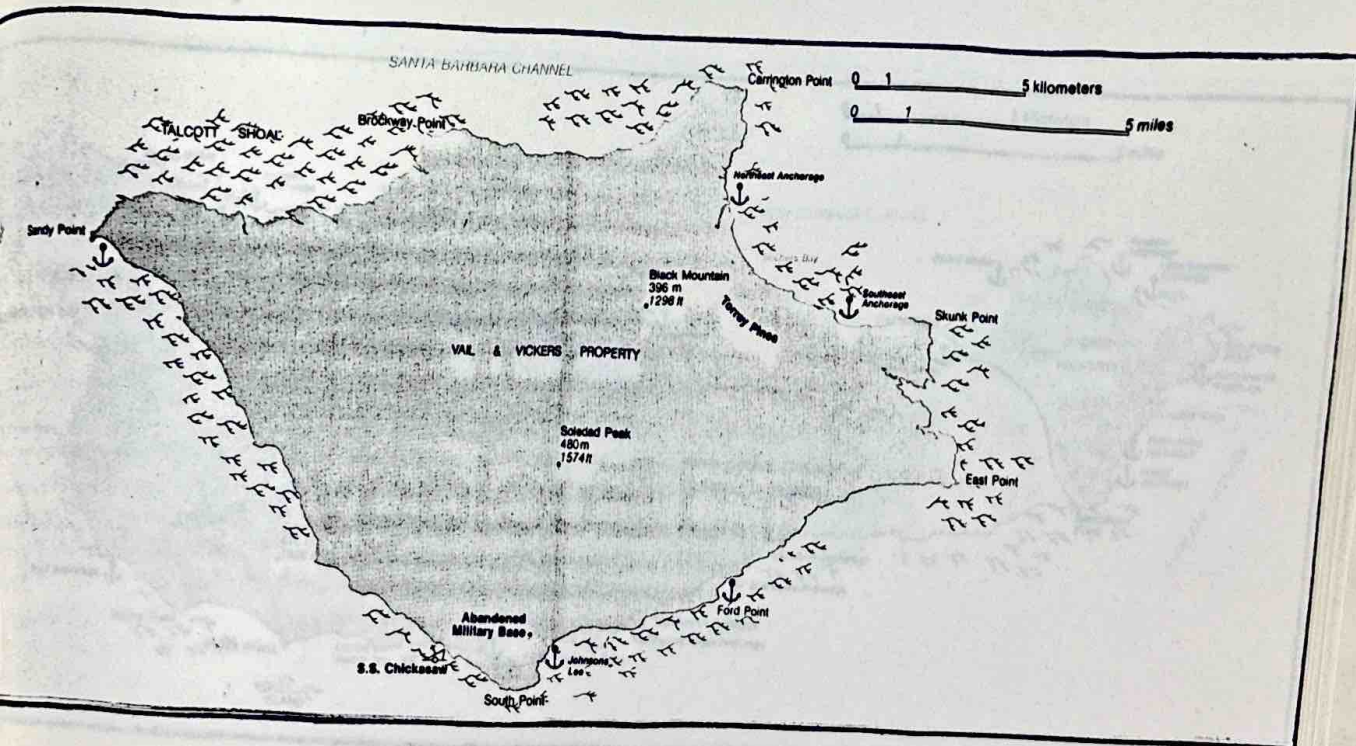
The islands outlined on this map with dotted lines are the five of the eight California Channel Islands which are under the legal protection of the the National Park Service.

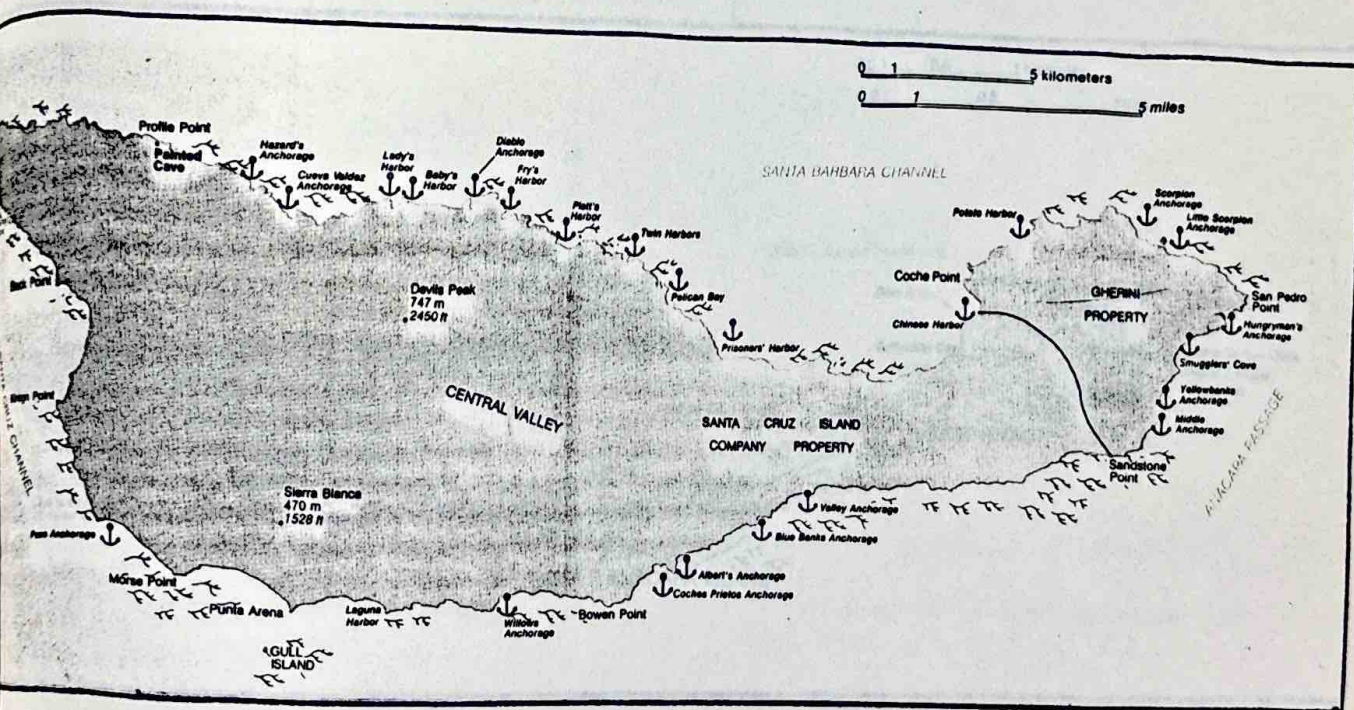
San Miguel Island

the Guadalupe breed on
Seasoned
make this
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one of the
wild-

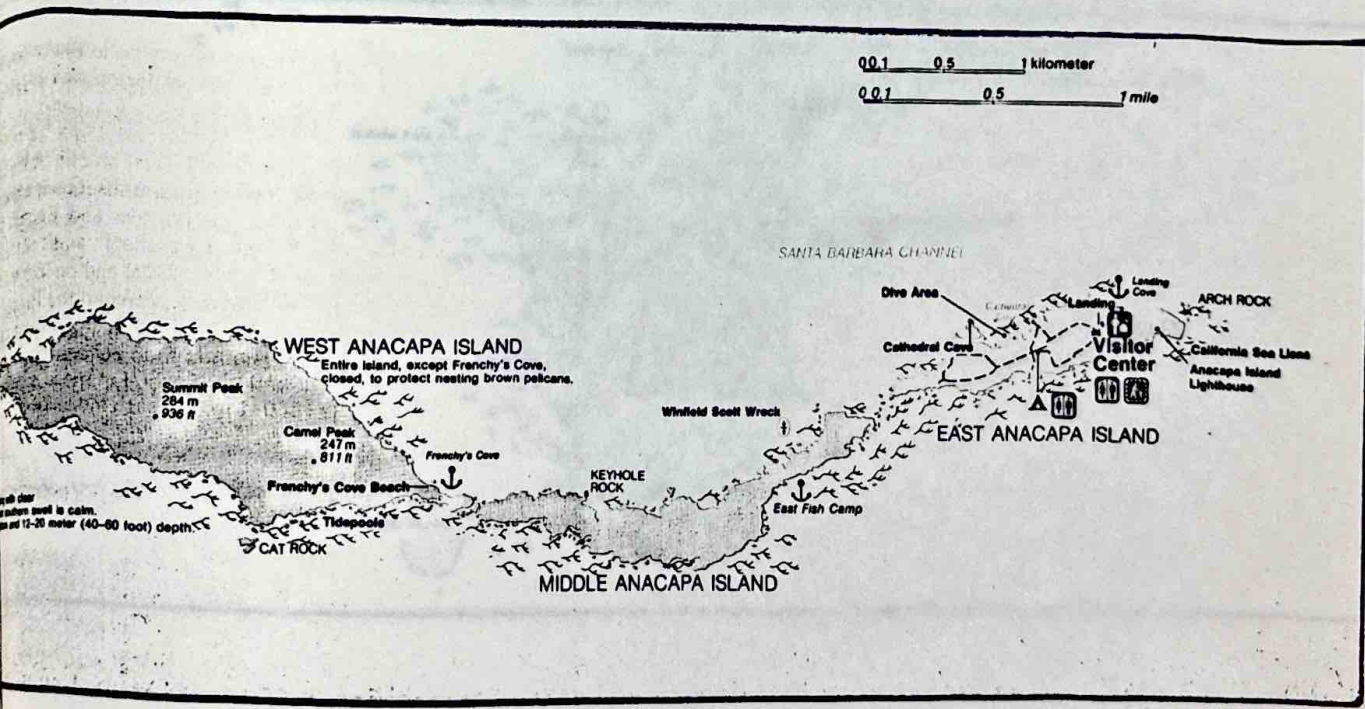


Santa Rosa Island





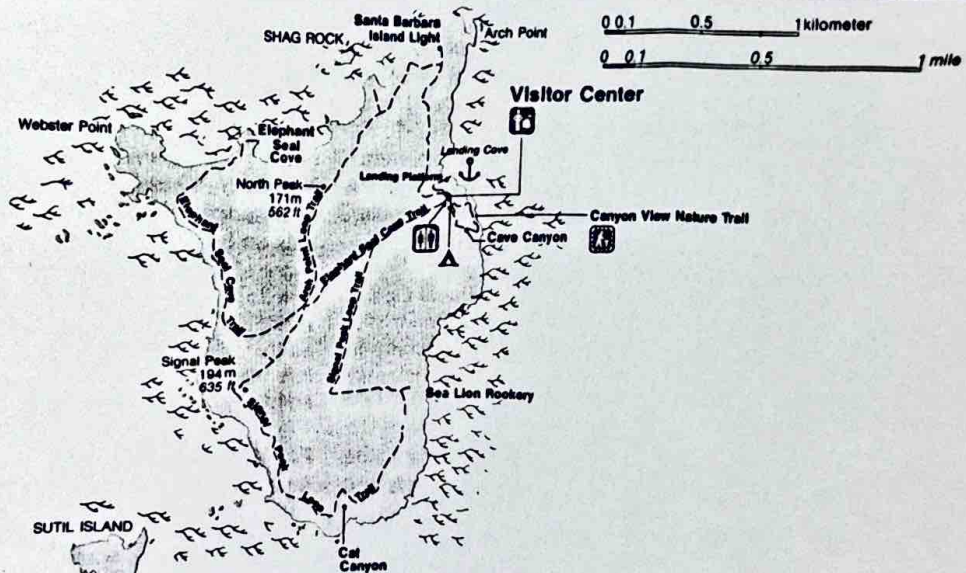
Anacapa Island



Santa Barbara Island

Chapter IV

The Fight To Ensure Permanent Preservation For The Channel Islands



THE FIGHT TO ENSURE PERMANENT
PRESERVATION Chapter IV CHANNEL ISLANDS.

The Fight To Ensure Permanent Preservation
For The Channel Islands

THE FIGHT TO ENSURE PERMANENT
PRESERVATION FOR THE CHANNEL ISLANDS.

THE FIGHT FOR PERMANENT PRESERVATION OF THE CHANNEL ISLANDS .

The fight to ensure the permanent preservation of the Channel Islands by a written legislative decree had been raging long before its final ratification 5 March 1980. In 1938, Washington D.C. first politically recognized the California Channel Islands for their nationally significant natural and cultural resources. President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's formal political establishment of the Channel Islands National Monument in 1938 was the United States' first political recognition of the invaluable treasures housed on the Islands.

The concern for the California Channel Islands went back and forth between preservation and military use during the next three decades due to the involvement of the United States in war in the Pacific Ocean. San Miguel, San Nicolas, and Santa Barbara Islands were all designated as military defense outposts during this era.

In the 1940's the United States waged war in the Pacific Ocean against the Japanese. In the 1950's the United States was involved in Korea where war was waged under the title of "Police Action." And finally, and hopefully lastly, in the 1960's we saw the United States involved in Viet Nam where "conflict" was the title given to our warring involvement in that country. All of these California Channel Islands played key roles as military defense outposts in ensuring our nation's national security during these war-filled years.

Towards the end of the decade in the 1960's, international environmental awareness was escalated to new heights as a direct result of an environmental disaster right here in Santa Barbara county. Unfortunately it is a proven lesson of history that it takes a major disaster to occur before the recognition of a project's faults are ever discovered.

"The Santa Barbara Channel Oil Pollution Crisis"¹⁰⁰ whose affects can still be seen today as high tide oil line scars, sent Santa Barbara County into a state of environmental emergency. During February 28, 1969 Union Oil Company's main oil drilling well on Platform A blew out and set off a series of geological events that permitted thousands of barrels of raw crude to leak into the Santa Barbara Channel through the faulted ocean bottom.¹⁰¹

"On August 28, 1969, exactly seven months after the disastrous blowout, a team of University of California Santa Barbara scientists flew over the Santa Barbara Channel and said Platform A in the Union Oil Tract looked as though it was swimming in a sea of light oil. The scientists who were making a flying inspection tour of the Channel Islands directly affected by the oil spill said there was still much oil coming up from under the surface between Platforms A and B, which are located only five and a half miles off the Santa Barbara coastline, and oil was still coming ashore on Anacapa and Santa Cruz Islands unpredictably from time to time from place to place."¹⁰²

In late August of 1969 we see the beginnings of a movement for preservation of the Channel Islands in a rash of news articles published in the Santa Barbara News Press by News Press staff writer Robert Sollen. As a result of the article written earlier in the year, "Santa Barbara Channel Oil Pollution Crisis," the drilling for oil not only in the Santa Barbara Channel, but also on the Channel Islands themselves, came under large-scale protest. Due to the finds discovered by the scientists from the University of California Santa Barbara, the Sierra Club asked the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors for a public hearing in which it could "express its opposition to Union Oil Company's proposals to drill for oil on Santa Cruz Island."¹⁰³

"On October 15, 1969 Superior Court Judge C. Douglas Smith on a motion by the Sierra Club and the Scenic Shoreline Preservation Conference issued an order restraining the Union Oil Company from drilling its proposed oil well on Santa Cruz Island."¹⁰⁴ The first battle for Channel Islands preservation had been won and the war was now underway.

In May of 1970 a public meeting was called at the Community Room of the Santa Barbara Savings and Loan Association building to promote the Santa Barbara Channel Islands national park proposal.¹⁰⁵ The call for the meeting was issued by Sue Higman, president of the Los Padres chapter of the Sierra Club; John Schaaf, chair of special activities for the Santa Barbara Committee to Get Oil Out (GOO), and James C. Mills of the Santa Barbara Audubon Society.¹⁰⁶ These "Founding Persons" concerned with the preservation and creation of a Channel Islands National Park, in these early formative years of a Channel Islands National Park concept, felt strongly in promoting, "...the preservation of the natural environment and particularly the protection of the Santa Barbara Channel and its islands and mainland shores from oil and other forms of pollution."¹⁰⁷

By July of 1970 Senator Alan Cranston (D-Calif.) presented a bill to Congress asking for the establishment of the Santa Barbara Channel Islands as a national park. Here in Senator Cranston's first submitting of a Channel

Islands National Park plan is where we see the critical wording of this bill as very controversial in trying to keep the main goal of this park, preservation. The controversial part of the bill read:

"This national park will provide unique and badly needed marine and wilderness recreation sites to residents of several very crowded metropolitan areas." 108

Here in July of 1970 we also see the first rise in opposition to the creation of a Channel Islands National Park. Dr. Charles Remington, a Yale biologist on sabbatical, familiar with and who was studying the ecology of the Channel Islands, during a July 8, 1970 lecture to the Los Padres chapter of the Sierra Club at the Museum of Natural History said, "In giving the Channel Islands national park status, it would make the islands accessible and victim to the public. The number of people visiting the islands would probably be more than the delicate ecology of the area could tolerate." 109 He concluded that "the islands must be saved from tourist devastation, and the necessary protection could not be provided if the islands were a national park." 110

Dr. Remington brought up the newly discovered dilemma that in order to preserve the islands from the destruction of oil development and subdivision we would eventually destroy them by over-visitor use.

On February 10, 1971 Senator John V. Tunney (D-Calif) introduced a newly authored Channel Islands National Park

bill to Congress. On this date Senator Alan Cranston also authored a measure calling for a feasibility study of the proposed park made up of the islands of Anacapa, Santa Barbara, San Miguel, Santa Cruz and Santa Rosa. Senator Tunney said the park would encompass "one of the last of nature's untouched frontiers..."¹¹¹ Senator Cranston said the reintroduced bill is identical to bills he introduced in the two previous Congresses. It directs the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to determine if the Santa Barbara Channel Islands group should be under national park status, and how much it would cost to acquire, develop, and maintain the islands for that purpose.¹¹²

After discouraging votes in Congress and a resulting frustrated public, the campaign for a Channel Islands National Park lapsed for three years until the spring of 1977. In February of 1977 the Los Padres chapter of the Sierra Club again pushed for park status for the Channel Islands.

"It is timely again to promote park protection for the islands, especially in view of several oil development proposals for the Santa Barbara Channel that threaten to affect the islands,"¹¹³ said Hal Mallett, chapter chair.

"Within the last two years the islands have been eyed by the oil companies as terminal, treatment and storage sites, and pressure is increasing again for this kind of adverse use. "Studies for the state Energy Commission

mention the feasibility of a liquified natural gas terminal on Santa Cruz or Santa Rosa or a man-made island off their shores. The Sierra Club is against any LNG port anywhere along the California Coast or at the islands," Mallett said.¹¹⁴

"Further development of exisiting channel leases... could mean oil development on the islands and off their shores. A Channel Islands park bill", Mallet said, "is necessary to establish the intent of Congress to preserve the islands for their unique wildlife, biological features, geology and archeology and maritime values."¹¹⁵

In early summer of 1977 the House appropriated funds to begin work on the Channel Islands National Monument Visitors Center at the Ventura Marina. House Representative Robert Lagomarsino (R-Santa Barbara-Ventura) was key in pushing for the June 14, 1977 House approval for funds as part of the Department of Interior appropriations bill.¹¹⁶

1977 was the first time The Nature Conservancy began showing any interest in Santa Cruz Island. The Nature Conservancy being a private non-profit membership organization, was created as a preservation organization centered for scientific and educational purposes.

On September 30, 1977 a group of conservations wanted to save picturesque Santa Cruz Island and its wildlife from developers' bulldozers and needed four million dollars to do it. Cattle, wild and domestic sheep, and an endangered species of fox fed off Santa Cruz

pine and oak-covered mountains,, but The Nature Conservancy feared that unless it exercised its option to buy ninety percent of the sixty-two thousand acre island, the only creatures feeding there eventually would be tourists and wealthy condominium dwellers.¹¹⁷

"Were the sale not to occur, I think its safe to say the island would probably fall into the hands of less sympathetic owners," said Donald Rubenstein, the 1977 California director of The Nature Conservancy. "Resort development would be most likely and would be very destructive of the natural community out there."¹¹⁸

Here in 1977 we see The Nature Conservancy taking physical action in trying to permanently protect one of the California Channel Islands. It will take three years before the National Park Service will be able to sift through all the "red tape" and begin performing the permanent preservation management methods important to the protection of the islands. Here we see The Nature Conservancy taking huge steps forward in actually practicing preservation on the islands while, at the same time, the National Park Service is still debating the issue in Congress.

On May 15, 1978 the Supreme Court ruled five to three that the State of California, not the federal government, has control over submerged lands and water in the one-mile belt surrounding the Channel Islands National Monument.¹¹⁹

In 1949 President Harry Truman enlarged the monument to

include "the areas within one nautical mile of the island's shoreline." But in 1953, Congress enacted the Submerged Lands Act, relinquishing to states all rights which the United States had in lands beneath navigable waters within three miles of their coastlines. The decision settled a ten-year-old dispute over control of the underwater area rich in kelp, where sea otters and other marine mammals feed, and which most importantly for conservationists, may figure in future decisions on offshore oil drilling.¹²⁰ In this 1978 Supreme Court decision we can see the foundation being laid upon which the future National Park, would be established.

In November of 1978, Dr. Mark Litter, a University of California Irvine biologist, was hired by the National Park Service to study the impact of visitors on the organisms that inhabit Anacapa Island.¹²¹ In 1978, Anacapa Island and Santa Barbara Island were the only two islands protected by the Channel Islands National Monument. Anacapa was receiving up to fifty thousand visitors a year. Dr. Litter reported that Anacapa was suffering from floral and faunal trampling and a rapidly declining population of large invertebrate animals such as abalone, sea urchins, and starfish due to tourists' collecting them or tampering with them.¹²² He said that it was extremely important to preserve the flora and fauna in the rocky intertidal zone for both scientific and aesthetic reasons. "The biggest offenders of plant and

animal destruction are pollution, overharvesting and tourists."¹²³ Here recommendations to the park service on how park managers and rangers can best protect the marine plants and animals of the Channel Islands who are falling victim from their exposure to visitors were presented in detail by a respected biologist.

Representative to the House Robert Lagomarsino in March of 1979 reintroduced in legislation to Congress, the nation's first "marine" national park.¹²⁴ Representative Lagomarsino told Congress that the new bill was the result of several years work by the National Park Service, conservationists, and elected officials. A new stipulation to the bill which had been presented to Congress twice before, and rejected, was "Use and access to the park would be strictly limited, with significant areas protected by non-profit conservation trusts."¹²⁵

"This new stipulation was added to refute any concern in Congress that in granting the Channel Islands national park status it would open the islands to easy public access and jeprodize the scientific and aesthetic values of the archipelago."¹²⁶ This new 1979 bill gained House support from Barry Goldwater Jr., Don Clausen, Bob Wilson, Clair Burgner and Bob Bacham, all California Republicans, in addition to Keith Sebelius, a Republican member of the House Interior Committee.

On April 30, 1979 Representative Lagomarsino's "bill that would make five Santa Barbara Channel Islands

a national marine park" was approved unanimously by the House Interior Department bill which was expected to reach the House floor by May 15. That would make it eligible for funding in the 1980 federal budget.

On May 10, 1979 Senator Alan Cranston introduced in the Senate a bill identical to the measure that was sponsored in the House by Representative Lagomarsino and which sailed through the House in seven days from its first subcommittee hearing to its May 7 passage by the House.¹²⁸ Senator Cranston's bill (S. 1104), identical to Lagomarsino's, was referred to the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Testifying in Washington in support of Senator Cranston's bill before the Senate on July 19, 1979, were Senator S.I. Hayakawa (R-Calif), House Representative Robert Lagomarsino, National Park Director Willian Whalen, Superintendent of the Channel Islands National Monument. William Ehorn and lobbyists from The Nature Conservancy. The subcommittee on national parks completed its hearing without voting on the measure. It was to be reviewed for possible revisions by Chair Dale Bumpers (D-Ark) and the subcommittee staff.¹²⁹

In an effort to rally Senate support for Cranston's Channel Island's National Park bill, three staff members of the United States Senate Committee that would likely determine whether the islands would become a national park, spent a weekend touring the five islands involved

in the plan. The three visiting staff members from the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources were Tom Williams, Debbie Merrick, and Dan Dreyfuss.¹³⁰

On February 18, 1980 the Senate approved the Channel Islands National Park Bill by a 67-6 vote. House Representative Phil Burton (D-Calif), chair of the House Interior subcommittee on parks would decide on how the final bill would be drafted for the presidential signature in a House-Senate conference committee.¹³¹

Representative Burton was given credit for driving the bill through the House in record time. Within a week the bill was approved by the Burton subcommittee, the full Interior Committee and the House.¹³² Representative Burton strongly emphasized that the park would be established primarily to protect the unusual natural and cultural resources of the islands and not to provide a recreation area for the public.

William Ehorn, the superintendent of the Channel Islands National Monument, which operated three of the proposed five islands for "parkhood," on February 24, 1980, was appointed superintendant of the new Channel Islands National Park. This new park would be seventeen times the acreage of his old domain.¹³³ William Ehorn, along with National Park Director William Whalen, both strongly emphasized that their major objective in the park was to preserve its resources. They also strongly

lobbied for and succeeded in getting the first words of the act establishing the national park to read:

"In order to protect the naturally significant natural scenic, wildlife, marine, ecological, archaeological, cultural and scientific values of the Channel Islands...there is hereby established the Channel Islands National Park."¹³⁴

On March 5, 1980, President Carter signed Public Law 96-199 creating the United States' fortieth national park; the Channel Islands National Park. Speaking on the bill, President Carter hailed the new park as "a long overdue, momentous success...and richly deserving of park status." After enumerating the natural and cultural resources of the islands, the President said, "These beauties should receive the greatest possible protection."¹³⁵

Chapter V

The Santa Cruz Island Project

The Cohesive Workings Of
The National Park Service and The Nature Conservancy

THE SANTA CRUZ ISLAND PROJECT.

The Santa Cruz Island Project is a project

managed and conducted by The Nature Conservancy.

on westernmost Santa Cruz Island.

conservancy's Santa Cruz Island Preserve.

THE COHESIVE PRESERVATION WORKING OF

THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE AND

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY.

various plants and animal species and communities.

formations and archaeological sites. The California

Conservancy, who manages the Santa Cruz Island Project.

is a part of the national non-profit organization.

is a part of the national non-profit organization.

and under the name of the National Park Service.

the work of The Nature Conservancy to the

best of what is left that is left to the

by farms, factories and the growing population.

growing population. In California, the

Conservancy has preserved over 100,000

The Nature Conservancy

all started in 1975 when the

the Nature Conservancy

of the Nature Conservancy

In 1977 from his father, Edwin L. Stanton. Edwin L. Stanton of Los Angeles acquired the western ninety percent of Santa Cruz Island in 1977 and concentrated

The Santa Cruz Island Project is a preservation management plan conducted by The Nature Conservancy on the western nine-tenths of Santa Cruz Island. The Nature Conservancy's Santa Cruz Island Preserve Management Plan, based on in-depth scientific research, calls for continued emphasis upon research and assessment of Santa Cruz Island's various plants and animal species and communities, geological formations, and archeological sites. The California Nature Conservancy, who manages the Santa Cruz Island Project, is a state branch of the national non-profit membership organization which is devoted to the protection of rare and endangered native plants, animals and natural communities.

It is the work of The Nature Conservancy to save the best of what is left, that which hasn't been replaced by farms, factories, and the needs of a large and growing population. In California alone, The Nature Conservancy has preserved over 140,380 acres.

The Nature Conservancy's Santa Cruz Island Project all started in 1975 when Dr. Carey Stanton approached The Nature Conservancy about a possible joint conservation effort to ensure the permanent preservation of Santa Cruz Island's western 54,500 acres. Dr. Carey Stanton inherited the western nine-tenths of Santa Cruz Island

in 1957 from his father, Edwin L. Stanton. Edwin L. Stanton of Los Angeles acquired the western ninety percent of Santa Cruz Island in 1937 and concentrated all of his energies on cattle ranching.

From 1957 to 1978 Dr. Carey Stanton lived virtually alone in solitary elegance on one of the largest and least inhabited islands anywhere in the world that is still privately owned.¹³⁶ Dr. Carey Stanton lived in a kind of "Shangri-La" in the center of Santa Cruz Island where a spacious white stucco ranch house and scatter of neat outbuildings resembled a small village in the idyllic green valley. His home, remodeled many times around the original house built in 1855, was surrounded by a lush rose garden, with blooms of dinner-plate size, and behind it was built a swimming pool.¹³⁷ A flag pole flew the colors of the United States and the state of California.

Faced with some substantial inheritance taxes, future management uncertainties, old age and a dread that his Santa Cruz Island would become a pawn of real estate developers, Dr. Stanton decided in 1975 to turn his island into a permanent ecological reserve. Through a generous arrangement with Dr. Stanton and an outpouring of public support, The Nature Conservancy began fundraising to pay for the purchase of the island.

From 1975 to Santa Cruz Island's final purchase by The Nature Conservancy in 1978, The Nature Conservancy

conducted a fund drive to raise four million dollars for the outright purchase of 15,000 acres of Santa Cruz. Dr. Stanton had already pledged the remaining 40,000 acres of his island to The Nature Conservancy with the stipulation that The Nature Conservancy raise the agreed upon sum.

Fundraising at first was slow, but by March of 1978 environmental awareness clubs such as the Sierra Club and the Santa Barbara Audubon Society began making pledges from \$500 to \$2000.¹³⁸ On March 10, 1978 two Nature Conservancy life members, one from Los Angeles and the other from San Diego, each pledged \$25,000 toward the organizations' purchase of Santa Cruz. Both gifts were made anonymously.¹³⁹

On April 11, 1978 the ARCO Foundation, the philanthropic arm of the Atlantic Richfield Company, an oil company with considerable investment and activity in Santa Barbara County and the Santa Barbara Channel, contributed \$1,000,000 to The Nature Conservancy towards the purchase of Santa Cruz. Steve McCormick, land steward for The Nature Conservancy was quick to add after ARCO's donation "that ARCO will have no control over management of the island preserve as result of the contribution."¹⁴⁰

With the largest contribution being from the Atlantic Richfield Foundation, \$1,000,000, throughout the rest of 1978 large donations were contributed by:

The Montecito Garden Club, \$360; The Santa Barbara News Press, \$1,000; The Santa Barbara Foundation \$25,000.

The Santa Barbara Audubon Society, \$6,480; The Times-Mirror Foundation \$10,000; Union Oil Foundation, \$10,000; Chevron U.S.A., \$110,000; as well as many other environmental groups, private citizens, youth groups, foundations and corporations.¹⁴¹

By the end of 1978 The Nature Conservancy was able to purchase the 54,000 westernmost acres of Santa Cruz Island for \$2.6 million dollars. Continuous financial support is necessary to ensure permanent protection of this important landform. Dr. Stanton chose to sell the island to The Nature Conservancy instead of granting it to the federal government for future national park land because in 1975 he had the foresight to see how much "red tape" park lobbyists were having to wade through to get such legislation through Congress. Also Dr. Stanton saw how Anacapa and Santa Barbara Islands were being managed by the park service and he was disappointed with their methods. Such disastrous mistakes as the "Hetch-Hetchy Valley" by the National Park Service also drove Dr. Stanton away from any national park land grant agreement.¹⁴²

ACRE-SAVER COUPON Santa Cruz Island Fund	
I want to help preserve Santa Cruz Island. Enclosed is my contribution of \$..... (\$72 pays for one acre. All contributions more or less than this amount are welcome.)	
Names	
Address	
Payable to The Nature Conservancy Post Office Box 6422 Santa Barbara, Calif. 93111	

This pledge coupon was made available to the general public in the evening edition of The Santa Barbara News Press on June 13, 1978. The pledge coupon was printed in the newspaper by The Nature Conservancy as one of their many fundraising campaigns in order to purchase Santa Cruz Island.

the Channel Islands National Park and the Santa Cruz Island Project and agreed that The Nature Conservancy was doing an excellent job of preserving and protecting Santa Cruz. California's Channel Islands have been called the "Galapagos Islands in our own backyard."¹⁴³ Santa Cruz Island contains the greatest diversity of habitat types found on any of the California Channel Islands. About six hundred species and subspecies of native plants are supported on Santa Cruz Island, including forty endemic plants. Eight species are isolated on Santa Cruz Island. Among Santa Cruz's fauna, birds are the most diverse. Presently, there are fifty-two breeding bird species on Santa Cruz. The Island also supports nine endemic subspecific birds. Santa Cruz Island's total acreage, topography, microclimates, floral diversity, and proximity to the mainland have resulted in its being the most ecologically rich of all the California Channel Islands.

Today, with the private Santa Cruz Island Project, a conservation partnership exists between The Nature Conservancy and the Channel Islands National Park. By 5 March 1980 the date of establishment of the Channel Islands National Park, The Nature Conservancy had already been practicing its Santa Cruz Island Preserve Management Plan for over two years. Throughout 1980 and 1981 the United States Congress studied many environmental reports concerning the conservation relationship between

the Channel Islands National Park and the Santa Cruz Island Project and agreed that The Nature Conservancy was doing an excellent job of preserving and protecting Santa Cruz Island, an island within the boundaries and jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior's Channel Islands National Park.

Through continued cohesive labor, planning and communication The Nature Conservancy and the Channel Islands National Park are together preserving and protecting Santa Cruz Island, which stands as a living example of primeval America.

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