

Morse issues challenge after trip

Wayne Morse, Democratic U.S. Senate candidate, hiked three and a half miles into the French Pete Valley Monday and came back to Eugene later this week to challenge Mark Hatfield to do the same.

"I call upon my Republican opponent (Hatfield) to take a hike into French Pete," he said.

"I urge him to look at it with a mind unclouded by political considerations. I challenge him to acknowledge it for the beautiful cathedral that it is, and to come out for the preservation of this unique valley as a wilderness area."

Morse traveled with other Oregon politicians and students through the valley Monday as part of the French Pete "Hike-In" scheduled for that day by Nature's Conspiracy, a student environmentalist group at the University.

Morse said after he had returned from the "Hike-In" that, "If the people of Oregon choose to send me back to the senate this November, I pledge to introduce and fight for a bill restoring French Pete Valley to the Three Sisters Wilderness Area."

The valley, located 50 miles east of Eugene, is uncut and has been the subject of concern for Oregon environmentalists for several years.

If elected in November, Morse said he would seek to "preserve French Pete Valley as an inviolable natural area—preserved for its scientific, educational and recreational values."

The valley, located 50 miles east of Eugene, is uncut and has been the subject of concern for Oregon environmentalists for several years.

The U.S. Forest Service, in a recent position paper on the valley area, is "trying to lull us into going along with a time delay" on the valley, Morse said.



Oregon Democrats Robert Straub, Charles Porter and Wayne Morse gaze at the French Pete Valley on Monday's

"Hike-In." Morse, Porter and Straub led students and politicians on the three and a half mile hike.

"There's not much land" in French Pete, Morse said, "just 19,200 acres, that's all there is."

"In this one, (the forest service is) dead wrong," Morse emphasized, adding that the service should "make this relatively small area a wilderness area."

Morse said a bill such as he proposes would have a "very good" chance of passage, saying, "I don't believe in giving the forest service . . . the discretion of finality. Congress is the final check."

For environmental quality

Federal report cites Oregon

By DEAN WHEELER
Of the Emerald

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Oregon has passed a series of laws and made several major steps in protecting its environment that have gained it a place in the third annual report of the Federal Council on Environmental Quality.

The report, issued last weekend, sites Oregon as having made major progress toward controlling air pollution from automobiles, sedimentation and erosion, solid waste disposal, and protection of remaining resources.

The council report shows Oregon as having authorized the issuance of \$100 million in bonds for pollution control by the Environmental Quality Commission.

In the area of air pollution, the 1971 legislature authorized the Department of Environmental Quality to establish motor vehicle emission standards for existing vehicles and to certify emission control systems. The act also prescribes testing and licensing of persons to certify the devices.

The report also cited Oregon as one of two states with soil conservation districts that have land use regulations currently in effect. A district in North Dakota was also pointed out in the report.

The disposal of solid wastes is a large problem for the nation, said the report, which points to Oregon as one of 25 states requiring solid waste disposal permits.

But a federal report issued recently says Oregon and several other western states are trailing the nation in removal of existing open solid waste disposal sites.

In an effort to protect water resources, the report says legislation has been passed in Oregon which requires the amount of phosphates by weight in a detergent be printed on the label for the consumer.

Although Oregon's bottle bill is presently being tested in court, the annual environmental report said the state is one of three which have acted to eliminate non-returnable beverage containers.

Oregon is one of three states that have issued water use permits to companies constructing nuclear reactors. The permits in Oregon, Minnesota and Maryland, says the report, include limitations on radioactive effluents.

Another action taken in Oregon and four other states on nuclear power plants is the establishment of comprehensive powerplant siting laws. The commission report says Washington is another of the states.

Non-nuclear power plant siting laws have been reached in Oregon, Washington and Idaho said the report. The governors of the three states have agreed, said the commission, that no new hydroplants would be built on the Middle Snake River. The three state officials said there would be no gain to the region in terms of power, but a loss in terms of scenic beauty in the wild Hells Canyon.

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