

Congressional funds save Lily Lake coast wilderness

By JOHN MITCHELL
Of the Emerald

One of the last remaining undeveloped lakes on the Oregon coast has been saved from commercial development.

Lily Lake, located about seven miles north of Florence, was threatened earlier this year by a planned 300-unit condominium development. Carlin Jackson, a Forest Service land and minerals official, says the Forest Service has earmarked \$1.15 million from funds added to the 1977 Interior Appropriations Act for purchase of 453 acres surrounding the lake.

Sen. Mark Hatfield (R-Ore.) and Rep. Bob Duncan (D-Ore.), members of the appropriations committee, were conferees on the bill and worked to retain the money.

"This recreational area and botanical laboratory now will be preserved for future generations," Hatfield said, "because Congressional action has removed the threat of development."

Lily Lake is set against a unique backdrop of sand dunes, Sitka spruce, lodgepole pine and beach grass. Wildlife habitats abound near the lake and many species, including sea otter, beaver and mink, claim the area as their playground.

"The lake is especially important as a bird refuge," said Gene Pierson, resource assistant on the Mapleton Ranger District. "Numerous bird species rest in the shelter of nearby sand dunes and the area has a high potential for os-

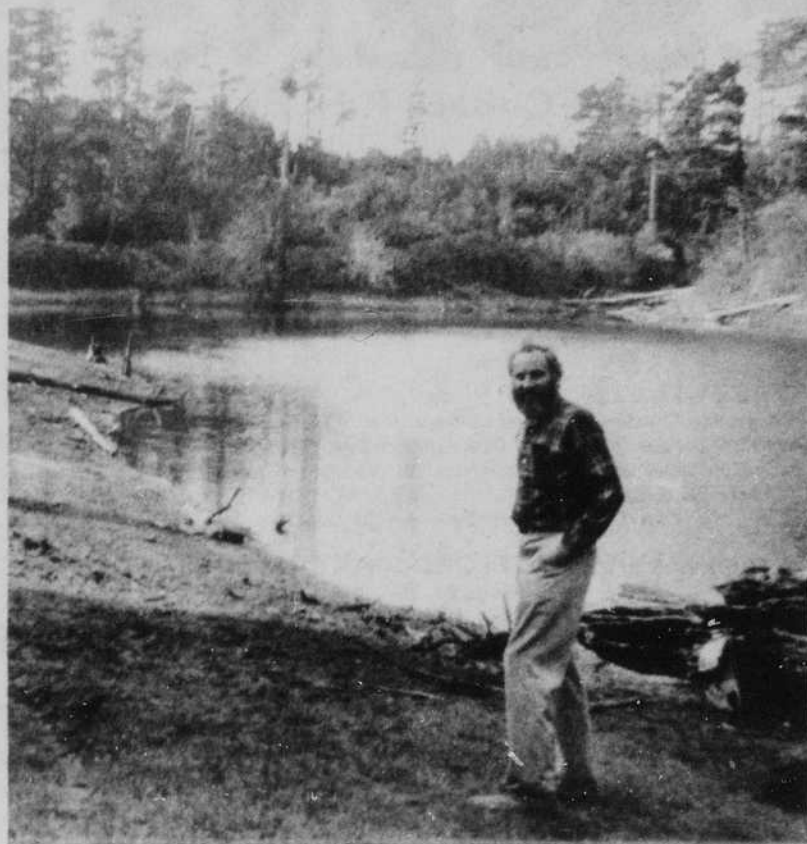


Photo by Gene Pierson

Stan Cook, University biology professor, surveys Lily Lake, threatened by condominium development until Congressional funds ensured preservation of the wild coastal area near Florence.

prey nests."

Before land acquisitions can be made, however, the Forest Service must complete property appraisals and develop an interim management plan for the Lily Lake unit.

"We are now updating appraisals of various land parcels adjacent to Lily Lake," said Pierson. "Our next step, then, is to negotiate with the landowners."

Stan Cook, University biology professor, and Prof. William Chilcoat from Oregon State University will assist the Forest Service in developing a management plan by supplying input on many ecological features of the lake.

"We will be studying wildlife habitats," said Cook, "and eventually, we will counsel the Forest Service on the suitability of Lily Lake for a research natural area."

OECC to review request for program

The Oregon Educational Coordinating Commission (OECC) will review a request today for a new certificate program at the University Health Sciences Center in Portland during the commission's afternoon meeting in Salem.

The health sciences center has requested authorization to offer a certificate program in elec-

tronecephalographic technology. The State Board of Higher Education approved the request in September and sent it to the OECC for approval.

The commission will also continue discussion on two priorities for legislation to present to the governor and the 1977 Legislature that were postponed at the October OECC meeting.

They include establishing statewide basic competencies in reading, writing and computing, and improving coordination and avoiding duplication among agencies providing continuing education.

The meeting will begin at 2 p.m. today in Room 20 of the Capitol in Salem.

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