

Sandy Post

SANDY, OREGON, THURSDAY, JULY 13, 1972 SECTION TWO



RECREATIONAL USE is the major use of the Sandy River shown above. A 12 mile stretch of the river has been designated for a proposed protection under the Scenic

Rivers Act. A meeting concerning this proposal will be held this evening at Sandy Grade School.

(Post photo)

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Bids open on bridge

Bids will be received by the Oregon State Highway Commission on Thursday and Friday, July 27 and 28, in Salem for 25 projects totaling an estimated \$7,400,000.

Included in these two days of bidding will be bids for a project in Clackamas County which involves 0.13 mile of grading, paving and a structure on the Clear Creek Bridge Section of the Woodburn-Estacada Highway.

The project, which is located approximately six miles south of Estacada, calls for the building of new approaches with asphalt concrete on two 12 foot lands and four-foot shoulders, and widening the existing structure. Completion time is 200 calendar days.

FROM The RIVER'S EDGE

A SANDY RIVER SCENIC UNIT COULD BE YOUR GIFT TO POSTERITY!!

Getting the 12 miles of the lower Sandy River Canyon put into the protection of the Scenic River's Act is one more step up in its progress. Tonight, the State Highway Dept. will conduct a hearing on this project in Sandy.

Just in case you missed reading it elsewhere, the hearing will be at 7:30 P.M. in the Sandy Grade School.

Some of us who have lived in proximity to this canyon have a tendency to take it for granted. We assume it will always be there in its almost unspoiled natural state. Be prepared to be rudely awakened, too late, by the sound of axe, saw, a bulldozer ravaging the canyon in the questionable name of progress. The preservation of this canyon cannot be construed as a selfish act cutting off a great block of land from commercial development.

The area under consideration is a narrow 12 mile strip through which the river flows between abrupt cliffs and steep, forested slopes. Most of it is unaltered by man. The few private holdings are unobtrusive. Much of the land involved is already state, county, or federally owned. None of it is suitable for agriculture. All of it contains much natural beauty.

We have so much natural beauty in Oregon at present that we do not value highly enough any one individual piece. But, stop and think—how much less of this natural beauty we have today than we had ten years ago.

It is time that each individual piece be given its full measure of protection or it will all be eroded away by a wasteful and careless exploitation. Think of those places that have been totally or partially destroyed by man's intrusions with the structures and industry that visually and chemically pollute.

This one scenic canyon, being on the doorstep of a great city, can give future solace to a greater number than can any other comparable area in the state. It is well used now. For the most part, those that use it regularly treat it well. It is the one time visitors who litter it. The ones who use it most will always be cleaning it up. This is, alas, a sad fact of our culture.

There are also those conscientious individuals and organizations who take it upon themselves to repair the damage done by the litterers and vandals. One such cleanup within this area will take place this Saturday. Multnomah County built a park on the great oxbow of the river within the canyon. They respected nature and the river, allowing the river's edge to remain natural in appearance by carefully setting back the campsites and roadways.

Dragons teeth have been set to prevent the wheeled demons of all terrain vehicles from tearing up the river banks and compacting the soil so that the bordering vegetation is destroyed. Further up the river are a few private homes. Not enough to spoil the landscape. There are no through roads. All dead end on the river or just touch on it and climb back out of the canyon.

Many people fish on the river throughout the canyon in fall and winter. Even more hike, picnic, camp, and swim there in the summer. For the most part they leave no mark on the land. Our young people are becoming ecology minded and litter conscious. This canyon represents to them a place near at hand where they can become

Goodwill truck stops

The truck from Goodwill Industries will come to the Sandy-Boring-Estacada area on Tuesday, July 18, to pick up donations of furniture, appliances and household goods from those wishing to give these repairable items to Goodwill.

Goodwill may be called directly at 234-0321. They will see that the truck comes to the door of a home or place of business.

Contributions of repairable items create work and job training for the handicapped at Goodwill. Shopping in Goodwill stores provides the wages and operational costs and supports the rehabilitation program.

By
George MacAlevy



one with the ecology and they respect it. They carry their trash out.

The river does more altering of the canyon than any other source. The great use of the canyon by this generation is a factor in itself in proving the worth of this area for scenic river designation. Future generations will need it even more. So that it will fulfill this need, we must act now to preserve it. In preserving it, we deny ourselves nothing, for to preserve it as a Scenic River, we may use it as we have, to fish in it, camp and picnic beside it, or just to wander through it in any season of the year.

Even in winter, there is a mystic beauty that rewards him who braves the rain to penetrate the wet fastness of the forest at the canyon bottom. Wraithlike mists assail the canyon walls and impale themselves on the tall spires of fir and cedar. Fine rain, caught in the dense thickets of branches and needles above, drips noiselessly in larger drops onto the thick duff below. It may be a dull day, but in the shadowy aisles of the forest there is an illumination and seeming warmth that can be experienced nowhere else but in the temperate rain forest, and this is the forest of the winter canyon floor.

This can be a study place for the botanist; there is a goodly mix of our tree, shrub, and wildflower species here. The frozen in time geologic record is there for the geology buff to read, in the cliffs, slopes and gravels.

The densely grown steep slopes discourage the hunter and in this way become havens for bird and animal life.

The river is never without its fish and fowl; amphibian and water animal. It is all there and all we have to do is protect it from those who would change it in the name of progress.

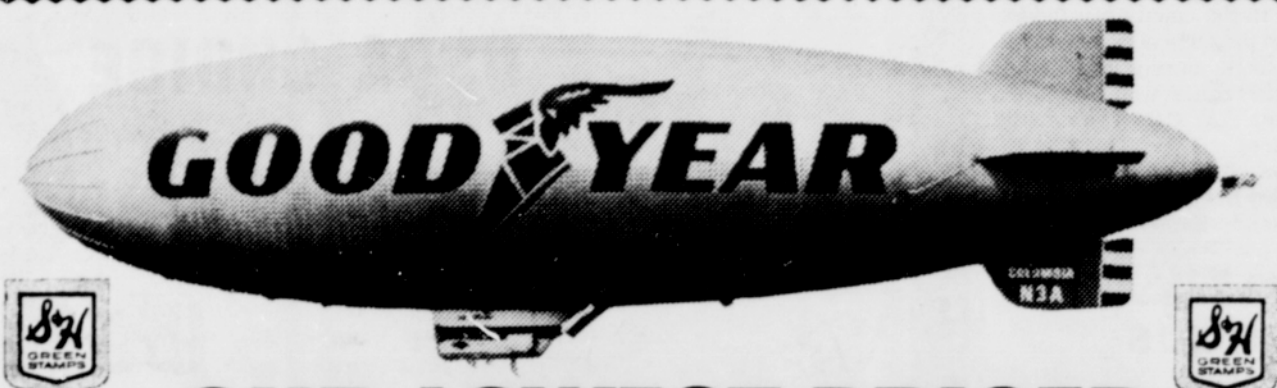
The High Department hearing is the first of several real tests this project must

survive if it is to become a reality. Make yourself heard at the hearing tonight.

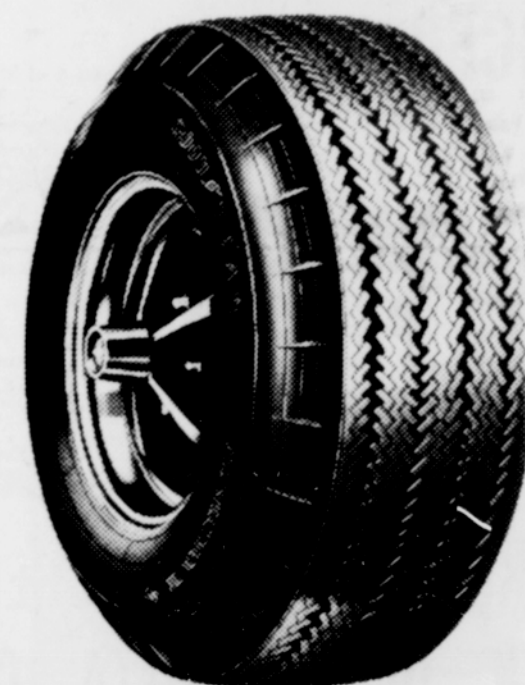
These hearings are held just for the purpose of letting the officials in charge know for themselves what you and others find in the area. They do not necessarily know it themselves, so they must garner their insight from you who do know and appreciate the area.

If we can succeed in protecting and preserving the scenic beauty of this canyon, we will be in effect, giving a great gift to our posterity, a gift of value beyond price to a future where such gifts may be quite rare.

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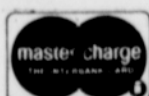
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