

REDWOOD EMPIRE ASSOCIATION

October 9, 1964



476 Post Street
San Francisco 2, California
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MEMO TO EDITORS

SUBJECT: REDWOODS NATIONAL PARK

The U. S. National Park Service recently released studies aimed at establishment of a new national park in the redwood forests of north coastal California, involving substantial portions of the counties of Humboldt and Del Norte (see map, above).

Because the announcement has aroused widespread interest, our Association believes you will want all available facts touching this complex issue. Therefore, we enclose a copy of a talk by Dave James, Director of Public Affairs for the Simpson Timber Company, part of whose forest properties are being considered for acquisition. The talk was delivered before our annual Convention at Crescent City last month. We felt Mr. James succinctly stated a point of view which is worthy of consideration.

Neither the forest-products industry nor the Redwood Empire Association desires further destruction of the great redwood groves. Our Association is in the business of importing tourism, and we traditionally have recognized the unique value of the redwoods to this industry. But we also are responsible to our region and its economy, which - in the northern portion - is heavily dependent on forest products for its existence.

Certain interests have tried with success to over-simplify the problem. However, we maintain it isn't just a matter of vandals-versus-trees. If you as a responsible newsman will take time to read Mr. James' remarks, I'm sure you will gain the background necessary to understand the full question, which involves the survival of an important part of Western American and the people who live in it.

Very sincerely,

J. Dwight O'Dell

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President

JDO:jg
Enclosure