



Restore Hetch Hetchy

IN YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK

Vol 5, No.3

Fall 2006

STATE AGREES THAT HETCH HETCHY VALLEY RESTORATION IS TECHNICALLY FEASIBLE

On July 19, the Schwarzenegger Administration's Department of Water Resources released its Hetch Hetchy Valley restoration



Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger

report after more than a year of reviewing the growing number of existing studies on the subject. The report concluded that restoration of Hetch Hetchy Valley in Yosemite National Park is "technically feasible." This confirmation by the State is a major milestone in our long journey to the day when Valley restoration begins. The DWR report can be found at: www.hetchhetchy.water.ca.gov

Shortly after the State's report was released, Assemblywoman Lois Wolk, Chair of the Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee, announced that she would hold hearings regarding the State's report. She invited all interested parties to participate in the hearings and to keep an open mind about restoration. Over a year ago, Assemblywoman Wolk was instrumental in writing to Governor Schwarzenegger asking him to study Hetch Hetchy restoration options. Restore Hetch Hetchy looks forward to participating in these hearings, and thanks Assemblywoman Wolk for her excellent leadership on this important issue for all Californians, indeed for all Americans.

Restore Hetch Hetchy commends the Schwarzenegger Administration for the professional review found in the Hetch Hetchy Valley restoration report, but respectfully disagrees with the State's overly inflated cost estimates and its virtually ignoring the benefits of restoration. The Administration's report confirms earlier conclusions by Restore Hetch Hetchy, Environmental Defense, University of California Davis, and the U.S. Bureau of

Reclamation that restoration of Hetch Hetchy Valley is feasible and practical, and can be achieved with no harm to San Francisco Bay Area water and power users and Central Valley irrigation districts. All of these reports can be seen in their entirety on our website, www.hetchhetchy.org



Assemblywoman Lois Wolk

The State's cost estimates for restoration, which ranged from \$3 billion to \$10 billion, were inflated by a 30% contingency adder to the base estimate; and then inflated by another 30% for engineering, legal, and administrative costs; and then

Continued on page 2



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inflated by another 20% to 30% for mitigation, site-specific engineering, and permitting costs. In addition, the State's estimates unfairly include costs related to increasing water supply in California by three to four times the amount necessary to simply replace the water storage lost by removing the O'Shaughnessy Reservoir at Hetch Hetchy. In its comprehensive Feasibility Study, RHH estimates the cost for removal of the dam, replacement of water and power supplies, and valley restoration to be approximately \$1 billion, while Environmental Defense's report contained a range of restoration costs from one-half billion to \$1.65 billion.

The State report chided the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission for its failure to cooperate with providing any substantiation for its claim that restoration would cost \$9 billion, stating: "SF PUC did not respond to DWR requests to review documentation of this cost estimate." In a public statement last year, an SF PUC spokesperson admitted that their cost estimate was simply a "back of the envelope calculation."

On the benefit side of the equation, the State report estimated that the yearly "use" benefits of a restored Hetch Hetchy would be \$26 million and the yearly "non-use" benefits would be \$6 billion, and recommended that a more in-depth analysis be completed to identify benefits. RHH's Feasibility Study identified substantial economic benefits resulting from the restoration with nearly 500 construction jobs lasting over several years, and increases in tourism in gateway counties (Mariposa and Tuolumne) with benefits to local hotels & motels, restaurants, gift shops, and gas stations. Of course, the environmental benefits (providing habitat for plants and animals, allowing a wild & scenic Tuolumne River to run free) and recreational benefits (hiking, camping, boating, rock climbing, and swimming) of having a "second Yosemite Valley" are substantial as well.

What would be the "value" of a restored Hetch Hetchy Valley in Yosemite National Park? More or less than the \$8 billion spent to restore the Florida Everglades? Or the nearly \$4 billion to restore Boston Bay? Or the \$60 billion to build and maintain Yucca Mountain nuclear repository? Or the \$2.2 billion for a single B-2 Stealth Bomber? Or the half a billion dollars to restore the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island, paid for by private donations?

RHH agrees with the State's report that more detailed restoration study is warranted will full cooperation from all interested parties including the National Park Service and the SF PUC. Last October, the PUC's Citizens Advisory Committee, in a 10-1 vote, recommended that the PUC fully cooperate with any further Hetch Hetchy restoration studies. RHH has identified a diverse mix of private and public funding sources for such a study from private foundations and individuals, state bonds, and the federal Land & Water Conservation Fund (non-taxpayer dollars derived from offshore oil drilling).

The political leaders (California governor, state and federal legislators, president) who preside over the restoration of Hetch Hetchy Valley will enjoy an incredible legacy, and could attain a place in environmental history comparable to Hetch Hetchy's most ardent supporter, John Muir.

Yosemite National Park represents the very best we have in America. We Americans have the opportunity to make the best even better with the restoration of Hetch Hetchy Valley.

MEET OUR ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT - DEBBIE COLSTON

Debbie was raised in Danville, California. She always loved the outdoors; Davey Crockett, who was big on TV in the 50s, was one of her first loves. Later, as a pre-teen on summer family vacations to Yosemite, she fell in love with the mountains. Fast forward to high school when she asked about a career with the Forest Service and was told that unless she wanted to be “stuck” on a lookout or in the office – forget about it – there were no jobs for women. Reflecting back, Debbie wondered why the Park Service never came to mind as a career possibility. Well, she says, she doesn’t remember knowing a thing about the Park Service back then but she sure remembers Smokey the Bear!

Debbie went on to graduate from Chico State College with a BA in Anthropology and Sociology. After graduation she spent some time in South Lake Tahoe and Newport Beach working the dinner shift as a waitress for Del Webb Resorts. About that time her parents purchased a small home in Sonora that they intended to fix up when they retired. They mentioned to her, kiddingly, that she could move in and pay rent if she wanted to. Hey, with a place to live ready and waiting, Sonora sounded great. After all, a waitress could find work anywhere. So she moved to Sonora, got hired at a local dinner house and immediately enrolled at Columbia College, the local junior college that specializes in natural resource management. She took classes in surveying, geology, forestry, local flora and fauna and other wonderful things.

Now, Sonora is also the headquarters for the Stanislaus National Forest which shares a boundary with Yosemite National Park. This didn’t mean much to Debbie when she first arrived in the area. But, as fate would have it, Debbie’s love of the mountains, her college degree and the Forest Service were about to meet. In 1975, with

those natural resource classes under her belt, she filled out an application for the Forest Service. Unbeknownst to her, President Nixon had just signed the Executive Order requiring federal lands to be surveyed for cultural resources (prehistoric & historic sites) and that those resources must be protected. Debbie’s Anthropology degree, of all things, was just what the Stanislaus National Forest needed. She was hired.

Debbie spent the next 13 years as a field archaeologist hiking thousands of acres each year. She and her seasonal team located and recorded the physical remains of the lives of, predominantly, the Central Sierra Miwok people, and the remains of historic mining, logging, ranching and settlement activities. One of the highlights of her life, she says, was hiking or rafting the Tuolumne River from the Yosemite Park boundary to Don Pedro Reservoir in the mid-70s doing the Forest’s cultural resources survey for the Tuolumne Wild & Scenic River Study. Then, in 1989, her field experience and writing ability landed her a position on the Forest’s Land Management Planning staff. For the next 12 years, as a multi-tasker with numerous “other duties as assigned,” she served in many capacities, working at both the Forest and Regional levels. She retired from the Forest Service in 2000.

In 2002 Debbie was hired by the Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians to assist them in further developing their tribal Cultural Resources Department. Hetch Hetchy Valley is part of the Tuolumne Band’s ancestral grounds. Debbie learned about Restore Hetch Hetchy when Executive Director Ron Good requested a meeting with members of the tribe’s Cultural & Historic Preservation Committee to update them on RHH developments. Over the following months Debbie developed an awareness of, and deep respect for, the perspectives held about the RHH effort by the tribal



Debbie Colston, above Hetch Hetchy Valley

peoples who have ancestral ties to Hetch Hetchy Valley.

In 2005 Debbie left full time employment to care for her mother whose health had declined. While looking for a part-time job that would allow her to be in close proximity to her mother, she learned that the RHH Board of Directors had just authorized a part-time administrative position to assist the Executive Director. Debbie didn’t waste any time applying.

Debbie loves being part of an organization that’s committed to a positive outcome for all stakeholders. She holds a vision in her mind’s eye of Hetch Hetchy Valley in its natural state, and believes that the Valley will definitely be restored at some point in time. She also believes that, when the time is right, Hetch Hetchy Valley will be returned to the Native people. Hetch Hetchy Valley, she says, has been so influential in raising national consciousness about how we humans interface with Nature – it may yet be destined to be a precedent-setter for the Indian people of our country as well.

FORMER SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR DONALD HODEL JOINS ADVISORY PANEL TO RESTORE HETCH HETCHY

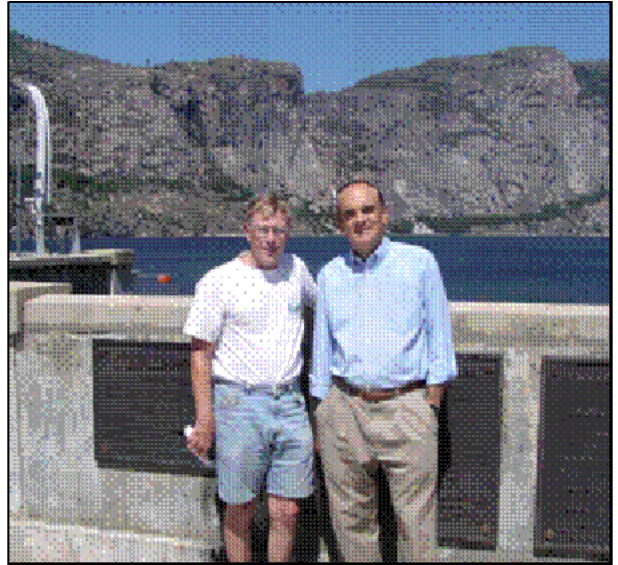
Restore Hetch Hetchy is pleased to announce that Donald Hodel has agreed to become a member of our Advisory Committee, and his appointment was approved by unanimous vote of the Board of Directors.

Mr. Hodel held two cabinet level positions in President Reagan's Administration: Secretary of Interior (1985 - 1989) and Secretary of Energy (1982 - 1985). Earlier he had served as Undersecretary of Interior (1981 - 1982). Previously, he had been both Deputy Administrator (1969 - 1972) and Administrator (1972 - 1978) of the Bonneville Power Administration. At the end of President Reagan's term in office, he and his wife Barbara moved to Colorado where they run an energy consulting business. He also sits on a number of religious, charitable and corporate boards. To Hetch Hetchy restoration advocates, Hodel is known as the

person who, in 1987 while Secretary of the Interior, listened to the suggestion of fellow Advisory Committee member Ike Livermore and first publicly suggested that Hetch Hetchy Valley could be restored with no harm to the San Francisco Bay Area. Livermore had previously been Resources Secretary to Governor Reagan.

In July 1987, Interior Secretary Hodel commissioned a study of Hetch Hetchy's restoration that was performed by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. The Preface to that study states:

"Secretary of the Interior Don Hodel . . . asked the American public to consider a seemingly radical idea: the restoration of Hetch Hetchy



Former Interior Secretary Don Hodel (right) and RHH Executive Director Ron Good (left) recently met at Hetch Hetchy to discuss progress with the restoration movement.

Valley to Yosemite National Park. Initially startling, this idea, on second consideration, begins to intrigue the mind and free the imagination to consider the creative potential of such a proposal . . . Fortunately . . . some losses are not irretrievable. Man's increasing technological prowess enables him to re-evaluate former commitments of resources in the light of today's knowledge."

Upon receiving news of his officially becoming a member of the Advisory Committee, Mr. Hodel stated: "I'm honored to join such a knowledgeable and diverse group of advisors committed to the cause of restoring Hetch Hetchy Valley to Yosemite National Park. We know now that restoration is physically feasible. That, together with the dedication and competence of the Restore Hetch Hetchy professional staff, makes me believe it will begin much sooner than some might have thought."

"Restore Hetch Hetchy is indeed fortunate to have Don join our Advisory Committee, where he will be joining two former California Resources Secretaries - one a Democrat and one a Republican -



Former Interior Secretary Don Hodel (left); Bob Hackmack (center), Chair of RHH's Technical/Engineering Committee; and, Jerry Cadagan (right), RHH Board Chair, recently met in Sonora to discuss Don's participation on the Advisory Committee.

and two former Sierra Club Presidents, one being Don's former college classmate Mike McCloskey," said Restore Hetch Hetchy Executive Director Ron Good. Good also noted that Mr. Hodel will be reunited with his former Special Assistant at Interior, Bob Kallman, who has been on the Advisory Committee for

Board Chair of Restore Hetch Hetchy.

A complete listing of RHH Advisory Committee members is available on our website at www.hetchhetchy.org/organization/board_members.html.

many years.

"Don's vast experience in water and power issues and his first hand insights into the workings of the nation's capitol will be of invaluable assistance to our Board and staff," added Jerry Cadagan,

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for more information.



Wildnesswithin.com

was created in 1998 by environmentalist web designer Robert Brower in partnership with his father, conservationist David Brower. The website promotes the principles of conservation, preservation, and restoration of the Earth's natural resources. It is also a tribute to the late David and Robert Brower. Both David Brower and Robert Brower were avid supporters of the

Restore Hetch Hetchy movement and were members of the Board of Directors.

JONATHAN MARSHALL FUHRER

Associate Vice President
Financial Advisor



jonathan.fuhrer@morganstanley.com

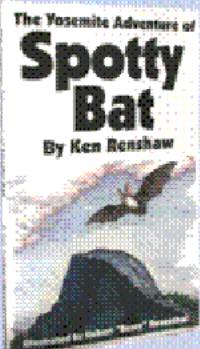
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RHH volunteers Alayne Meeks (left) and Liz Holtz (right), and RHH Executive Director Ron Good (center) talk with visitors at John Muir National Historic site celebration of Muir's birthday in April.
Photo by Dennis Latona.

John Muir impersonator Lee Stetson (left) and RHH volunteer Dennis Latona (right) pose at RHH information table at Sierra College/Rocklin Earth Day event in April.

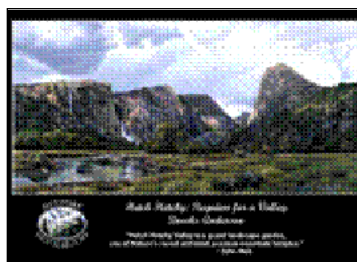
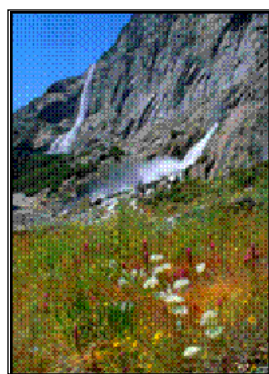
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RHH occasionally exchanges its membership list with like-minded organizations. Please notify us if you do not wish to have your name shared in this way: e-mail to: info@hetchhetchy.org, or call (209) 533-4481, or write P.O. Box 3538, Sonora, CA 95370.

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Prices include shipping & sales tax.

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- Please send __ copies of the Feasibility Study and __ copies of the Executive Summary of the study. I am enclosing \$20 for each copy of the Feasibility Study, \$5 for a CD of the Feasibility Study, and \$2 for each copy of the Executive Summary or have entered my credit card information below.
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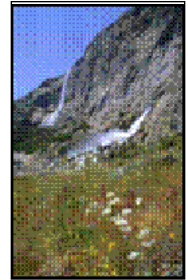


Brooks Anderson matted print



The movie:
Hetch Hetchy: Yosemite's
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Hetch Hetchy Waterfalls
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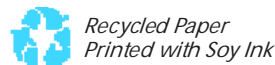
The Board of Directors and staff of Restore Hetch Hetchy wish to thank sincerely our over 2,000 members for their very generous financial support for our movement to restore Yosemite National Park's Hetch Hetchy Valley. As a grassroots, 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, we depend on your tax-deductible contributions to allow us to continue our work for Hetch Hetchy Valley.

We ask for your financial support only three times a year: membership renewal, spring special appeal, and year-end appeal.

However, we do send out monthly reminder letters to those of you who haven't gotten around to renewing your annual memberships! Renewing your membership on a timely basis would help us tremendously, so that we don't have to go to the expense of sending the reminder renewal letters.

Thanks again for all of your wonderful support for Hetch Hetchy Valley, the place John Muir called "a grand landscape garden, one of Nature's rarest and most precious mountain temples."

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