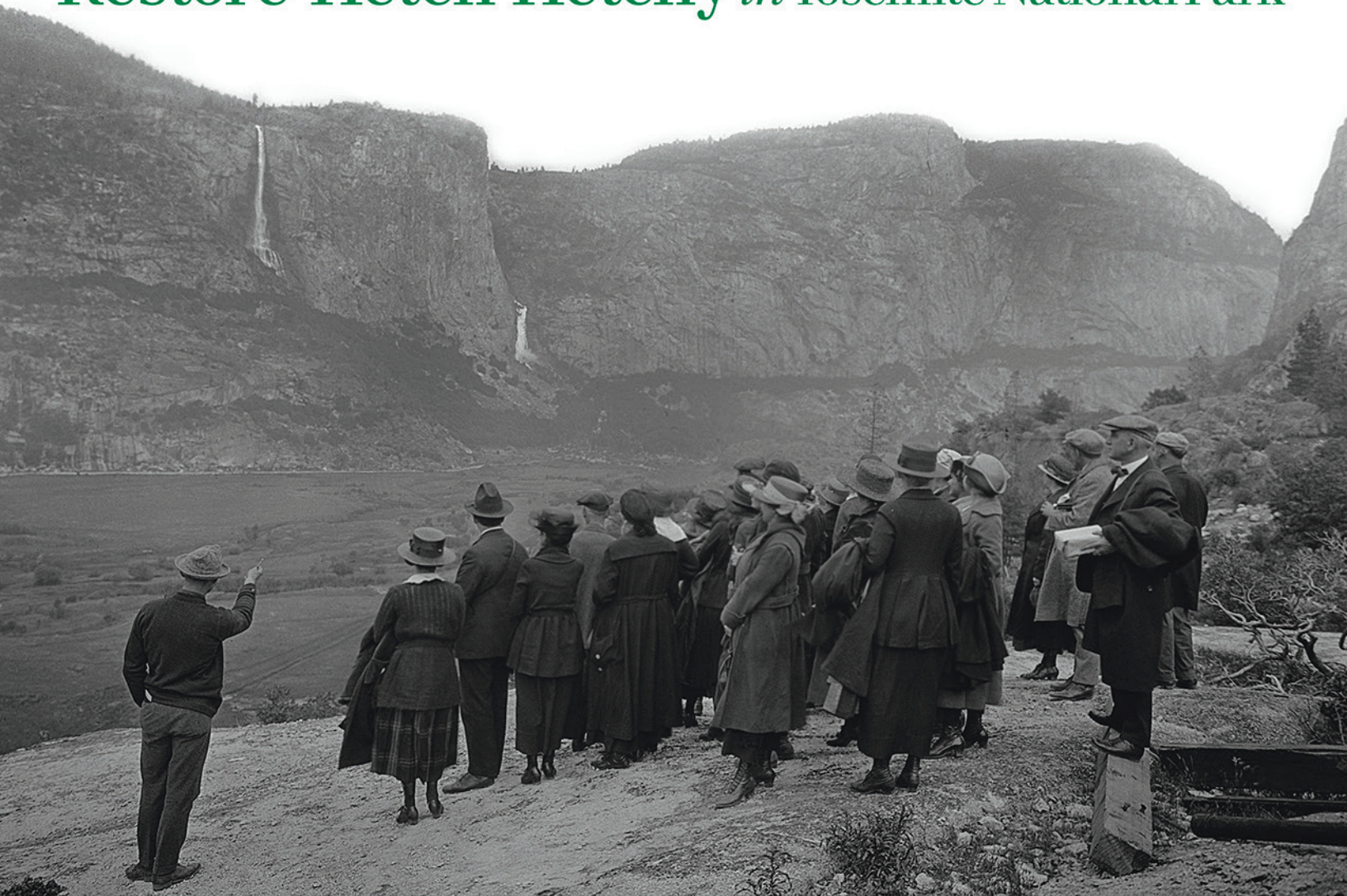


Restore Hetch Hetchy in Yosemite National Park



Pictures are supposed to tell a story, but the National Park Service archive is silent with respect to the photographer, the date and the people shown in the image above. The man at the left, however, bears a resemblance to William Colby, confidante of John Muir and Secretary of the Sierra Club for 44 years. Might Colby be showing Hetch Hetchy to club members in the aftermath of the Raker Act, knowing it will soon be drowned?

Photo: Digitized by National Park Service, funded by grant from the Yosemite Conservancy.

Survey says ... restore Hetch Hetchy

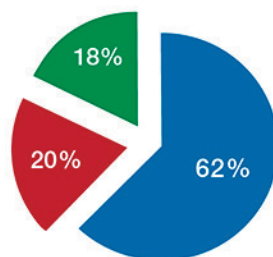
Restoration supporters outnumber opposition by more than 3 to 1!

In January, Restore Hetch Hetchy asked Probolsky Research, an independent full-service opinion research firm, to add a Hetch Hetchy question to one of their statewide surveys of likely voters. The survey found that those favoring restoration outnumbered those opposed by more than three to one (61.5% said yes, 20.2% said no, and 17.7% were not sure). What's more, results were generally consistent across typical demographic categories such as sex, age, political affiliation, ethnicity and region.

Californians clearly care deeply about public lands and especially spectacular landscapes within the state. It's time for government officials, at the local, state and federal levels, to listen to public opinion on Hetch Hetchy.

(Detailed results on page 2)

■ Yes ■ No ■ Unsure



Probolsky Research,
January 2019

Broken promises at Hetch Hetchy

San Francisco
assured a
recreational
paradise at the
reservoir
(see page 2)

Valuing Hetch Hetchy Valley:

Economic Benefits
of Restoration
in Yosemite
National Park
(see page 2)

Broken Promises, continued

When Congress agreed to allow San Francisco to build a dam in Hetch Hetchy Valley, it did so only after the City committed that the reservoir would *improve* recreation opportunities. The City highlighted recreation at reservoirs, both within the United States and in Europe, as examples of what they would do at Hetch Hetchy in its massive “Freeman” report (1912)—given to each member of Congress. After citing example after example across dozens of pages, the report concludes that any idea that tourists or campers would be excluded, or their pleasure lessened, was an “utter absurdity”.

“Visitors to Hetch Hetchy know San Francisco has never lived up to these commitments. Unlike those in the rest of Yosemite, the gate at Hetch Hetchy closes daily. Camping is only allowed for those beginning or ending a backpacking trip. There is no lodging available—although San Francisco’s “Chalet” sits atop a cliff overlooking the reservoir and the canyon. The only boat allowed on the water belongs to San Francisco.

“Restore Hetch Hetchy remains committed to its core mission of encouraging/requiring San Francisco to relinquish the reservoir so the valley can be restored. While we advocate for restoration, we will also advocate for increased recreation opportunities at Hetch Hetchy. Drawing more people to this stunning area will be a reward in itself, but will also teach the Hetch Hetchy story more broadly and increase support for the valley’s restoration.”

Restore Hetch Hetchy anticipates that legal action, at the State and/or federal level, will be employed in pursuit of these recreation improvements.

Valuing Hetch Hetchy, continued

Restore Hetch Hetchy retained ECONorthwest, Pacific Northwest’s largest and most respected economic consulting firm, to investigate two basic questions about the economic benefits that would accompany restoration:

- ♦ What is the economic value of outdoor recreation opportunities provided by a restored Hetch Hetchy Valley?
- ♦ What is the passive-use value provided by a restored Hetch Hetchy Valley?

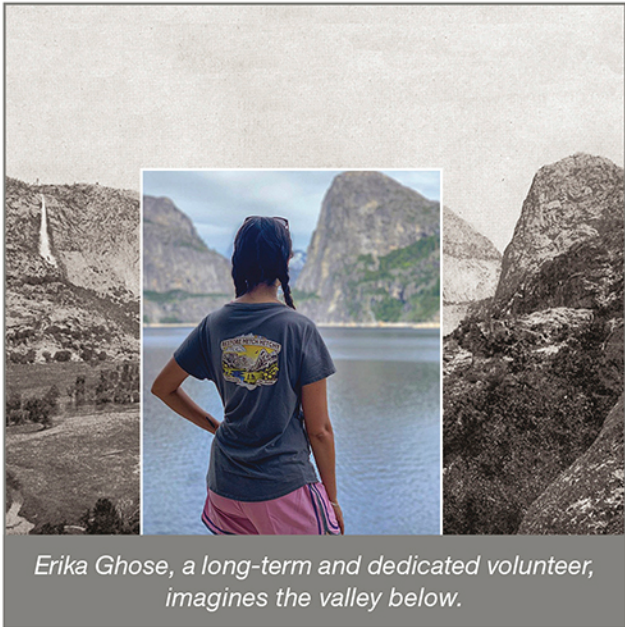
ECONorthwest evaluates these interdependent metrics across a range of scenarios (Restore Hetch Hetchy has taken no position on how a restored valley would be managed—but we look forward to that discussion!). Results range from the low billions to tens of billions, consistent with what the State of California suggested but did not analyze in its *Hetch Hetchy Restoration Study (2006)*.

Valuing Hetch Hetchy Valley will soon be available in printed form (let us know if you’d like a hard copy). We will be showing it to government officials at the federal, state and local levels as we seek political support for our campaign. The report makes very clear what San Francisco has taken from the public and what a tremendous resource a restored valley would be for all Americans!”

Survey says, continued

Probolsky’s question was phrased as follows:
“California’s Yosemite National Park once included two glacier-carved valleys—Yosemite Valley along the Merced River and Hetch Hetchy Valley along the Tuolumne River. In 1913, Congress allowed San Francisco to dam Hetch Hetchy Valley and turn it into a reservoir for the City.
Should Yosemite National Park’s Hetch Hetchy Valley be restored, if it can be accomplished without impacting San Francisco’s water supply?”

Detailed Poll Results			
By sex	Yes	No	Unsure
Male	60%	25%	16%
Female	63%	16%	21%
By political party			
Republican	52%	30%	18%
Democratic	66%	17%	18%
No Party Preference	60%	19%	21%
By age			
18-29	77%	16%	8%
30-39	64%	18%	18%
40-54	61%	16%	22%
55-64	50%	30%	20%
65+	56%	22%	23%
By ethnicity			
Latino/Hispanic	71%	16%	13%
White/Caucasian	58%	19%	23%
Black/African American	52%	33%	15%
Asian	62%	24%	14%
By region			
Los Angeles County	63%	21%	16%
Other southern California	62%	17%	21%
Central Valley	63%	17%	20%
San Francisco Bay Area	57%	26%	17%
Other northern CA	62%	23%	15%



Erika Ghose, a long-term and dedicated volunteer, imagines the valley below.

Photo: Matt Ashby Wolfskill, Library of Congress (background), Jennifer Courtney (inset).

National Park Service icons keynote Restore Hetch Hetchy dinner



Mia Monroe and Dave Mihalic both received standing ovations after delivering stirring speeches. More photos and a video are available at hetchhetchy.org.

Photos: Colette Robinson

Mia Monroe

Mia Monroe was presented with Restore Hetch Hetchy's "Stephen Mather Visionary" award. In her present position at Muir Woods, Mia is working with local communities as the Park Service restores the Redwood Creek watershed. Mia spoke of several other NPS restoration projects that are either complete or underway. We know of an opportunity in Yosemite!



Photo: Spreck Rosekrans

Dave Mihalic

Dave Mihalic accepted Restore Hetch Hetchy's "John Muir Heritage" award.

Dave's career has taken him to national parks across the country, included a stint as Special Advisor to the Secretary of the Interior and consulting work on United Nations' World Heritage sites. Accustomed to the political world, Dave notes "there are no red parks and blue parks, only red, white and blue parks."

William Kent

Mia and Dave both explained how Congressman William Kent figures prominently in the history of America's national parks. He and his wife Elizabeth bought 295 acres of redwood forest to keep it from being dammed, then gave the land to the United States, insisting it be named "Muir Woods".

As Congressman, however, Kent supported the Raker Act, allowing Hetch Hetchy to be dammed. Shortly afterward, however, he co-sponsored the National Park Service Act—helping prevent anything like the damming of Hetch Hetchy from ever happening again.

Happy 100th Birthday to Dorothy Bobbitt!



Photo: Spreck Rosekrans

Dorothy Bobbitt regales RHH Office Manager Julene Freitas with stories about fishing and riding horses at Hetch Hetchy in the 1930's. She contributed ancient and gorgeous specimens of twisted driftwood, with embedded granite, to the auction at our 2019 dinner. In addition to supporting Hetch Hetchy, Dorothy is a volunteer at the Marine Mammal Center in Sausalito.



**Please support
Restore Hetch Hetchy.**
Together we can make
Yosemite whole again.
Use the attached envelope or
contribute online.

Ways to give include contributing appreciated stock, donating your car, or including Restore Hetch Hetchy in your estate planning.

Restore Hetch Hetchy

3286 Adeline Street, Suite 7
Berkeley, CA 94703



POSTCARDS AND POSTERS NOW AVAILABLE

Rick Blake's colorful image of Hetch Hetchy and John Muir is now available.

Set of 10 postcards (\$10 donation requested)
or 11" by 14" poster (\$5 donation requested)

Call 510-893-3400 or email admin@hetchhetchy.org.



Boatman/author Brad Dimock has rebuilt Martin Litton's Hetch Hetchy, and rowed the dory down the Grand Canyon.

The original floor was not repairable and is now property of Restore Hetch Hetchy. Thanks, Brad!

Boat photo: Brad Dimock

With all due respect to John Muir and Ken Burns ...

"The conscience of the whole country has been aroused from sleep; and from outrageous evil compensating good in some form must surely come".

That's what John Muir told a distraught friend, after Congress passed the Raker Act allowing Hetch Hetchy Valley to be flooded. He was right—two years later Congress passed the "Organic Act", helping to ensure such a thing would never happen again. Ken Burns similarly describes Hetch Hetchy's legacy as one of sacrifice in "A Gathering of Spirit"—the film shown daily in Yosemite's visitor center.

For Restore Hetch Hetchy, martyrdom is not good enough. If the battle over Hetch Hetchy was "the defining struggle of the conservation movement" (as described by Robert Redford), imagine the inspiration that restoration will bring!

Restore Hetch Hetchy continues to build support by telling the story far and wide. We are working across all major social media platforms and are increasing our outreach in Yosemite Valley, where most visitors have no idea what lies 15 miles to the north.

Restore Hetch Hetchy will be busy this year. After publishing *Valuing Hetch Hetchy Valley*, we will focus on updating our analysis of water system options available to San Francisco (*with highly regarded co-authors*). We will also pursue the strong legal grounds for improving recreation in the Hetch Hetchy area and as well as the sound basis for significantly increasing the paltry \$30,000 that San Francisco pays to use Hetch Hetchy as a storage tank.

We will take these arguments and more to officials at all levels of government, as we campaign to restore Hetch Hetchy and make Yosemite National Park whole once again.



Spreck Rosekrans
Executive Director