



Sierra Club

Great Lakes Chapter

P. O. Box 22
Godfrey, IL 62035
July 26, 1978

Ted Flickinger
Regional Director
National Recreation and Park Association
600 E. Algonquin Road
Des Plaines, IL 60018

(618) 692-2242 (W); (618) 466-0364 (H)

Dear Ted:

The Illinois Department of Conservation plans to do selective timber harvests in Illinois State Parks and Conservation areas. Enclosed is a copy of an in-house memo that we have just recently obtained. We strenuously object to this practice, and we need your active, vocal support.

The first timber cut in a State Park is set for Pere Marquette State Park near Alton in the southwestern part of the state, and we are still undecided whether we should seek a temporary injunction to halt the cut. Bids are supposedly to be let late in the summer or early fall. This particular project is made more difficult to handle since the DOC ostensibly lists it as a "sanitation and salvage operation." Enclosed is a copy of the original press release. The timber operation will be in an area of the State Park where they allow game hunting--a practice that we have strongly opposed since its inception under the Governor Dan Walker administration.

The timber operation planned seems to us to be an obvious attempt to manipulate wildlife habitat for the purposes of the DOC's game hunting program in the park. If you will note, the proceeds of the timber operation are to go to the Game and Fish Fund. In any case, it is a most un-parklike practice for the Illinois Department of Conservation to participate in.

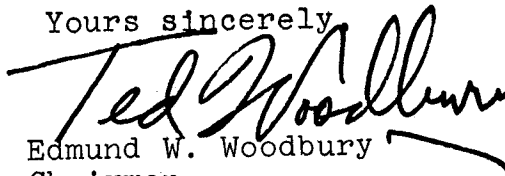
What I need is the name and addresses of experts in the field of park management who would be willing to testify in court against this practice, and/or considerable publicity from your organization and others protesting this proposed policy.

I have talked to and have written to Barry Tindall and have been highly encouraged by his interest, his suggestions, and his identification of a few key personalities. I would be greatly in need of your help on this. I understand from your secretary that you are on vacation until August 7. But I am going ahead and writing you, nevertheless.

Great Lakes Chapter
Sierra Club
July 26, 1978

I hope that we can work together on this.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ted Woodbury". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name.

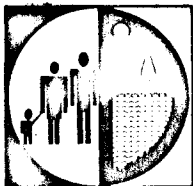
Edmund W. Woodbury
Chairman

enclosures

cc: Barry S. Tindall,
NRPA Director of Public Affairs

Jonathon Ela,
Midwest Representative,
Sierra Club

Brock Evans,
Chief, Washington Office,
Sierra Club



July 19, 1978

Mr. Ted Woodbury, Chairman
Illinois Chapter - Sierra Club
P. O. Box 22
Godfrey, IL 62305

Dear Ted:

I appreciate your advising us of the state park management situation in Illinois. My personal view is that the Club has a very valid point--I am not aware of any other state park system which, as a matter of practice, engages in what could be termed "multiple use" forest management practices within a state park. The major distinction between state forest system and state park system management is essentially one of multiple vs. single purpose use.

I am enclosing a complimentary copy of Islands of Hope; Parks and Recreation in Environmental Crisis and the July, 1978 issue of Parks and Recreation. Islands of Hope advances the theme that public park systems--federal, state and local--are in fact "islands" where man can observe and understand natural succession, including the impact of fire. Clearly there are exceptions to this concept, say, where public safety is involved, but the main objective is generally intact.

The editorial in Parks and Recreation should also be useful for your purposes.

Sincerely,

Barry S. Tindall
Director of Public Affairs

BST:fh

cc: Brock Evans, Washington Representative
Sierra Club

Ted Flickinger, Regional Director
NRPA
Des Plaines, IL