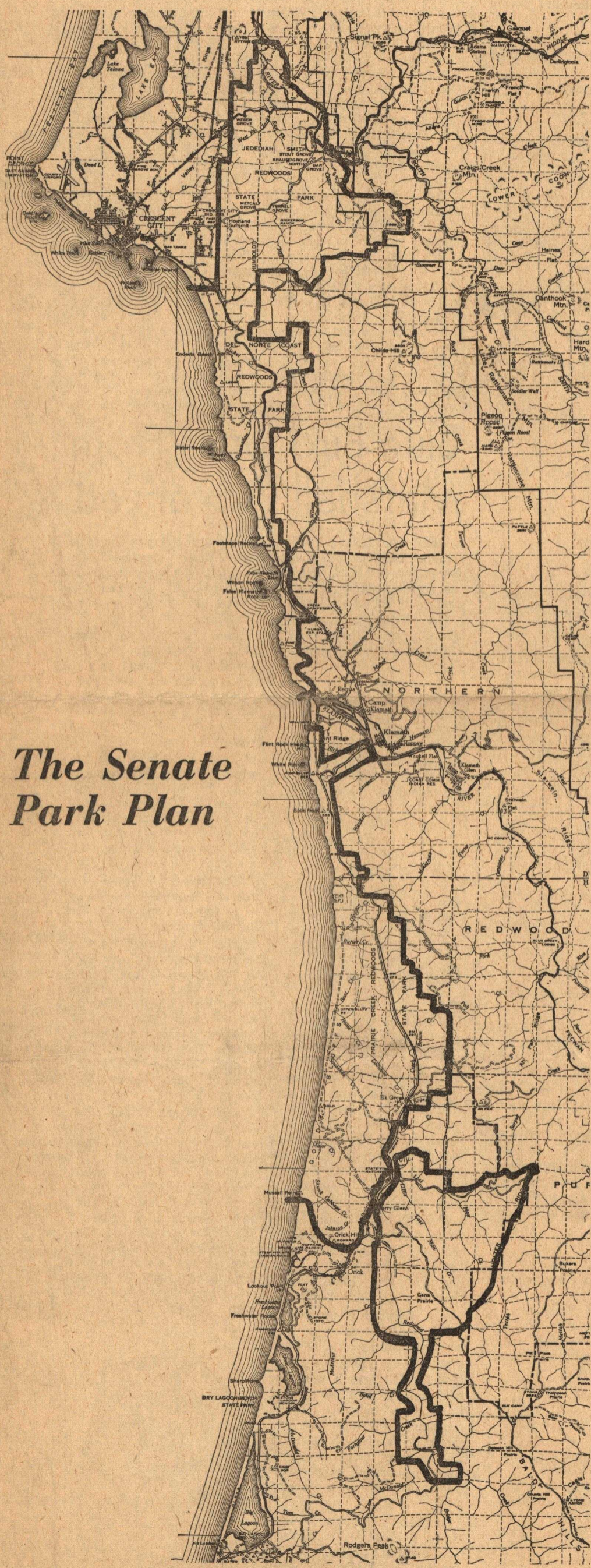


Storm Brews Over Bill



The Senate Park Plan

Heavy black lines on the map outline the Redwood National Park which would be created if Senate Bill 1370 successfully weathers the rigors of Congress and is signed by the President.

It is a bill that some conservation organizations favor, forest products companies oppose and legislators disagree over. Sen. Clinton P. Anderson, D-N.M., a member of the Interior and Insular Affairs Committee which passed the bill last week, has grave doubts about some of its provisions.

The bill, now on the floor of the Senate, would create a 61,654-acre national park. It would take more than 32,000 acres of private timberland owned chiefly by Arcata Redwood Co., Georgia-Pacific Corp., Simpson Timber Co. and Miller-Rellim Redwood Co.

'Compromise' Plan?

This park has been called a compromise. In comparing the largest and smallest national park plans, it is that. The Sierra Club originally proposed a 90,000-acre park, while the lumber industry came up with a plan adding selected small parcels to existing state parks (much in the pattern set by Pacific Lumber Co. and others in cooperation with the state park system and Save - the - Redwoods League).

But in terms of the effects on individual companies, "compromise" is hard to accept as an accurate description, the loggers say. For example, Arcata Redwood Co. would lose over half its timberland, which includes the world's finest commercial redwoods.

Major Features

The park bill's major features include:

- Three existing state parks (Jedediah Smith, Del Norte and Prairie Creek) which would remain in state ownership but would be jointly administered by the state Division of Beaches and Parks and the National Park Service;
- Transfer of the 14,567-acre Northern Redwood Purchase Unit in Del Norte County from U.S. Forest Service ownership to private ownership, to compensate for seized lands;
- Authorization of \$99.8 million for purchases, which sponsors say could be reduced by the Purchase Unit trade.

Monday, Sen. Anderson called this land trade "robbing Peter to pay Paul." His opposition views were spelled out in an Interior Committee report filed with the Senate last week but made public now.

Anderson questioned the arguments of Sen. Henry M. Jackson, D-Wash., and Sen. Thomas H. Kuchel, R-Calif., that the trade would save up to \$60 million in land acquisition costs.

Already Logged

He said the Purchase Unit already was open to private logging under Forest Service management. To trade it for private lands, Anderson said, would take it away from those now dependent on it for timber.

Anderson contended the land already was providing a "full contingent of jobs," and no jobs would be created by putting it into private ownership. He also opposed the proposal because it would mean loss of the last federally owned redwood stand available for research.

Anderson is expected to lead a floor fight to have the bill amended. Another member of the Interior Committee, Sen. Mark O. Hatfield, R-Ore., was expected to join him.