

40 Stevenson Ave.  
Berkeley, California 94708  
May 14, 1969

Dr. Eliot Porter  
Route 4, Box 33  
Santa Fe, N.M.

Dear Eliot:

I wish I could thank you properly for your part in the late, lamented campaign. We lost, but it was through no lack of dedication on your part or others of the ABC Committee. The vote was a blow but the mail has been inspiring. We'll be in good shape, I think, when all the errors get corrected and a new program is set forth.

We all know we need a new organization to take on what the new Sierra Club leaders are not prepared to undertake. It would be great to have you as a charter member. I'm not ready yet to recommend the shape and scope of the new group, though we do have some important friends who have agreed to lend their names to our effort. Among them are Paul Ehrlich, Justice Douglas, George Wald, and Joseph Wood Krutch. My farewell speech suggests a direction for the group and I wish you would think hard and speak up. Right away we will need funding. I have been talking with two foundations and see some firm help in due course, but we must not await perfection. It is important to know what you can think and do now.

The naming of a new organization is critically important. Use of the name--and hopes--of John Muir (from Scotland, Wisconsin, the Gulf, Sierra, and Alaska, with a universal genius too) would probably be appropriate. Bearing all this in mind, perhaps you will go along with this interim name for ideas, services, and financial contributions to help:

*Muir League*

~~"Earth National Park" Association~~

NONDEDUCTIBLE 40 Stevenson Ave. Berkeley, Calif. 94708  
(Dr. Daniel B. Luten will serve as treasurer)

DEDUCTIBLE The John Muir Institute  
(same address, contributions will be  
forwarded to Max Linn, President, in Albuquerque)

(The John Muir Institute was founded to "...perform research on the preservation, restoration, enhancement, and rational uses of our environment.")

We have a group of dedicated Sierra Club volunteers who will record and acknowledge your help, and we'll keep you in touch with the progress we make for the ecosphere (the only place we know that feels like home.)

Meanwhile, I would urge you to stay with the Sierra Club and with the ABC Committee. There is a great deal to be gained by recouping our losses next year, and it will take a lot of hard work. CMC has indicated that it will stay in existence, and they will be working very hard to unseat Martin Litton, Pat Goldsworthy, and Eliot Porter next year. The Sierra Club needs them and more men of their caliber.

Once again, my deepest thanks for your support and your hard work.

Sincerely,

*David*

David Brower  
(consultant in carrying on  
where we left off.)

P.S. And thank you very much for the prints; they will go a long way toward pulling us out of the hole.