

feedback

Letters to the editor may be slightly edited to fit space requirements.

To the Editor:

I just received and read my copy of Pacific Park Science, Spring 1981 (?!?!). I'm not writing to complain about the delayed mailing/delivery of the issue, that could have been the result of several factors; as a matter of fact, I am very appreciative of being on your mailing list and I enjoy reading the publication, anytime.

Two things have aroused my curiosity, however. One is the location of Sunset Crater as being in New Mexico: "From the Editor" and "Incident at Mount St. Helens?" I thought perhaps the Sunset Crater National Monument in Arizona where we camped in 1978 may have a namesake in New Mexico but the statement "in the shadow of the San Francisco Peaks" assured me they were one and the same. Now, I know the only thing constant in nature is change and I accept the continental drift theory but 1978-1981 is a little rapid for Sunset Crater *and* the San Francisco Peaks to shift from Arizona to New Mexico, don't you agree? My other question regards reference to the St. Croix (River) as a "small stream" ("Riparian Resources and Endangered Ecosystems"). Having lived most of my 52 years almost within "spittin" distance of the St. Croix River and knowing it to some extent from near its origin to its junction with the Mississippi where the St. Croix is the larger of the two rivers, I wonder what Mr. Johnson means by his designation. If the St. Croix River is a "small stream" he would probably also refer to Lake Superior as a "pond."

These may be moot points but they did arouse my curiosity. Sincerely,
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The Editor Replies: *The reason Spring was a little late this year is the government-wide moratorium placed on all publications at the precise moment last May when the Spring issue was camera-ready. The bulletin languished 16 weeks before permission to print came through. I admit that NM as an abbreviation for National Monument can be confusing – especially when the printer precedes it with a comma that the near-sighted editor overlooked. You will find it again in the page 3 story **sans** comma. As for your final question: Perhaps Roy Johnson will make his own case for characterizing the St. Croix as a "small stream." As a last resort, he might fall back on the counter-question of the researcher who, when asked "How's your wife?" replied "Compared to what?"*