



News Release

The Kern River Valley Historical Society is pleased to announce the publication of its most recent book, *“The Golden Trout Wilderness: The Forty Year Struggle to Preserve the Ancient Territory of the California Golden Trout.”*

The authors spent three years discovering, assembling and archiving over 6,000 documents associated with Golden Trout Wilderness history found in the archives of the Ardis Walker House in Kernville, California. Mr. Walker is considered the spiritual leader in the fight to preserve the Kern Plateau and the Golden Trout.

It is this storehouse of letters, resolutions, studies, statements, news and magazine items, and other written communications that form the foundation upon which the authors built this most fascinating narrative. The story opens in 1932 when Ardis Walker returned to the Kern River Valley after working for Bell Laboratories in New York City. It closes on February 24, 1978 when President Jimmy Carter signed the Endangered American Wilderness Act creating, among other wildernesses, The Golden Trout Wilderness.

In addition to eight full color pages of images relating to the Wilderness, the book contains two DVDs. One is an archive of 318 original documents used in the construction of the book. The other DVD is a digital copy of the 25 minute 16mm film (entitled, *Golden Remnant*) that was produced by the Kern Plateau Association in 1975 to highlight the logging problems on the Kern Plateau.

“I found the authors’ work to be well balanced, logical in presentation, most interesting, educational, and overall, well done!” - Dave Freeland, retired District Ranger, Sequoia National Forest.

“After the unbelievable task of sorting through many of Ardis Walker’s files, the authors have created the chronological story of his years of undying effort to preserve a wilderness area on the Kern Plateau that personifies the word persevere.” - Dave Heffner, Historian & Original Trustee of the Ardis and Gayle Walker Trust.

The book may be purchased from the Kern River Valley Historical Society by sending \$23.00 (includes tax and mailing) to:

Kern River Valley Historical Society
P.O. Box 651
Kernville, CA 93238