



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

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1903-07-07

## Letter from Alden Sampson to John Muir, 1903 Jul 7.

Alden Sampson

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ALDEN SAMPSON,  
GAME PRESERVE EXPERT,  
BIOLOGICAL SURVEY,  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

Visalia,

7 July, 1903

Dear Mr. Merriam:

I am sending you a copy  
of my report on Game Refuges, revised.  
I want you to see what I have said  
about the bears, p. 19. I thought of you  
when I wrote it, and many times  
before and since. When I have seen  
the long pistillate flowers of the pines,  
little long, tiny, squinted, bellies, mother  
of pines like, I have thought of you.  
And now as I am entering the  
Sierras, more than ever I wish that  
you were there. All of your wisdom  
of the woods I crave as my own.  
My interest in the people of the  
forest, the deer and squirrels and  
bears, ever increases. My first  
act when I have the power, shall  
be to keep the hunters away from  
the two or three remaining grizzlies. If  
they create this summer, I will save them.



I have finished my reconnaissance  
south of Tehaehoe; should I give so  
long a time to all of the Reservoirs,  
my time would take five years, but  
the Southern California hills are of  
enormous interest, and as a matter  
of fact I could not get about in the  
Sierras before this time of the year.

As it is I doubt if I shall have  
time to visit the high Sierras. I  
much desire to see them when  
you are there, their hills have  
their charm. I shall have a look  
at the Half Dome on which I  
put the ropes, which had fallen  
down, in 1880. I send you a  
picture, as exact a reproduction  
as one could wish of how that  
looked. (This <sup>is the general view of</sup> happens. I am here in  
Switzerland). With all good wishes  
for your happiness & safe return. I am  
Very sincerely yours  
Allen Lawson