

THE MOUNTAIN WEST'S

High Country News

The Outdoor and
Environmental Weekly

-Camping -Fishing -Hunting -Skiing -Snowmobiling -Boating -Historic Sites -Rock Hunting -Hiking -Swimming-

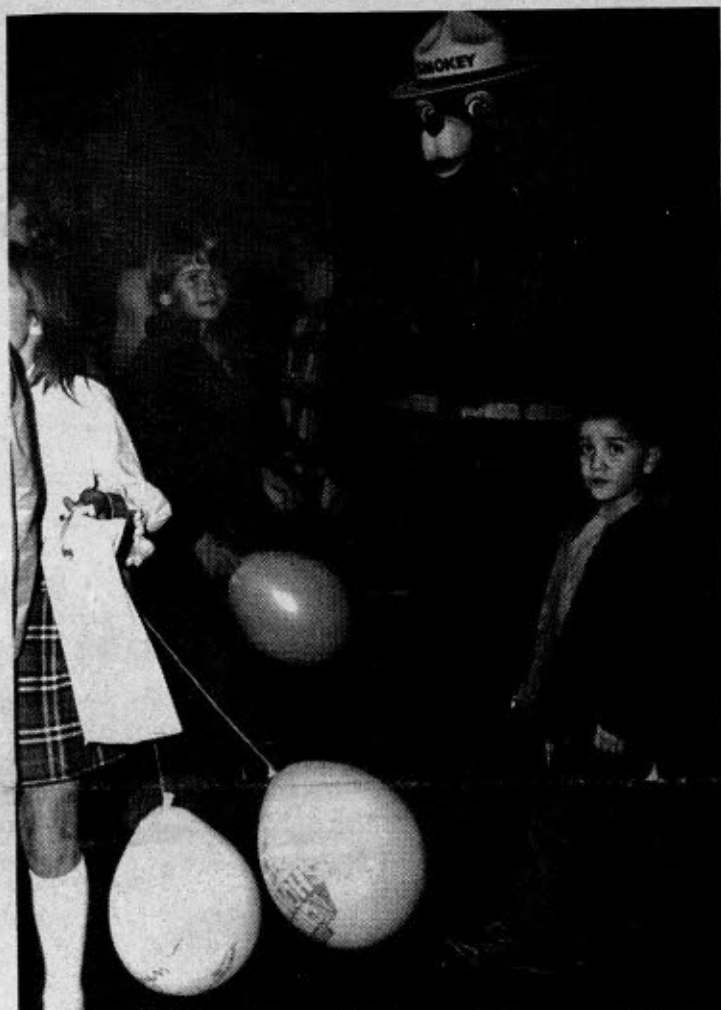
Vol. 2, No. 5

Lander, Wyoming 82520

Friday, January 30, 1970

Bills Introduced...

Hells Canyon Still Threatened



My! Smokey Bear certainly has his admirers at Wyoming's Winter Fair.

Wyoming Has Winter Fair

The Wyoming State Winter Fair opened at Lander Thursday with prospects of being bigger and better. Featured at the fair will be such events as cutter team racing, snowmobile races, the possibility of cross country air races to Nevada, square dancing and a feeder-calf show. The weather is cooperating for all.

Booths and displays at the field house have products ranging from snowmobiles and camper trailers to the latest western wear. Conservation displays manned by the Wyoming Game and Fish Department, the U. S. Forest Service, and the Bureau of Land Management greet the visitor as they enter the lobby.

Notice anything new? Our masthead carries the new name of our newspaper. High Country News reflects a broadened view of the outdoor activities we cover and a growing concern for our environment.

No, we haven't forgotten or dismissed the many thousands of recreationists and vacationers who go afield in their campers and tents. There will still be news of places to visit, things to do, interesting things to see, and adventurous activities in the Rocky Mountain West.

We like to think we have an outdoor news coverage matched by no other newspaper. And we carry a digest of outdoor and environmental news second to none.

We hope you will continue to like our product and will spread the news.

The Editor

Legislation has been introduced in both the House and Senate to create a national park, national river, and wilderness area complex along the Middle Snake River between Idaho and Oregon. This is the area known as Hells Canyon.

The canyon has been eyed for many years as a likely site for one or more hydroelectric power dams. Requests for licenses for power sites are now being considered by the Federal Power Commission.

Recently, FPC Trial Examiner William Levy denied a motion by the power companies in formal hearings on the sites. That motion would strike from the record testimony that the Mid-

dle Snake Should be considered as a possible national park, and should not be impounded.

Hearings on the proposal for a license to build the dams will resume March 17. The power companies want a combination of two dams at either the High Mountain Sheep and China Gardens sites, or a combination of two dams at Pleasant Valley and Low Mountain Sheep.

Senator Bob Packwood of Oregon introduced the Senate bill and Rep. John Saylor of Penn. introduced the House bill. The practical effect of the bills would be to bar dam construction anywhere in the long stretch through the wild canyon.

Concurrently, Idaho's two senators, Len B. Jordan and Frank Church, have asked for hearings, Feb. 10 on their bill to provide a 10-year moratorium on any moves to develop the river. During the moratorium, studies would be conducted to determine the highest and best use of the 102-mile stretch of river.

The Nixon administration has endorsed the idea of a moratorium. Secretary of the Interior Walter Hickel recently visited in Idaho and said he gave full support to the bill.

Senator Packwood said, "My legislation focuses on one of the great challenges of our time - retaining the natural beauty of a spectacular gorge and an equally spectacular river basin."

Camper of the Week...



HCN Photo

This camper of the week looks like he is stalled behind a big snowdrift. But it was only the day of the races at snowmobile downs.

2-High Country News
Friday, January 30, 1970

ENVIRONMENTAL EAVESDROPPER

Major airlines operating in the United States have agreed to meet the three-year deadline proposed by the Nixon administration for eliminating most of the smoke pollution from jet aircraft. The airlines will start installing 50 newly designed fuel burners a month within 90 days.

Montana's Governor Forrest Anderson has proposed that the nation's governors should push for regional or interstate standards to combat pollution. The governor said the most urgent environmental issue in his state was air pollution, followed by water pollution, pesticide control, solid waste disposal, reclamation of strip-mined lands, and mismanagement of forests and rangelands.

Dr. Elvis J. Stahr, president of the Audubon Society, is not exactly a starry-eyed conservationist. He is a lawyer, educator, and former Secretary of the Army in the Kennedy administration. But he is also a concerned environmentalist. He said, "I've lived a little over 50 years and it is only recently that I began to wake up to what man is doing to his environment. Then, too, I have three children and they add an extra incentive to try to do what I can to see there is a world fit for them and their children to live in."

President Nixon named three outstanding men to the newly created Council on Environmental Quality. Undersecretary of the Interior Russell Train was chosen to serve as chairman. The two other members are Robert Cahn, Pulitzer Prize winning reporter on resources and the environment for the Christian Science Monitor, and Gordon J. F. McDonald, vice chancellor at the University of California at Santa Barbara for research and graduate affairs.

Salmon River Featured on TV

The "River of No Return," the great Salmon River of Idaho, will be featured in a one-hour, coast-to-coast television show. CBS TV will air the program on Feb. 10.

The color special will explore the beauty of the Salmon and review the present struggle to protect it under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. The river flows westward through parts of four national forests that make

up the 1.2 million acre Idaho Primitive Area.

The river is one of the wildest on the North American continent. It always has been. Even Lewis and Clark avoided the deep canyon through which the river tumbles for almost 180 miles.

Viewers will see the foaming white waters, the wild animals of a wilderness area, and the journeying of the chinook salmon to the headwaters of the magnificent stream.

HIGH COUNTRY NEWS

Published every Friday at
160 South Fourth Street
Lander, Wyoming 82520

Entered as second class matter, August
26, 1969 at the Post Office in Lander, Wyoming
under the act of March 3, 1879.

Tom Bell - Acting Editor

Ronald A. Johnston - Manager

Mary Margaret Davis - Office Manager

Joann Ostermiller, Mary Beth Lee

Editorial Assistants

Subscription rate: \$5.00 Yearly

Single Copy Price 10c

Copyrighted, 1969, High Country News
by Camping News Weekly, Inc.



HCN Photo

Gone snowmobilin', will be back in an hour or two. In fact, everybody had gone.

There was only the gently falling snow.

Ski Area Is Good Prospect

A proposed ski area on the Medicine Bow Forest near Elk Mountain in southern Wyoming may yet become reality. Sen. Gale McGee recently expressed hope that the U. S. Forest Service and the State of Wyoming could reach agreement on a land exchange. Such exchange could provide the land needed for private investment.

The proposed Kennaday Peak Ski Area would be a multimillion dollar investment. It has been held up because the base facility site would have to be located on national forest lands. The Forest Service can only give short term leases.

THE

WILD

by Verne Huser

WORLD

"THE SANTA BARBARA DECLARATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL RIGHTS"

Awareness of the deterioration of our environment is growing. Each day new disasters call man's attention to the total environment.

Nearly a thousand citizens of Utah, tired of breathing sulphuric acid, spoke their minds at a recent air quality hearing in Salt Lake City. Legal action by the citizens of Missoula, Montana, has been taken against the pulp mills there.

The State of New Jersey has forced seven major airlines to clean up their jet pollution emission.

And the people of Santa Barbara, Calif., have issued a Declaration of Environmental Right. Just a year ago, on Jan. 28, 1969, the first of several dozen major oil leaks occurred in the Santa Barbara Channel to spoil the once lovely beaches to kill thousands of birds and to do irreparable damage to the marine life off Southern California for hundreds of miles. The people of Santa Barbara have been fighting for a year trying to get oil out; in fact, that's the name of one of their major organizations: GOO (Get Oil Out).

On Jan. 28, 1970, the people of Santa Barbara, with support from throughout the nation, plan to commemorate the political and ecological catastrophe. As part of the commemoration, the Jan. 28 Committee will issue "The Santa Barbara Declaration of Environmental Right," written by UCSB history professor Roderick Nash, author of Wilderness and the American Mind. Part of that declaration reads as follows:

"All men have the right to an environment capable of sustaining life and promoting happiness. If the accumulated actions of the

past become destructive of this right, men now living have the further right to repudiate the past for the benefit of the future. And it is manifest that centuries of careless neglect of the environment have brought mankind to a final crossroads. The quality of our lives is eroded and our very existence threatened by our abuse of the natural world..."

The last paragraph of the Declaration concludes "We therefore, resolve to act. We propose a revolution in conduct toward an environment which is rising in revolt against us. Granted that ideas and institutions long established are not easily changed; yet today is the first day of the rest of our life on this planet. We will begin anew."

Backed by no less than 17 local organizations ranging from the American Association of University Women to the Ecological Counter-Offensive, from the Lawyers Committee on Environment to the Tuberculosis and Health Association, the Jan. 28 Committee has planned a full day's program from 8:00 a.m. to well into the night that includes California's Gov. Ronald Reagan, national and state senators and representatives, the heads of several major national conservation organizations, former Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall, and many others.

Anyone interested in supporting this group's action and or the Declaration of Environmental Rights may write to Jan. 28 Committee, P.O. Box 30213, Santa Barbara, Calif., 93105. Ask for a copy of the Declaration, and ask what you can do to help. (I have a copy of the Declaration I'd be happy to share with anyone interested in reading it.)

MRS. NIM ROD'S COOK BOOK

by Jessie French

VENISON-NOODLE SKILLET

1 1/2 lb. ground venison
1/4 c. shortening
1 onion, diced
1 green pepper, diced
3 stalks celery, diced
1 (1 lb.) can red kidney beans
2 c. broad noodles, uncooked
4 c. tomatoes
4 oz. canned mushrooms
1 tsp. seasoned salt
1 tsp. chili powder
1 tsp. salt
Pepper to taste.

In a large skillet brown meat in shortening; saute onion, green pepper, and celery until transparent.

Add remaining ingredients; mix well. Cover tightly; bring to a boil. Reduce heat; simmer 20 minutes.

Serves 8 people.

The leftovers improve when reheated.

HIGH COUNTRY

By Tom Bell

The Great Divide Basin in south central Wyoming is a geographic oddity. It is a high, dry desert. What little precipitation there is goes nowhere. It is just what the name implies, a basin.

It is also called the Red Desert and is famous for herds of antelope. There may also be around 800 head of wild horses, numerous coyotes and bobcats, more than a few golden eagles, and possibly too many sheep.

The Great Divide Basin has been in the news lately because of the proposed Continental Divide Trail. The Divide splits at the Oregon Buttes on the north side of the Basin and goes around the area. It comes together again at Bridger's Pass south of Rawlins.

There are those detractors of the desert who pooh-pooh any idea of a foot trail across or around the Great Divide Basin. They have even been heard to ask, "Who in H--- would want to walk the desert?"

In my mind, and in those of many others, the desert can be as intriguing, as satisfying, and as soul-filling as many mountain areas. Yes, it is different. The qualities of a desert are obviously not the same as those of mountains. But this is exactly what some people want.

The northern part of the Great Divide Basin is almost entirely public land. The southern half falls within the so-called checker-board lands - half public and the other half private, mostly Union Pacific owned. This means there are several million acres of public lands on which people can roam to their heart's content.

This is a land of great diversity. There are differences of elevation, as well as latitude, from north to south. This and the distribution of water forces the migration of thousands of antelope. They can be found scattered along the northwest reaches of the Basin and into the Wind River Mountains in summer. But in winter, they must move a hundred miles or more to lower elevations and less snow.

Because of the vast area and once good grazing, sheep have grazed the desert for almost a hundred years. And because it is a low-rainfall, fragile desert area, it was easily over-grazed. Great bands of sheep came out of Utah, Colorado, and southern Wyoming, flooded across the desert and invaded the sanctuary of the bighorn sheep in the very tops of the Wind River Mountains. Around the turn of the century, it was estimated that there were as many as 130,000 sheep on the south end of the Bridger Forest alone.

Something had to give and it was the fragile, desert rangelands. The report of the Secretary of the Interior for 1931 said, "The Red Desert in southern Wyoming, sitting astride the Continental Divide, is as big as the State of Massachusetts. It used to be covered with common sage, bud brush, bud sage, salt sage, winter fat, crab scale, salt grass, and wheat grass. The desert is surrounded by a rim of mountains that rise to much higher elevations than it does. The desert and the mountains have worked together, each supplementing the other, to create one of the most favorable situations for sheep raising that has existed in the United States. The flocks grazed in the mountains through the summer and came out onto the desert, where dry weather had cured the grasses and where browse was abundant, for the winter. As many as a million sheep have wintered here."

"But this was open range. The time was when one sheepman took a certain area for himself and another some adjacent area. There was plenty for all, and so no crowding and no quarreling. But the numbers of the flocks increased until the Red Desert filled to overflowing. It faces the menace of the overgrazing, of the destruction of its native values. Without action to save it the end is inevitable."

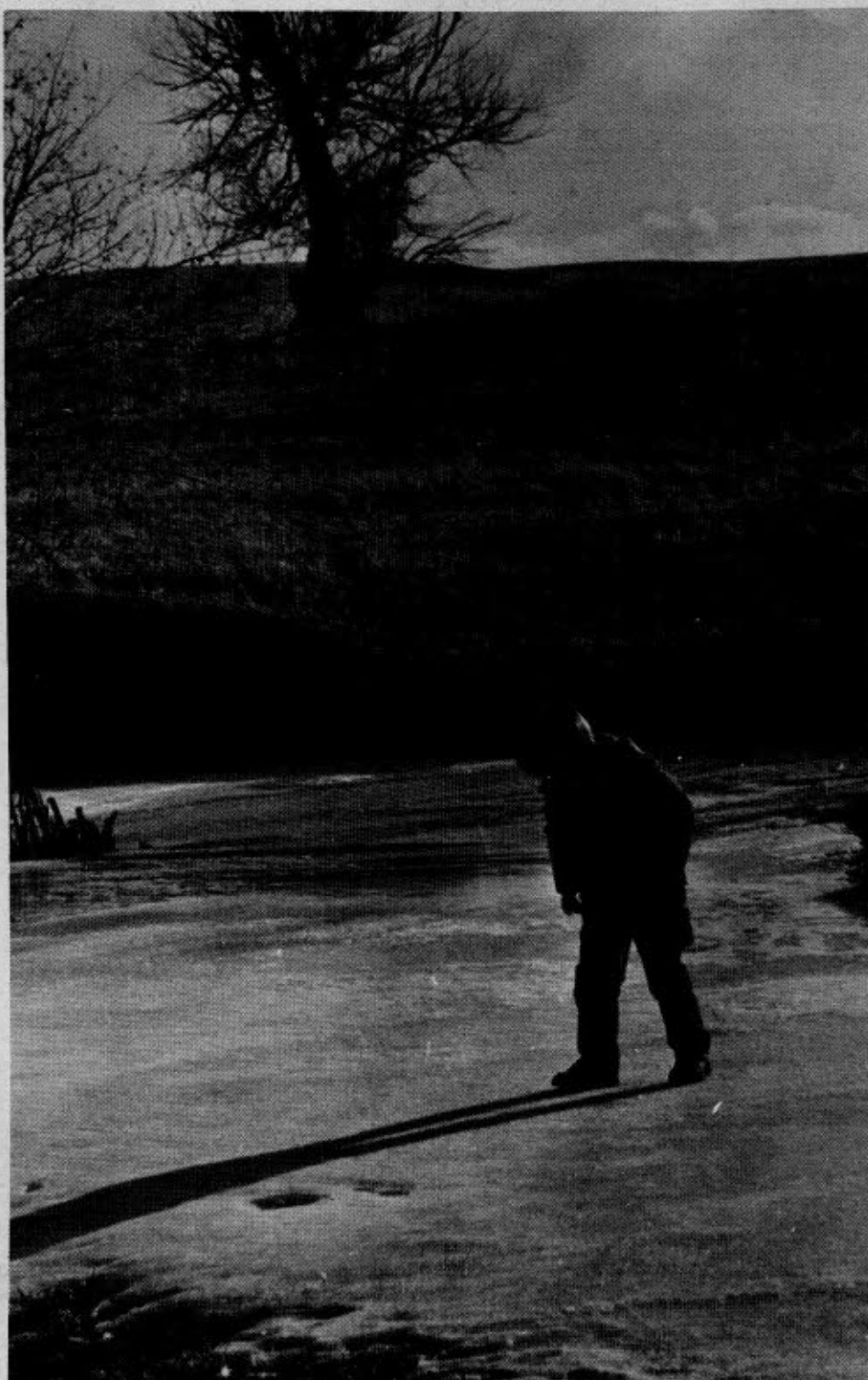
There are far fewer sheep today but the desert is still in trouble. Maybe the Continental Divide Trail would call attention to the problems ignored for so long.

Mt. Rushmore Gains

Mount Rushmore Supt. Wallace McCaw today announced that visitors to Mount Rushmore in 1969 increased 2 percent over 1968, totaling 1.76 million people.

In making the announcement, McCaw also listed the new hours for visiting the Shrine of Democracy in South Dakota. He said the

visitor's center is open daily from 8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. through Feb. 14 when they will be open until 5 p.m. Hours will increase gradually until the 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. summer schedule is in effect. Current hours for the concession building are from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.



HCN Photo

The never ceasing wonder—of winter's long shadows.

Montana State Launches Campaign

Students and faculty at Montana State University, Bozeman, are initiating what they hope will grow into a state-wide campaign for environmental awareness.

They set as their goal, "To increase public awareness of the threats to the environment, and initiate positive action towards environmental preservation and improve-

ment."

Gordon Whirry, a senior from West Glacier, said April 22 has been declared nationally as "Earth Day." He said the April 22nd date was good to get attention but that if it was going to be effective, "Earth Day" has to last for years.

Dr. Roy Huffman, vice president in charge of research at MSU, has organized a series of seminars on environmental problems. These are to be offered weekly from Feb. 4 through April 15. The seminars will be coordinated by Dr. Charles Bradley and Dr. John Wright of the University's Environmental Studies Center.

To follow up "Earth Day" activities, Whirry foresees MSU acting as coordinator and information center for local and state efforts.

Museum of Rockies Garners Praise

The Museum of the Rockies at Bozeman, Montana, drew praise from Kyran McGrath, Director of the American Association of Museums, recently. The praise came at a meeting announcing the election of an architectural firm to design a new building to house the museum.

McGrath said the museum would prevent valuable artifacts from leaving the Northern Rockies for distant mu-

seums in big cities. He said artistic, scientific, and historical artifacts were never appreciated as much when they were moved from their origin.

He said the support for the museum in Bozeman was an example of the renaissance of museums in the United States. He also said that 570,000 people visited museums last year and estimates show possible attendance to reach two million by 1972 or 1973.

YOUR FULL SERVICE 24 hr. Stop

Fireworks - Stereo Tapes

All Credit Cards Welcome - All Major Brands of Oil

Exclusive

HUSKY Gas, Oil and Greases

The Fastest Gas in the West

LANDER TRAVEL CENTER

Wyoming

So. of Lander on Hwy 287

Your Goodyear Dealer

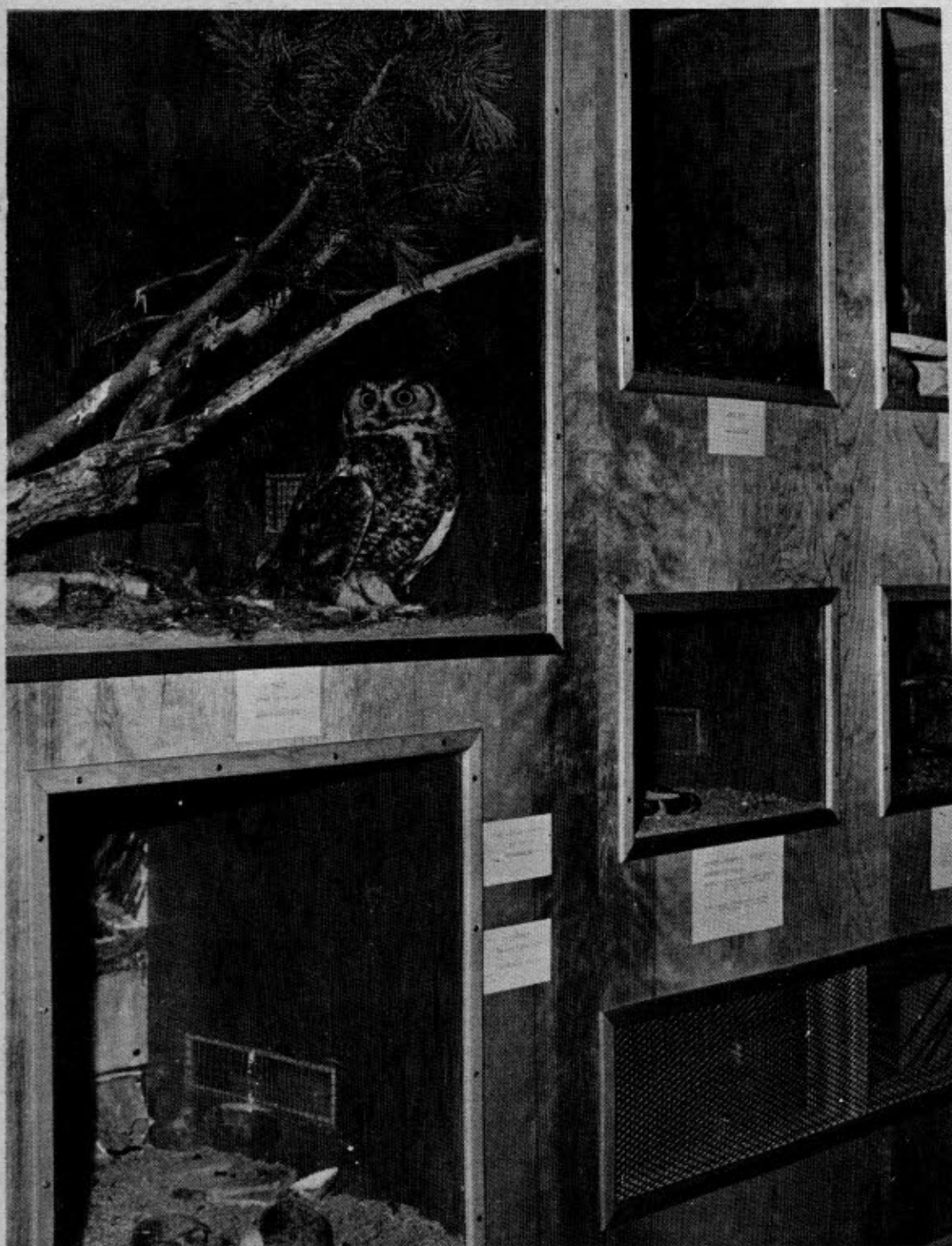
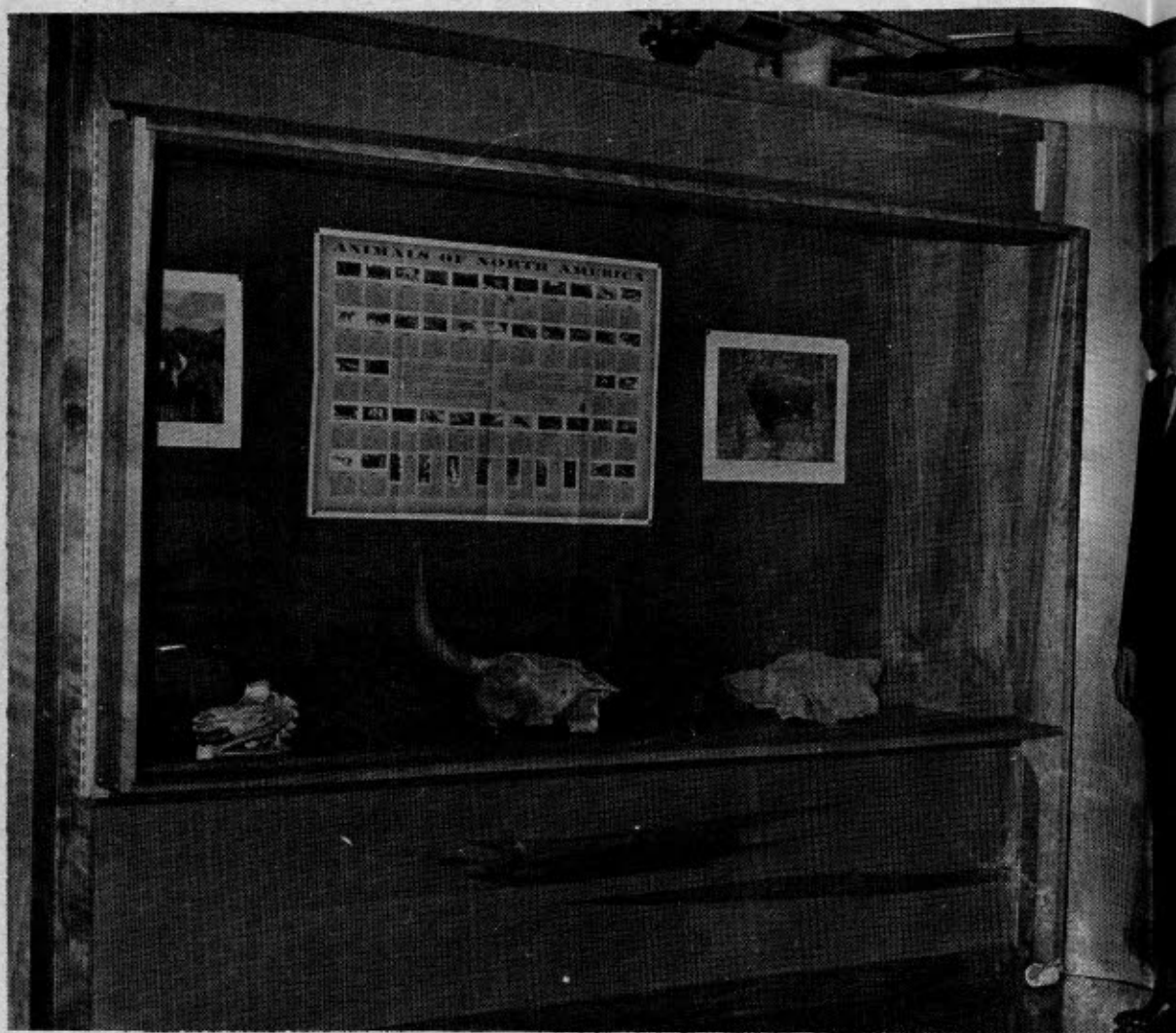


4—High Country News
Friday, January 30, 1970

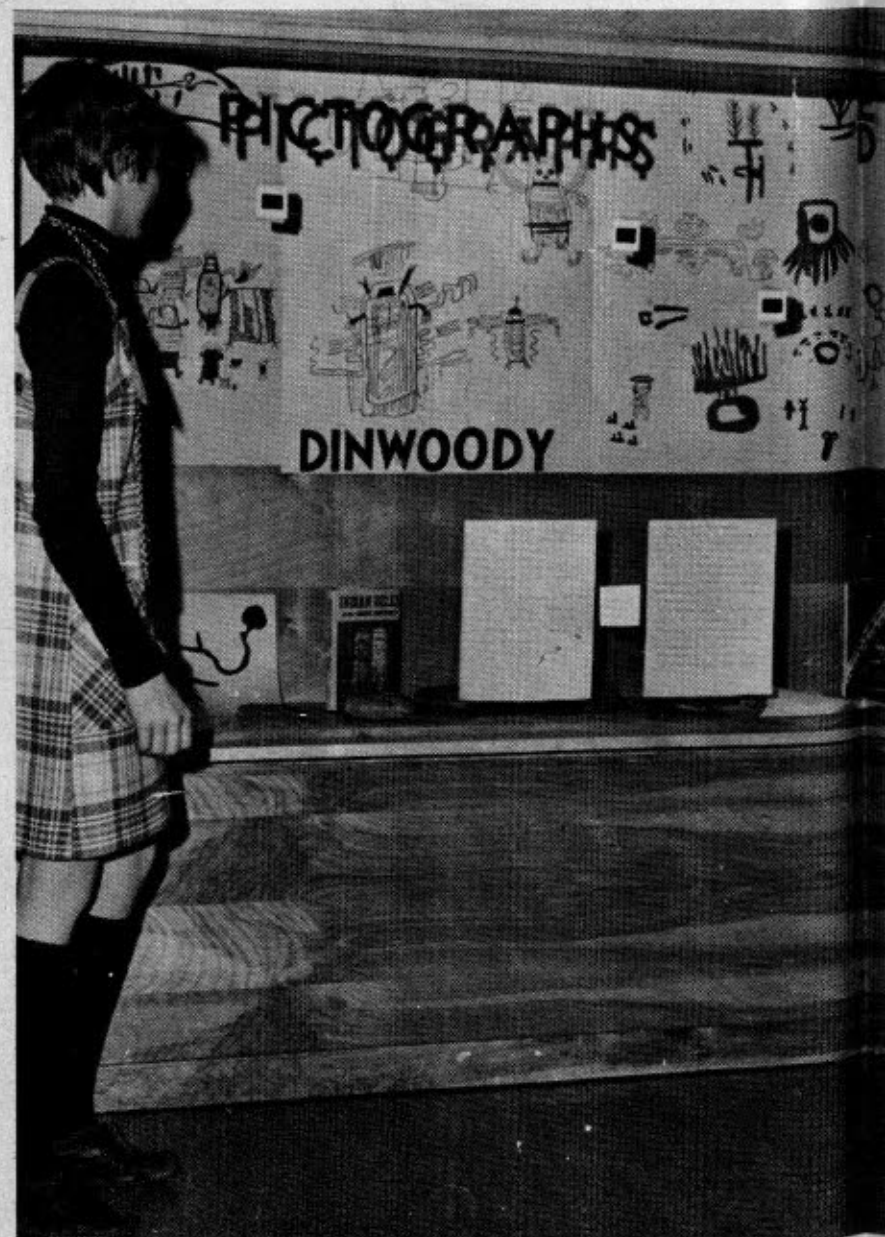
The Conservation Center at Lander, Wyoming, presents an ecological approach to conservation education. It is one of several in the western states now concentrating on innovative educational projects under Title III of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. American Fork, Utah, has Utah County Environmental Education; Missoula, Montana, has the Conservation and Wildlife Outdoor Program with three outdoor laboratories, and Caldwell, Idaho, has done a project entitled, Cataloguing Idaho's Resources.

Robert J. Legoski, Director of the Lander Center, rides herd over enthusiastic youngsters who sign up to feed the animals and enjoy the feel and touch of them. Display cases depict ancient man and the animals which shared his environment.

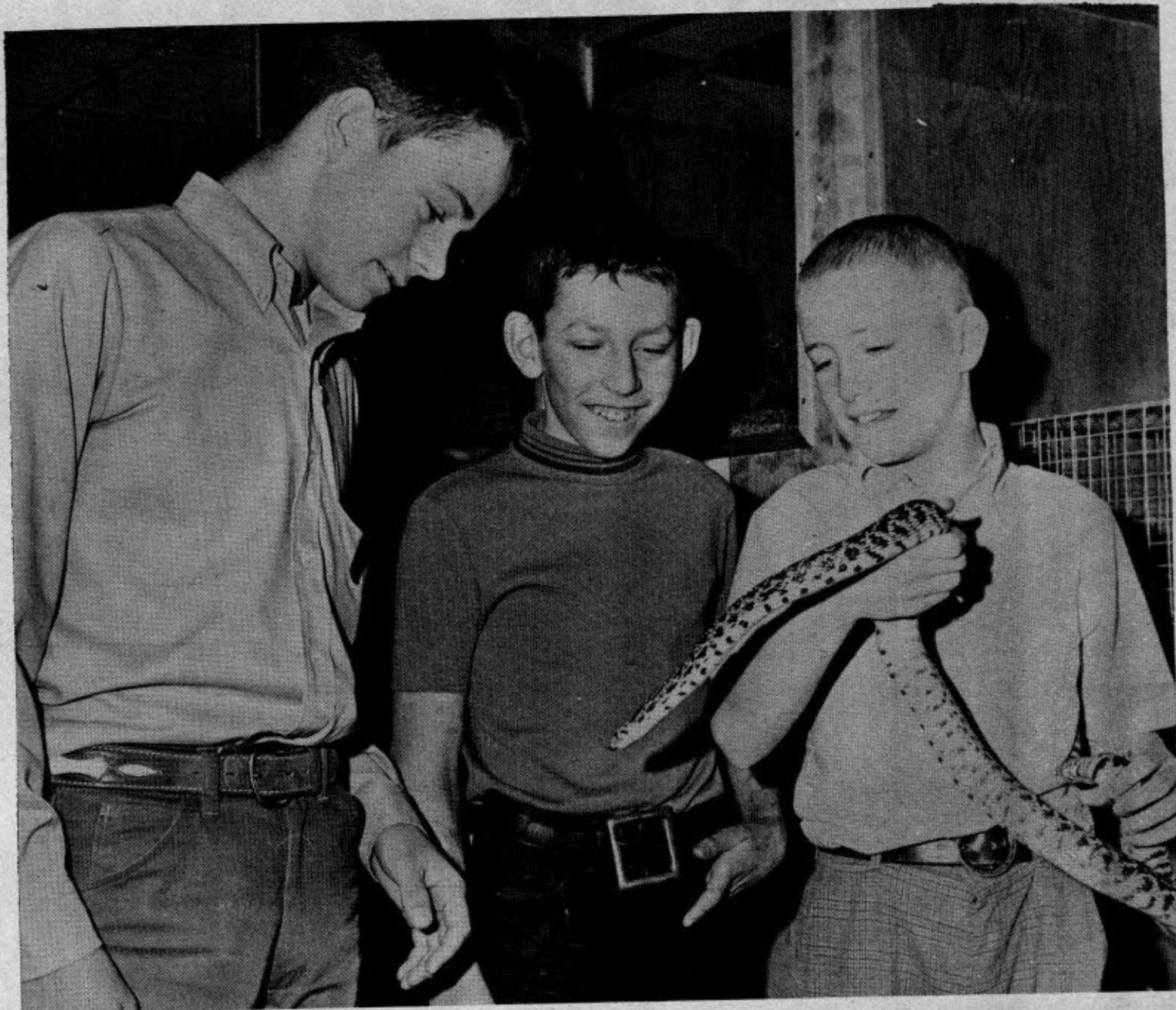
Summer programs take students and adults into the surrounding area to teach ecology and conservation in outdoor laboratories.



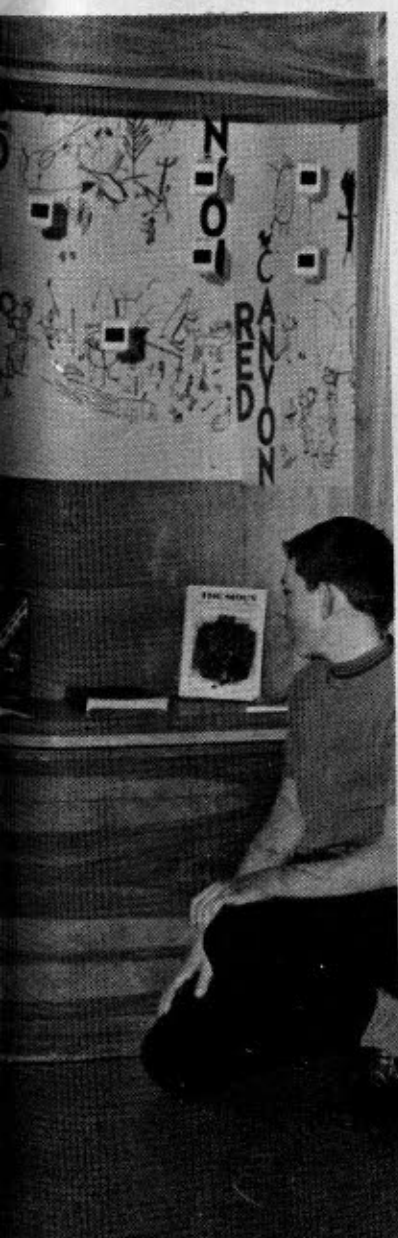
Conservation Center for Creativity



Photos by Tom Bell



ve Learning



6—High Country News
Friday, January 30, 1970

USE CLASSIFIED ADS TO BUY, SELL, SWAP RENT OR HIRE

Use High Country News Classified Ads

Special Off-Season Rates—only .10c per word.

CAMPERS, TRAILERS

Build Your Camper. Precut Kits. Blueprints. Supplies. Literature 25¢. Comstock Trailers, Dept. 663 Parsons Kansas 67357

Trailer, Pickup Camper or cover. Do it yourself and save! Complete plans \$3.95 each. Cover plans \$2.00. Conversion plans - econo-line type van \$2.95; passenger bus or delivery van \$2.95 satisfaction guaranteed. Equipment Catalog \$1.00 (refundable). Details 10¢. Viking Camper Supply, 99-D Glenwood, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55403.

FREE Catalog! Camping, boating, sailing supplies; Gadgets, Hardware and Gifts. Laacke and Joys, 1427 N. Water St., Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202

PICKUP CAMPER JACKS - Factory direct savings. All types including permanent, camper mounted type. Free brochure. Northwest Camper Supply, Conklin Park - Spirit Lake, Idaho. Phone 1-208-628-2971.

CAMPERS A new log book and outing guide is offered by Vagabond Family Publishers, PO Box 112, Thiensville, Wis.; \$1.98 plus 25¢ postage and handling.

CAMPERS WANTED: Many useful tips and hints are given in this handy booklet you shouldn't be without. \$1. CoKeMa Dept. C6N, Box 20521, Billings, Mont. 59102

TENTS - High quality, lightweight for the climber, backpacker and discriminating outdoorsman. Write to: Bishop's Ultimate Outdoor Equipment, 6211 Wedgewood Road, Bethesda, Maryland 20034

WINCHES FOR: Jeeps, boats, pickups, or hoisting. 12 volt, PTO. Write for free information. Deer Tug Winches, P. O. Box 11192, Fort Worth, Texas 76110.

SPORTING GOODS

Lightweight equipment for backpacking, mountaineering, camping, canoeing. Free

catalog. Moor & Mountain, Dept. 4, 14 Main St., Concord, Massachusetts 01742

Snowmobiles. - Factory direct prices. Save 20%. Free inspection. Money back guarantee. Easy terms. Free Catalog. Luger, Dept. SH-69, 1300 East Cliff Rd. Burnsville, Minnesota 55378

REAL ESTATE

HOMESTEAD LANDS now available. 160 - 640 acres. Write: Land Information, P. O. Box 148, Postal Station A, Vancouver, British Columbia. Enclose \$1.00 for bulletin & map index.

TREASURE HUNTING

FOUR ANTIQUE MAPS selected for historic interest-outstanding decorative qualities. Reproductions -- true museum quality, no detail spared. Set--\$5.00; Four Seasons, 2211 West North Loop -- 148 CN, Austin, Texas 78756.

PROSPECTORS -- TREASURE HUNTERS! Metal Detector \$3.00 sold world wide on money back guarantee. Will locate metal many feet underground. Weight 8 ounces. Users have traced underground veins, located covered mine shafts, located treasure articles, old Spanish graves, etc. Complete instructions. Send cash, money order or check -- we pay postage or c.o.d. Plastino Mfg. Company, 6907 W. 12th, Denver 15, Colorado.

MISCELLANEOUS

DECOYS -- Duck & Goose, Sensationally new, lowest cost, make your own start business, big profits. Full particulars. E-Z-in & Out, Box 65765, Los Angeles, Calif. 90065.

THE ART OF CHIPPING ARROWHEADS. Descriptive book Chief Tellumhow, Box 51, Chiloquin, Oregon 97624.

BEAUTIFUL NATURAL COLOR prints of Charles M. Russell's Masterpieces, suitable for framing, 60¢ each. Over 100 subjects. Send 10¢ for list. Gudmundson, 815 E. Bannock, Boise, Idaho 83702.

ARIZONA COLOR SLIDES Ghost towns, mines, historic areas. List choice. 4 slides --\$1.50, 8 slides --\$2.50. Trans Vue Labs. 1219 West Elm St., Phoenix, Arizona 85013.

ARROWHEAD MAKING: Complete illustrated instructions on ancient methods. Includes 1 hand chipped arrowhead, \$1.00 Canyonada, Route 2, Box 12, Mountainair, New Mexico 87036

Write: U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Forest Service, Intermountain Region, Ogden, Utah 84403 and ask for maps of the Bridger Wilderness, Units One through Five.

CAMPER'S MARKET
Camping News Weekly
Classified Ads

Reprints of any photos carrying the **CAMPING NEWS WEEKLY** credit line are available from the **CAMPING NEWS WEEKLY** office, 160 So. 4th St., Lander, Wyoming, 82520. The charge is \$2.00 for an 8 x 10 glossy print.

TAKE TO THE HIGH COUNTRY IN A HI-COUNTRY CAMPER OR CAMPING TRAILER



Hi-Country Model 8

If you can do with less storage area than the Hi-Country Model 10 offers, this model 8 will do you nicely. Kitchen, bunks and dinette, etc., are practically identical.

Hi-Country Model 10

We don't care how spoiled you are, or how much stuff you tote along when you go camping, this Hi-Country camper will suit your fancy. Plenty of wardrobe compartments plus loads of storage makes this the camper's dream.

16½ Ft. Camping Trailer

A 16.8 ft. Hi-Country vacation trailer, with its unique insulation will afford you maximum comfort for complete camping enjoyment. The 16.8 ft. Hi-Country camping trailer will pamper the wife with all the well-planned cabinets and closet space. The top-quality appliances harmonize with luxurious interior and are easy to care for.

BUILT IN LANDER, WYOMING

"Home of the One-Shot Antelope Hunt"

HI-COUNTRY
MFG. CO. INC.

BOX A
LANDER, WYOMING

82520

All Hi-Country Pick-up Campers feature double strength roof, fully insulated heavy gauge aluminum with baked-on enamel, outside clearance lights, 12 volt inside light, roof vent, first line windows and doors. All frame work glued and nailed for added strength.

Built To Last -- Sure To Please

Coors Beer Initiates Can Recovery Program

In a move to combat litter and minimize solid waste, Adolph Coors Company recently announced a no-limit plan to pay a dime a pound for scrap aluminum delivered to its distributors in 11 western states.

The cash-for-cans program will begin in Colorado immediately. It will be extended, within a month, to include Arizona, California, Idaho, Kansas, Nevada, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, Utah and Wyoming.

Of the plan, brewery President William K. Coors said, "Aluminum is the best possible answer to litter because it is salvageable. Tin cans have no practical salvage value, but aluminum cans do. Salvaged aluminum containers can be melted down and the aluminum recovered and used over and over again."

"This is, in effect, the recycling of a natural resource ... aluminum. It's perfect for America's fight against solid waste disposal."

The brewery executive stressed that Adolph Coors Company and its distributors "are pledged to a full-scale effort to do everything we can to keep America clean and inviting."

In the 11-state area in which the program will operate, company officials say, there are enough aluminum containers marketed each year to be worth some

\$5-million to civic organizations and individuals who round up aluminum at the 10 cents-per-pound price set by Coors.

The dime-a-pound deal announced by Coors pertains not only to Coors cans but to all aluminum containers as well. All Coors 7- and 12-ounce cans are made of aluminum and the company's tall can is soon to be converted from tin to aluminum.

In Colorado alone, Coors says, aluminum containers marketed in the state each year have a value, at 10 cents per pound, of nearly \$1/2-million.

Through its network of 185 distributors in the western United States, Coors will work cooperatively with civic and service organizations who make aluminum reclamation a club project.

Within the next few weeks, company officials said, Coors will have literature, heavy-duty collection bags and other aids available for civic clubs which plan aluminum salvage campaigns in their communities.

Service clubs which have conducted pilot programs in collecting scrap aluminum have realized an average of \$150 to \$200 per month, Coors officials said.

Twenty-three Coors 12-ounce cans weigh one pound. Thus, under the company's offer, each can of that size

is worth about half a cent.

All Coors distributors will receive aluminum at their warehouses from both organizations and individuals during hours to be determined by the individual distributor. Payment will be immediate.

Distributors, in turn, will forward the reclaimed aluminum to the Coors plant in Golden. Coors will process the aluminum in a mammoth shredder to be installed by March, and then will forward the shredded metal to aluminum companies for recycling.

"That process," Coors says, "can go on forever. This can be a major program for keeping America clean, and also for providing substantial revenue for deserving community projects."

Adolph Coors Company pioneered anti-litter efforts in the West. In 1954, company officials explain, Coors felt compelled to begin development of aluminum cans because the company even then was keenly aware of aluminum recycling possibilities.

Coors began marketing beer in 7-ounce aluminum cans of its own manufacture in 1959, and in the seven years to follow, demonstrated that aluminum salvage was practical when it bought back and recycled 85 million of those cans.

That program was discontinued. (Please turn to page 8)



HCN Photo

Patiently waiting for the summer crew and happier days.

Snowmobiles Both Taxed and Licensed

The president of the Montana Assessors Association, William F. Koch of Billings, says the state's new law providing for registration of snowmobiles does not in any way affect their property taxation.

Koch made the statement to clarify confusion about the 1969 law.

"Snowmobiles are taxable in the same manner and for the same period of time and in the same property class that they have been for many years, said Koch, who is Yellowstone County Assessor and former state controller.

The confusion stems from the fact the act provides for a fiscal-year registration period, from July 1 through June 30, while the property tax is for the calendar year.

A further complication is that license plates for snowmobiles were not available until Jan. 1, 1970.

"Most county assessors and treasurers are assessing and collecting 1970 property taxes on snowmobiles at the time of application for registration," Koch said.

"Snowmobiles will not be

subject to taxation again in July of 1970 as the tax assessed at the time application is made covers the entire calendar year 1970 the same as the tax assessed against an automobile," he added.

Currently, the State Board of Equalization is preparing amendments to the snowmobile statutes to require that both licensing and taxation be from Jan. 1 through Dec. 31, the same as for automobiles.

Koch said snowmobiles are taxable on the first Monday of March as Class 2 property, the same as household goods, furniture, agricultural tools, implements, machinery and boats. This makes snowmobiles taxable at 20 percent of their assessed value.

The license fee for snowmobiles, which is in addition to the property tax, is \$6.50. Of this amount, \$2 goes to the Fish and Game Department, \$2 to the county in which the snowmobile is licensed and \$2.50 to the state registrar of motor vehicles. The 50 cents pays for reflectorized plates.



Reaching Out...

...to the four corners of the West,
HIGH COUNTRY NEWS keeps you in touch
with the outdoors.

One Year - 50 Issues - \$5.00

Send This Coupon to:

High Country News
160 So. 4th Street
Lander, Wyoming 82520

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
TOWN _____
STATE _____ ZIP _____



These ducks can't believe it is January in Wyoming either. While the East suffered through blizzards and record-breaking cold, the West was having near-spring-like weather.

HCN Photo

Yellowstone Park Down From Record

Superintendent J. K. Anderson, Yellowstone National Park, announced today that for the first time since 1963 travel to the park failed to surpass the previous year's mark. However, Anderson said, for the fifth consecutive year visitors to the area have exceeded two million.

During 1969 visitors to the park totaled 2,193,894 which was a 1.6 percent decrease from the previous year.

Anderson said he felt a better method of disseminating information to the visitor concerning camping conditions within the park before they reached the park was a definite factor contributing to the decrease.

In past years, Anderson said the visitor was not aware that all campgrounds in the park were filled until he arrived at the entrance station. Upon learning there were no places within the park to camp, the visitor usually drove through and beyond the park rather than turn around and backtrack to find a campground. However, in 1969 a concerted effort was made by the National Park Service to reach the traveler with the camping information long before he reached the park. To accomplish this goal, a telephone answering system was installed in the park. The camping information was fed into the answering device each afternoon. During the night radio stations in communities surrounding the park would tape the information from the answering device for replay the following day, beginning with the first early-morning newscast. Anderson said he felt this system allowed vi-

sitors to obtain the camping information in sufficient time to find campsites before reaching the park.

Anderson, citing other improvements in information service to the visitor, said several limited-range radio transmitters will be located throughout the park next summer to enable visitors to receive park information through their car radios. The system works by having the transmitter activated when the car passes over a rubber hose stretched across the road. So long as the vehicle is within the range of the transmitter (approximately 1/4 mile radius) the visitor receives information about what he may expect to see in the immediate vicinity.

Other improvements within the park include a bypass road around the Old Faithful area to relieve the traffic congestion, plus completion of 210 new campsites in the vicinity of Bridge Bay.

Though overall travel for the year shows a decrease, snowmobiling activity in the park has shown a tremendous surge in spite of the limited snowfall this winter. During the month of December, 2,151 people entered the park via snowmobile which is an increase of 35 percent over December of last year and the park was not open to snowmobile travel this year until December 20.

Anderson said he would like to once again caution all snowmobilers to check at the nearest Ranger Station before entering the park and obtain a copy of the latest rules and regulations governing snowmobile activity within the park.

'atch Ice Conditions on Flaming Gorge

"Warm weather is creating dangerous ice conditions in those limited areas where ice now exist," warned Flaming Gorge Forest Ranger, Richard O. Benjamin today.

The area hardest hit by the thaw seems to be Antelope Flat. None of the ice in the Antelope area is safe. Wind and warm temperatures have created extremely hazardous conditions.

On the Lucerne side, the ice is melting around the lake shore, again creating a dangerous situation. In Sheep Creek Bay, there are about 5 inches of ice. At the last check, this ice was still safe, but warm weather will soon affect this spot also.

Around Cedar Springs and Dutch John Draw area,

the lake is completely open. In Wyoming, thick ice exists from Squaw Hollow north to Firehole. "Though presently safe, anglers should check conditions carefully," counsels Benjamin. "If this warm weather continues, weak spots will soon develop."

...Coors

(Continued from page 7)

continued in 1966 because Coors felt there were not enough aluminum containers on the market to make possible an extensive aluminum recycling program. Now, Coors says, more companies have turned to aluminum and there is a sufficient supply of aluminum containers in use to make the program practical and workable.

What to do with solid waste -- the growing mountain of glass, plastics, metal, wood and other waste material which is plaguing cities everywhere -- has emerged as a leading national economic and pollution problem. It was a key factor prompting the Coors decision to launch an aluminum recycling program throughout its entire 11-state marketing area, company officials emphasized. Aluminum collections will not be received directly at the Coors plant in Golden, but rather will be channeled through Coors distributorships.

The recycling program, Coors said, will be continued indefinitely.

Desert Study to be Done

Utah State University will do a field and computer study of desert biological systems around the United States. The study will be done through a \$654,000 grant awarded by the National Science Foundation.

Utah State was chosen to do the study because of its reputation for having one of the top ecology staffs in the West. The study will involve 250 people for the next five years. It will also involve some 27 other educational institutions.

SUBSCRIBE TODAY
Please use the handy subscription form on page 7.

Lander, Wyoming

Exciting "FUN COUNTRY" — a great place
to live and work on the doorstep
of OUTDOOR RECREATION



"THE GATEWAY TO THE HIGH COUNTRY"
Visit the SINKS where the Popo Agie River
DISAPPEARS into the mountain.
Take the scenic LOOP DRIVE to tour the
Gold Rush GHOST TOWNS.

For Complete Information Write
the Chambers of Commerce in any
of the Following Towns:

Riverton 82501

Dubois 82513

Shoshoni 82649

Lander 82520

Sweetwater Community Council, Jeffrey City, 82310

BIG mountain country
fremont county
wyoming