

High Country

The Outdoor and
Environmental Bi-Weekly

News

Vol. 3, No. 20

Lander, Wyoming

Friday, Oct. 15, 1971



The Beartooth Mountains in Montana loom in the background from this view across Night Lake in Wyoming. A proposed Beartooth Wilderness Area would include the entire area shown here. The primitive area would be common to both states. Wilderness constitutes a part of man's environment and contributes to its quality.

Mike Frome 'Expurgated'

by Tom Bell

Readers of *American Forests*, official magazine of the American Forestry Association, will notice something different about the September, 1971, issue. It no longer carries the by-line of Mike Frome.

The sure, incisive pen of one of America's foremost conservation writers has been censored from its pages. The credibility of *American Forests* to "promote an enlightened public appreciation of natural resources and the part they play in the social recreational and economic life of the nation" suffers as a consequence. Mike Frome was an asset which the magazine could ill afford to lose, and which can never be replaced.

As the environmental crisis deepens, Frome is sure to take an eminent place as one of those who correctly called the shots. For a man who started as a travel editor, he has broadened his interests and honed his concerns to become one of the most knowledgeable conservation writers of our times. The depth and clarity of his writings have served to alert the public to many of our most glaring environmental problems.

One of his many readers was moved to write him (*Forest Forum*, *American Forests*, May, 1971) on several issues he had discussed. The letter writer ended by saying, "And from all your pieces I'm assured that you stand firm for the public as against the special interest concern . . ."

Such firmness was what led to Frome's deletion from *American Forests*. No politician or bureaucrat was safe from his censure if he felt the public interest was not being served. That included the timber industry, the U. S. Forest Service, and the head man at the Forest Service, Chief Edward P. Cliff.

It was his strong and unequivocal criticism of the latter which probably ended his long tenure with *American Forests*. The association between Cliff and our American forests should be evident. Frome did not hesitate in saying on numerous and varied occasions what he and other conservationists have thought of Cliff and his relationship to the timber industry.

It should also be evident from the name of the organization that the American Forestry Association has strong ties to the timber industry. A number of the Board of Directors are representatives of timber companies, and retired or active members of the Forest Service.

President Charles A. Connaughton is Nor-

(Continued on page 15.)

Agencies In Collision?

The following article is from the *Sport Fishing Institute Bulletin*, September, 1971. The excellent summation of the confrontation between two of the top men in the Nixon Administration, and their differing philosophies, is reprinted here in the interest of our readers.

The editor

One of the poorest kept secrets of the Administration is that EPA is proving to be something more than a paper tiger. Indeed, the creation of the Environmental Protection Agency and, more particularly, the selection of former assistant attorney general (Civil Division, Justice Department) William B. Ruckelshaus to run it was a brilliant move on the environmental front by President Nixon, widely endorsed and supported by the conservation community nationwide. It's by far the best evidence yet that the Administration may actually mean to clean up the American environment and improve the quality of life for everyone. It contrasts vividly with other less encouraging developments, such as placement of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (a purported resource conservation agency) in Commerce (a traditional resource exploitation agency), which was widely criticized and opposed at the time by conservationists throughout the country.

In the course of repeated meetings with conservation leaders during the debate over placement of NOAA in Commerce, in which strong reservations were expressed about potential conflict of interest and purpose, many glib assurances were given by Commerce Secretary Maurice Stans that resource conservation principles would receive priority consideration over those of exploitation. It would appear, now, that the fears expressed by conservationists that the profit motive would continue to dominate Commerce Department philosophy when it came time to resolve resource exploitation/conservation conflicts are being vindicated by the developing conflict between EPA Administrator Ruckelshaus and Commerce Secretary Stans over the setting and enforcement of environmental quality standards. According to editorial writer Richard J. Cattani in *THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE*

MONITOR for August 2, 1971, it's fast developing into a confrontation between "Roar-Ahead Ruckelshaus and Wait-a-Minute Stans!"

In his lengthy and detailed analysis of a sticky situation that is rearing up for resolution in the near future—presumably by President Nixon—Mr. Cattani pays well deserved tribute to the President's selection of Ruckelshaus to head the EPA. In closing, he summed up this aspect thusly:

"...one trusts that President Nixon appreciates the political capital at hand in his EPA chief and the record to date. One trusts he will not risk his administration's environmental credibility by seeming to back both roar-ahead Ruckelshaus and wait-a-minute Stans."

What prompted this accolade was a July 15 speech by Secretary Stans before the National Petroleum Council apologizing for industry and cautioning the American nation, literally, to "Wait A Minute" (actual speech title) in its environmental thrust. In his speech, Stans seems to have taken an unprecedentedly zealous step by a Cabinet Secretary on behalf of his special-interest constituency—a virtual declaration of war upon, at least incitement to resist—against an independent government agency newly created by the President as the showpiece of his Administration's environmental concern. How, except, a thinly-veiled attack on EPA, can one interpret these words from Stans' prepared address:

"Timetables have been imposed and rigid and regulations applied, giving some people the false feeling that the problems will go away if we only put enough pressure on industry to act. The trouble is, in the development of these pressures, reason sometimes gets lost and extremes become the result."

Stans urged a go-slow approach to limiting the use of DDT, cautioned that substitutes for phosphates in detergents may be more harmful, argued against rigid timetables to control auto exhaust emissions, and warned against tough environmental protection standards in "one-industry towns." He also criticized those who prefer a go-slow approach to offshore oil well development or to the proposed trans-Alaskan pipeline. He called for an evaluation of costs of

(Continued on page 14.)



Mike Frome

Friday, Oct. 15, 1971

HIGH COUNTRY

By Tom Bell

Reprinted from June 6, 1969.

Our great, beautiful, once unspoiled country has come to a sad state of affairs. Pollution of our air, water and landscape has become so bad that President Nixon felt compelled to appoint an Environmental Quality Council.

Everywhere you go, man's impact on the environment ranges all the way from crisis to unsuspected, subtle changes. Black, obnoxious smoke pouring from smokestacks is obvious. The poisonous fumes from millions of automobiles goes unseen and unmarked by all of us who daily drive.

Lake Erie is so large that we remark wonderingly, how could it happen? How could this big, beautiful lake become a cesspool almost overnight?

The mighty Mississippi River, one of the world's largest, carries a menace to health in every drop of its stinking water. But when you get to thinking about it, this is not so remarkable. Even little, piddling Lander, Wyoming, has added its share of bacteria, chemicals, sediment, and other effluent to the load the mighty river must carry.

This is the whole point. Wherever we live and no matter how circumspect our own lives, we are daily adding to the growing problem of pollution.

We demand bigger, more powerful automobiles which burn more hydrocarbons. We demand gourmet foods, never seeming to mind the traces of insect killers left in and on the vegetables and fruit. We rise up in indignant wrath when dentists advocate the use of fluorine in water. But we drink water from some fountains which contain far more deadly materials.

We demand more industry so we can have more tax base. And in order to get industry, we put clean air and water on the list of expendables. It was almost as if we had a virgin, sister planet to which we could escape once this trusty, old Earth becomes untenable.

We think more of the almighty dollar than we do of our own good health. Few of us seem to realize that once gone, a king's ransom won't buy back the good health we once enjoyed. And fewer still of us seem to realize that a growing pollution problem poses a real threat to the health and well-being of every living thing.

Here in the West, we have an opportunity to conserve what has come to be termed a quality environment. But it appears at times that we want to emulate our less fortunate fellow citizens, even down to the degree of pollution we can acquire.

Consider for a moment that Wyoming's water quality standards contain a provision which sanctions pollution. The governor of Wyoming, along with certain, officious bureaucrats, bitterly protested the no-degradation policy set forth by Secretary of the Interior Udall.

As a result, they got a provision in the standards which provides, "that the State of Wyoming has the power to authorize any project or development, which would constitute a new source of pollution or an increased source of pollution to high quality water, when it has been affirmatively demonstrated that a change is justifiable to provide necessary economic or social development."

And there you have it. Keep us clean, keep us healthy, keep our world bright and beautiful - but for Heaven's sake, keep us rich in the filthy lucre.



"Ecology"

Now that environmentalism is in, the word ecology is so popular that many people mistakenly assume they know what it means--and use it incorrectly. "Ecology" is not interchangeable with "ecosystem." Like all words ending in "ology", ecology is a branch of science.

Ecosystem refers to a community of living organisms and their environments. Thus, pollution damages a river ecosystem, not the river ecology. Pollution cannot damage a branch of science.

Put another way, we study ecology and we try to preserve the ecosystem.



Snow is once more beginning to powder the western mountains. Most of the tourists have gone home for the year, and the parklands settle back into silence and solitude.

Letters To The Editor



Editor:

I have been finding so much of very worthwhile reading and information in your HCN that I'd like to donate a year's subscription to the Beatrice Senior High School Library, Beatrice, Nebraska.

Keep up the good work! You have a dandy paper that fills an ever-more-urgent need.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Herbert Weston
Beatrice, Nebraska

Editor's Note: Mrs. Weston's gift to the Beatrice Senior High School Library was only one of several we have received from our readers. We appreciate the thoughtfulness of these people. Our aim is to inform as many people as possible of the events which shape our destiny here in the western states. Young people are certainly a part of that destiny. They should be informed. Thanks to Mrs. Weston and all the others for helping us.

Editor:

Enclosed is my check for \$10.35. The \$10 is, of course, for one year's subscription to your great newspaper. The thirty-five cents is for a copy of your August 20 edition of HIGH COUNTRY NEWS, which I read from cover to cover and returned to my friend. I hope you have an extra copy as there were quite a few articles which I would like to reread and share with some of my friends.

It is encouraging to read that there are more than just a handful of people who are deeply committed to preserving our earth and ALL of its creatures-including man.

Sincerely,

Mrs. R. Watson
Oakland, Calif.

Editor:

I am enclosing a personal money order in the amount of \$10 for a one-year subscription to your



HIGH COUNTRY NEWS

Published bi-weekly at 140 North Seventh Street, Lander, Wyoming 82520. Tele. 1-307-332-4877. Copyright 1971 by HIGH COUNTRY NEWS, Inc., 2nd class postage paid at Lander, Wyoming 82520.

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Subscription rate

\$10.00

Single copy rate

35¢

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most excellent HIGH COUNTRY NEWS.

Through a friend I received a sample copy of this publication and I wish to commend you most highly for the excellent coverage on ecology and the environment.

Since I teach a university course on Natural Resources, the information contained in your fine publication will be most valuable. Please keep up the excellent work and I will look forward with much anticipation to receiving each issue.

Sincerely,

Virgil R. Baker
Tempe, Arizona

Dear Tom:

I continue to enjoy the coverage which you put together in each issue of HIGH COUNTRY NEWS.

I find it useful in my work here with the Society and, therefore, wish to send you the enclosed \$10 check for an annual subscription.

Now with all those good words, I must point out an error in your "Wild-eyed Predator Control" item reprinted from the INTERMOUNTAIN OBSERVER. Therein, Durward Allen is identified as a "non-biologist" and I must hasten to tell you that Durward Allen was president of The Wildlife Society back in the 1950's and has been a biologist with state and federal agencies most of his life.

Sincerely,

Fred G. Evenden
Executive Director
The Wildlife Society

Dear Fred:

Thanks for your renewal and the kind words. Sorry for allowing such a "boner" to slip into the paper as that concerning Dr. Allen. As a wildlife biologist myself, I am certainly aware of his credentials. In fact, his book, "Our Wildlife Legacy," I consider to be one of the classics in our field.

For the benefit of our readers, the article referred to by Dr. Evenden appeared in the Sept. 3, 1971, issue of HCN, and was in reference to the seven-member commission appointed by Secretary Morton to study predator control. Dr. Allen was appointed to that commission.

The editor.

Editor:

With two friends, I took a backpack trip into the Thorofare country south of Yellowstone Park this August. Along the trail was a profusion of candy wrappers, beer cans, shovels, cans of paint thinner, wooden panniers, and even an iron stove. These items were found at a distance of 20 miles from road-end, and I can personally guarantee that nobody carried a 20-lb. stove or a gallon of paint thinner 20 miles over a 10,000-ft. pass on his back.

There are many dude ranches and outfitters in the areas surrounding this wilderness, and it is quite probable that their horses helped carry

(Continued on page 3)

Guest Editorials



Reprinted from the LEWISTON MORNING TRIBUNE, Lewiston, Idaho, Sept. 4, 1971.

Rivers - Love Them or Lose Them

The executive director of the Idaho Reclamation Ass'n is preaching the fallacy that a stream isn't being used unless it has been developed.

The Idaho Water Resource Board has been dominated by that philosophy since its conception, which makes Scott W. Reed of Coeur d'Alene -- who holds a contrary view -- all the more welcome as a member of the board.

Jack Barnett, director of the Idaho Reclamation Ass'n, has urged Reed to resign from the Water Resource Board because of what he termed an "inappropriate, ill-advised and untimely" letter Reed wrote criticizing an Idaho reclamation project. Reed wrote the Council on Environmental Quality in Washington, D. C., urging it to halt construction of the Lower Teton project in eastern Idaho on the ground the project is economically unfeasible. Reed and some other conservation-oriented Idahoans -- underrepresented on the board -- are opposed to the project.

Reed's tactic in presenting his minority report to the federal council virtually on the sly, rather than more formally, certainly is questionable. And there are some arguments for development of the Teton project.

However, the reason Barnett gives for urging Reed's resignation is a narrow factional position that is only half true and quite symptomatic of developmental prejudices in Idaho.

"The Teton project would put Idaho water to use in Idaho," Barnett said, "which was the very reason that the water resource board was created by a constitutional amendment authorized by the voters of the state." Barnett said Reed should resign "if he does not feel that he can represent the citizens of the state of Idaho and help them preserve their water and their water rights for use here in Idaho."

Barnett's inadequate and rather typical interpretation of the board's mission demonstrates how crucial it is to have someone of Reed's philosophy on the board.

It is true the board was created to see that Idaho water is intelligently used. But use does not always imply development. A wild river is not producing power. But the fishermen, hikers and campers who revel in it would not agree that

it is not being used.

Is Barnett suggesting that any undammed stream in Idaho is not being used? Is Silver Creek not being used because the fly fishermen won't make way for the dambuilders? Is the Middle Fork of the Clearwater not being used because a steelhead fisherman is a more common sight on the stream than an engineer?

Indeed, is the canvas on which the Mona Lisa is painted serving no use because it hasn't been cut up for patching tents?

Barnett's interpretation of the board's assignment is narrow. The obvious duty of the board is to promote development of streams where -- all things considered -- that appears to be the most responsible course. It is not the duty of the board to promote the development of all streams regardless of the consequences.

Reed obviously believes that -- all things considered -- the Lower Teton project should not proceed.

Barnett believes the opposite.

That is a difference of opinion, not a shirking of constitutional duties.

The time is past in Idaho when it could be automatically assumed that any power company or reclamation engineer had first claim on any river over any Idaho sportsman. The obvious majority opinion in Idaho today is that each proposed project must be considered on its merits with the advantages of development weighed against the disadvantages.

With few exceptions, the Idaho Water Resource Board has been blind to most disadvantages of development and thus not in tune with the people of Idaho who approved the constitutional amendment that created the board.

Board Chairman John Streiff of Lewiston has been a seeker of balanced opinion. But the board has been and still is loaded in favor of the minority position among the Idaho electorate that development for development's sake is an unassailable doctrine.

With Reed's appointment, the board properly has an advocate of the other extreme in Idaho water philosophy -- that the best use of a stream is often its undammed use.

---B. H.



Reprinted from THE IDAHO STATESMAN, Boise, Idaho, Sept. 17, 1971.

Palisades Water Question

An order by State Water Administration Director Keith Higginson raises the possibility that some of the water assigned to irrigation from Palisades Reservoir may in the future be available to other irrigators, or other uses.

The Eastern Idaho Reservoir, on the Snake River, supplements the water supplies of Jackson Lake and American Falls Reservoir irrigators.

Higginson says that some of the Palisades water is being used to apply amounts exceeding five acre feet per year, in fact up to 16 acre feet. His position is that the law requires him to assume that five acre feet is sufficient to produce a crop.

To approve rights to use more than that, he says he must have specific engineering data showing it is required. So far the Bureau of Reclamation has not provided such data for the Palisades water users.

Higginson can cite a University of Idaho Experiment Station study which shows less than five acre feet is required to irrigate the thirstiest crop, which is alfalfa. He also cites more recent irrigation projects such as Fort Hall-Michaud Flats and Miler Low Lift which use no more than 5.2 acre feet.

The Bureau has three years to make a case for the larger amounts, if it can.

If not, presumably a substantial amount of Palisades water could be used for other purposes; perhaps for other irrigation downstream in water-short areas, perhaps to maintain minimum flows in the Snake River.

The Idaho Environmental Council has filed an application for 381,000 acre feet of Palisades water to maintain low flows in the Snake. A need is seen particularly below Milner Dam near Twin Falls where heavy fish kills have occurred in some years because of low flows. Maintaining the flow of the Snake would also help ease pollution problems by "diluting" the pollution.

Higginson has recognized water quality and

aquatic life as valid legal uses, with the support of an attorney general's opinion. If he should eventually grant the IEC application, it could set up a legal test, if there was a challenge.

All of this points up again that water in the Snake River is precious and there are numerous demands on it. Higginson is saying that he can't approve the use of more than five acre feet of water in the face of those demands, in the absence of evidence that more water is needed to raise a crop.

It means that Higginson and the Bureau of Reclamation are at odds over how much water is required in parts of the Upper Snake River Valley. The same issue is involved in the Lower Teton project with Higginson saying he will not approve the supplemental water proposed for 35,000 to 40,000 acres, without similar evidence of need.

An irrigator may be inclined to seek as much water as he can get. With conventional irrigation practices, more water means more runoff and more erosion. With sprinklers and concrete-lined canals it's possible to irrigate a crop with less water.

Higginson not only has the law on his side, but also the concept of conservation of water. In 1970, he said, the water used by Palisades water users might theoretically have irrigated another 280,000 acres, if they had averaged no more than five acre feet.

He is also trying to be fair to competing water uses.

After years of delay on the perfecting of Palisades water rights, Higginson's order has the effect of bringing the issue closer to resolution. He's not saying that more water is not required, but he's putting the burden of proof on the Bureau to demonstrate it.

Sierra Club Names New Staff Member

Miss Laney Hicks of Dubois, Wyoming, has been appointed regional representative for the prestigious national Sierra Club. The region covered by the new staff position includes Wyoming, eastern Montana, North and South Dakota, and western Nebraska.

She is the first woman to be appointed to one of the seven regional representative positions. A native of Colorado, she has been active in a number of environmental problems in Wyoming and the Rocky Mountain region. Since moving to Wyoming in the spring of 1970, she has expanded Sierra Club involvement in the state from the Laramie Peak wilderness proposal to the Clarks Fork road controversy, state water planning, BLM Red Desert study, environmental controls for power plants, and mineral development.

She served the Rocky Mountain Chapter of the Sierra Club from 1967 to 1970 as chairman of the Forest Policies Committee. She was recognized, along with the chapter, in February, 1971, with a Special Achievement Award for the work of that committee. The award was in "appreciation of their successful effort to bring to the attention of countless people the need for better management of our National Forests for present and future generations and for their tireless efforts to preserve wilderness."

Continuing her interest in timber management, she monitors Forest Service activities on the state and national level. She was one of three Wyoming witnesses to testify on timber management practices before the Senate Subcommittee on Public Lands in April. She recently appeared before the House Interior subcommittee considering the Washakie Wilderness Area.



Laney Hicks



Letters...

most of the garbage into the back country. I have often wondered of the legality of this commercial use of wilderness areas. It would seem that for the privilege of charging a wealthy sportsman (?) \$50 per day while on a trip through our wilderness, the outfitter would at least take the time to pick up after his party. Or perhaps if their monopolistic commercial use of the wilderness is taken for granted, we should take this privileged position away from them.

I for one would like to see a few of our more primitive areas closed to all but those who would enter on foot. Anyone who really loves the wilds can condition himself for a backpacking trip, and these people are physically limited in what they take with them. Perhaps this is what we need to keep an area in a truly wild state.

Sincerely,

Spencer DePree
Boulder, Colorado



Look Boldly To The Future!

by Andy Ruskanen

Editor, Wyoming Human Resources Confederation Bulletin

The following article is reprinted from the Wyoming Human Resources Confederation Bulletin, September, 1971

* * *

Several thousand centuries of life died on a mountain between Cheyenne and Laramie last spring. Men with bulldozers uprooted dozens of ancient pines, then with power saws, obliterated a flourishing grove of aspen.

The pines and aspen were destroyed to make room for a new dirt road that will parallel another dirt road most travelers seem to have found adequate in the past. Five miles away an interstate highway allows motorists to drive 75 miles an hour.

The new dirt road must represent progress, otherwise why would it be built? And certain things, like crooked old pines and soft white aspen, must be sacrificed in the name of progress. Don't they?

Three boys once saw a flock of haughty sage grouse perform their annual mating ritual on a sage-covered Wyoming hillside. They watched antelope and mule deer drink at a small, grass-edged stream at the base of the hill. The boys whiled away hours on the hillside, dreaming and playing. As evening approached, they picked wildflowers from the hillside for their mother. Recently, one of the boys, now a man,

returned to the hillside, but it was gone. In its place was a deep, abandoned pit filled with foul-smelling water. Man-made mountains of ruined earth bordered the hole. Piles of waste coal smoldered and sent out wisps of sulfurous smoke.

The man found that many hillsides had fallen to the earth strippers. But, he was assured, something's going to be done about hillsides that have been, are being and will be raped for their mineral wealth. They're going to be "reclaimed."

He wondered if "reclaimed" means grouse will strut again. If deer and antelope will drink from clean streams and browse on fine native grasses. If wildflowers and sagebrush will bloom. If boys will play and dream.

He hoped so. But if not, he will know the hillsides were sacrificed in the name of progress. And that's desirable. Isn't it?

Life is tenuous near timber line in one of Wyoming's mountain ranges.

Tough little pines, a century old, stand no higher than a man. Hillsides are speckled with flowers, but pluck one and all may die, so dependent is each form of life on the other. Grass so green it defies description fills every sheltered pocket, but the soil is thin and rocky and life is a delicate thread for every blade. Tiny pikas are the only species of mammal strong enough to survive the brutal, long winters.

A few years ago someone, somewhere, decided timber line should be more accessible. A road was gouged across country and a parking lot built at a lake that once took more than an hour of hard hiking to reach from the main highway. A foot path was punched for miles across virgin, flowered hills. Motor bikes and motorcycles cut new trails across grassy meadows.

Vehicles, digging and spinning with four wheels, entered the wilderness; a hiker recently saw seven of them in a spot where once the sight of a horse and rider was unusual. Timber line no longer rests in winter because man growls and prowls everywhere on his snow machines.

Where springs once bubbled and clear streams flowed, mosquitoes breed in muddy bogs formed by churning tires. Hillsides once lush and green are eroded and barren. Paper plates and tin cans have replaced tender columbines. Each year a few more tiny pines disappear into campfires. The hackle-raising whistle of the pika is heard less frequently.

But, again, we must consider the positive side of the destruction of land and nature's balance. The recreationists spend many dollars on their dalliances, and dollars are progress. Wilderness should be sacrificed in the name of progress. Shouldn't it?

He who has seen an eagle soar has seen freedom. He who has seen the bedraggled remains of an eagle, poisoned or shot, has seen freedom die. For if an eagle can't survive in the land where he thrived before any human viewed Wyoming, how can man remain free?

Last spring more than 50 eagles -- perhaps 20 times that many -- were poisoned and shot deliberately in Wyoming by humans who placed no value on a species into whose domain they, the humans, had trespassed.

The eagle isn't alone in his battle for survival. The coyote and mountain lion have faced the merciless wrath of humans for centuries. Each year more grizzly bears, like the wolves before them, are eliminated from Yellowstone so more humans, again the intruders, can gawk at geysers.

A coyote makes poor table fare and a grizzly doesn't buy knickknacks. We can't shear an eagle and the species that die incidentally from man's poisons contribute nothing tangible to the economy. So if a few species disappear in the name of progress, that's part of the game. Isn't it?

The timber on a Wyoming mountain is cut to bare ground. But it isn't stripped primarily for the benefit of the strippers; rather, clearcutting is done mainly in the name of conservation and progress. Selective cutting won't get the job done, economically and ecologically.

We have the word of the clearcutters and the people who authorize their practice for those facts.

We must worry about bugs that eat trees and it stands to reason that if there aren't any trees to eat, there aren't going to be any bugs. Right?

And when we have bugs to control, real or anticipated, who's going to condemn the clearcutters for making a few extra bucks by taking all the trees at once?

Ignore the stumps and slash, the denuded hillsides, the dead-end logging roads and the "worthless" trees uprooted to build them. If a profit can be made from exploitation of the land, with conservation and ecology used as catchwords of justification, who's to say that's wrong?

So we look boldly to the future.

We'll certainly have to harness more Wyoming streams behind concrete and earth. Smokestacks and increased human population must receive priority over wild animals and their habitat. The whirring of turbines and grumbling of masses of people must be worth more than blue sky, the silence of a mountain meadow and the roar of a clean, free-flowing stream. How does one put a price tag on tranquility?

Finally, there's oil shale development and coal gasification. Undoubtedly, squeezing oil from stone and gas from coal will require more imagination than strip mining, clear cutting, predator slaughtering, recreationist catering and river damming. Only time will tell what harvest Wyoming will reap, in the name of progress, from oil shale development and coal gasification.

At a given point, a generation will ponder the bounty bequeathed by preceding generations. If we're lucky, most of us won't be around to hear what that generation says about its predecessors' stewardship of the land and concept of progress.

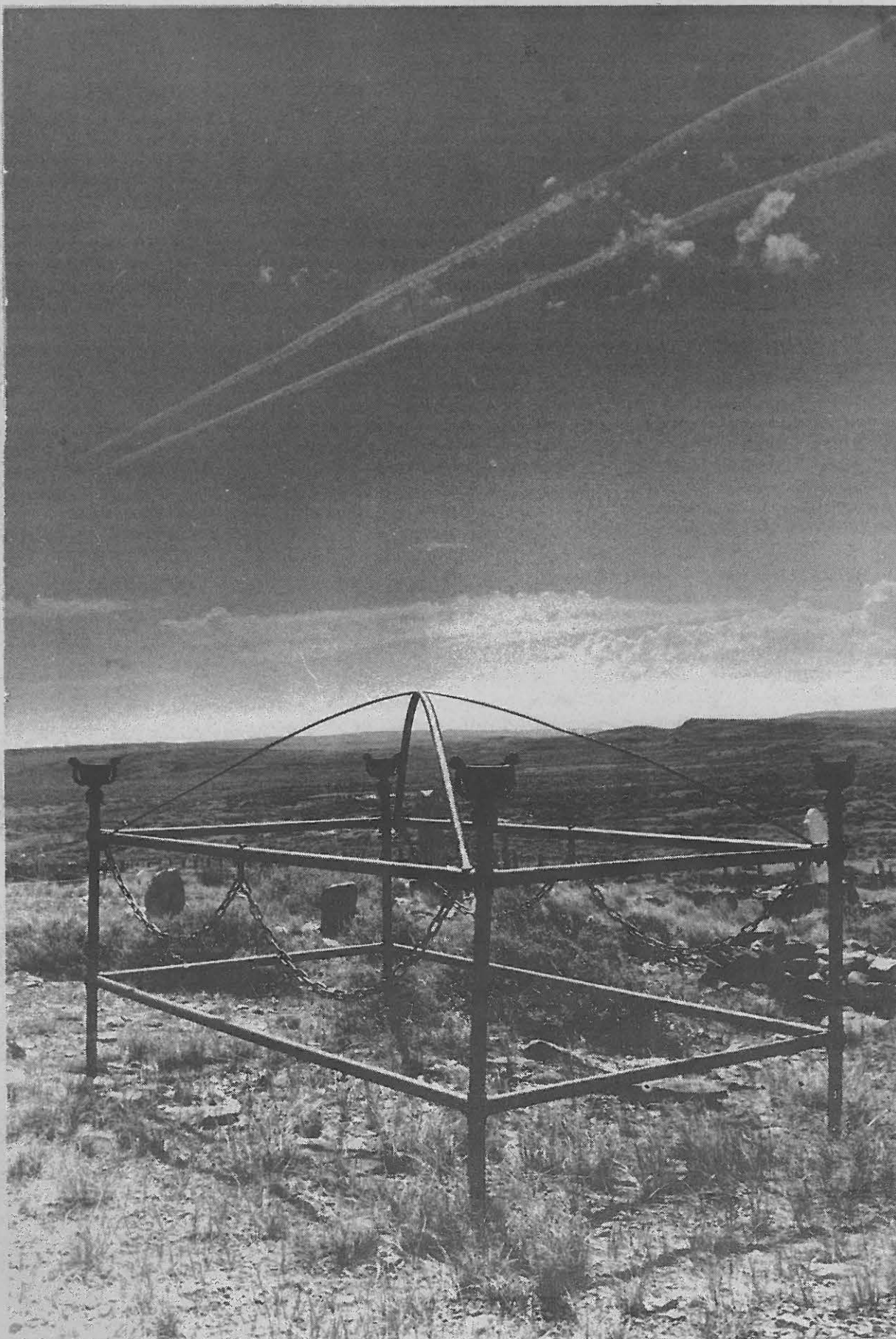


Photo by Pat Hall

If a few species disappear in the name of progress, that's part of the game. Isn't it? If all mankind were to come to rest on some forgotten, wind-blown hill-- with only a trace as nebulous as clouds -- that's the way of the world--isn't it? Only time will tell.



Laramie Peak looms through clouds clustered around its summit. All of the rugged country shown in the photo would be included in a small proposed wilderness for eastern Wyoming.

"..Noted & Quoted.."

"It is extremely difficult for persons who live in well populated areas to understand how such violations (eagle shooting from helicopters) could be perpetrated over a period of time without detection. The answer lies in the fact that the ranches involved encompass tens of thousands of acres, much of it remote from human habitation. Those who trespass on these ranches are subject to severe penalty, and, in consequence, outsiders were not aware of what was going on. The eagle killing engaged in was carried out well inside the borders of the ranches and was (not) observed except by the persons engaged in it."

Charles H. Lawrence
Chief, Division of Management and Enforcement
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife
In letter to Miss Doris Cook,
Wooster, Ohio, dated August 10.

"Whenever efforts are made to protect the environment, there are those who rush forward to charge that such protection will create an 'energy crisis', as though we are doomed to be prisoners of onrushing technology instead of our own destiny. Obviously, energy development and environmental quality must go hand in hand, and it's about time we decide once and for all that they are not mutually exclusive or incompatible."

Congressman Ken Hechler
Not Man Apart, July, 1971

"What does the ecological viewpoint demand of each of us? It demands that we develop and practice a respect for every living thing—with its particular life-style, its place of living, and its role in the biosphere—whether we see a reason for it or not. We must accept the right of all organisms in the biosphere to live—and the corollary right for life to have the necessary environmental integrity to maintain high quality. It demands that we undertake serious self-examination, observing our every act and determining how these acts affect others—not just friends, not just people, but ALL LIFE and all facets of the environments of life. We must start to examine each decision we make, to see how it affects other organisms—both within our vision and outside it, directly and indirectly."

Thorne Ecological Foundation
Annual Report, 1970

"The predator-control programs have absolutely no effect whatsoever on game, including turkeys. Where do you go to see game? The national parks. There's no predator control programs there. In fact, parks carry the heaviest load of predators there is, and they still have to control deer and elk to maintain the range and keep them from starving to death."

Gilbert Hunter
Retired game manager
Colorado Game, Fish & Parks

Area Contested

A small, de facto wilderness in southeastern Wyoming continues to draw fire from both the U. S. Forest Service and conservationists who want it considered for wilderness. The Laramie Peak Wilderness Area was proposed earlier this year by Wyoming Representative Teno Roncalio (H. R. 1551). It is located within the Medicine Bow National Forest.

Attention was first drawn to the area when the Forest Service wanted to log some of the virgin ponderosa pine stands north of the landmark peak. Conservationists, led by an area rancher, were quick to point out that the value of the timber would not pay for the cost of an access road. It was also pointed out that the small area contained one of the last remaining stands of virgin ponderosa pine in Wyoming. The area has scientific value because it has been identified as an ecological phenomenon. Three of the biotic provinces of North America meet in the locality of the area.

Recently, an official of the Department of Agriculture wrote Representative Wayne Aspinall that the proposed area did not qualify as wilderness. Aspinall is chairman of the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee which must act on all proposed wilderness areas.

The Department said the area has not been classified as a National Forest Primitive Area, and that it has not been subject to Wilderness Act review procedures, including mineral examination.

The Forest Service has continually taken the stand that the area is too small for wilderness value. The agency says the area would best serve the public for developed recreation and a source of lumber.

Conservationists rebut that timber production on the area is too low to warrant expenditure for roads. They also point to the fact that scientific and aesthetic values of the undeveloped area would be destroyed by roads, campgrounds and service areas.

Roncalio's bill calls for an area of 30,000 acres. However, this area includes roads, trails and an electronic installation on top of Laramie Peak. Many conservationists would like to see a minimum area of 15,000 acres considered. The smaller area contains no roads, no signs of human habitation, and is in fact a de facto wilderness well within the qualifying guidelines for wilderness.

Mineral surveys have been made, carried out under the auspices of the Wyoming Geological Survey. No significant mineralization is known.

Many conservationists now believe, as does an advocate of the wilderness from Laramie, Gerry Ullrich, that the Department of Agriculture letter is double-talk. Medicine Bow Forest Supervisor Wm. Augsbach has been adamantly opposed to any consideration of wilderness designation for the area. Regional Forester Wm. J. Lucas of Denver has also taken a hard line of wilderness areas within his region.

Conservationists are not to be dissuaded. They have enlisted the aid of the Wyo-Braska Boy Scout Council which has a camp just outside the proposed area. And they find that many more Wyoming people look favorably on the pocket-size wilderness.

Thoughts from the Distaff Corner

By Marge Higley

I wonder how many earth-bound rock hunters had some of the same thoughts I had, as I watched Astronauts Scott and Irwin proceed with their rockhunting expedition on the moon?

My first thought was: "Why, they look for all the world (now why did that old-fashioned expression come to mind?) just like any common, ordinary, run-of-the-mill rock hunters here at home!"

Oh sure—their wearing apparel was much more elaborate, but not really looking any more out-of-this-world than lots of the rockhunting costumes that I've seen around here. As a matter of fact, I'd hate to have anyone sneaking around with a candid camera when I go rockhunting in full regalia!

In spite of the fact that I was watching a picture beamed live from the moon, I had the uncanny (I almost said "unearthly"!) sensation that I had seen it all before. An awkward-looking vehicle working its way slowly around boulders and up to the edge of a barren ridge. Rock hunters climbing out each door, complete with hammers, rock sacks, and rock scoops; darting here and there with their eyes on the ground. Then, the excited comments, also with a familiar ring.

"Oh! Look at these! Aren't they beautiful?"

"Just look at the corner of this one!"

"Hey — see that big whitish rock over there?"

Let's go take a look at it!"

In their eagerness to pick up a rock, the Astronauts seemed almost to lose their balance a time or two. Well, many a heavily-laden earth rock hunter has done the same thing.

And then there was that moment when David Scott felt that he was just about to break through that invulnerable crust. Hardhearted NASA gave him orders to dig no more — it was time to quit. On earth, the hard-hearted naggers tell us that we're running out of daylight, not oxygen. In either case, we sympathize with Scott's reluctance to call it quits for the day, just when things were starting to get interesting!

Even the "homecoming" scene was familiar. Weary, elated hunters, anticipating the pleasures of a change of clothing, a meal, and a good night's rest. But first, of course, the gear must all be stowed away in its proper place, and the treasured "finds" carefully safeguarded, to be sorted and gloated over later.

The moon rocks will go to scientists and geologists who will sort, analyze, and classify them by scientific methods. Those rocks will eventually be known by erudite, scholarly-sounding names resembling "metamorphic pyroxene," "siliceous quartz with hematite," or simpler ones, like "copper carbonite."

Somehow I think that most of us earth-type rockhunters are glad that we get to sort our own treasures. Especially when they have such down-to-earth, romantic-sounding names as jade, or jasper, or azurite!

Governors Discuss Population Influx

Four western governors who attended the Federation of Rocky Mountain States meeting in Salt Lake City discussed what they plan to do with an expected influx of people in the near future.

Colorado Gov. John Love said the question isn't whether there will be a huge growth in population — the question is when.

Gov. Forrest Anderson of Montana said people in that state indicate they don't want more people. But, he says, "We are going to have this growth, so we better get ready for it, and we better change the thinking of people who don't want it."

When the governors were asked if efforts should be made to limit population growth in order to prevent overcrowding and increasing demands on natural resources, Gov. Calvin Rampton of Utah replied he didn't think that would work. With large families common in Utah, he said, "people in this state wouldn't take kindly at all to such a suggestion."

Wyoming's Gov. Stanley K. Hathaway said a more practical solution to the population problem was dispersal. "We need to build up the rural areas," he said. He did not indicate what to do with increased populations when rural areas had reached their carrying capacity.

Wilderness Exists In Name Only

by Philip Fradkin

Los Angeles Times Staff Writer

There are 53 million acres of federal lands which qualify as potential wilderness areas under provisions of the 1964 act. So far, with three years to run in the law, only 10.1 million acres have been set aside in the classification.

Most of these are Forest Service lands. The Park Service, which administers national parks, has lagged behind in its review although without formal classification, national parks are more "de facto" wilderness areas than those in national forests, which have a formal designation.

Grazing and mining are permitted on Forest Service wilderness lands.

This leads to some curious situations because of the looseness in federal mining laws.

In the heavily used Minarets Wilderness Area west of Mammoth Lakes, a miner has a mining claim at Minaret Mine and uses the site and old buildings as a summer camp for his church.

A group from a Southern California College uses an old cabin at another mining claim in the same wilderness area for recreational purposes.

Another group is seeking an access road to a mining claim in the Nydiver Lakes area which would pass right by Shadow Lake.

A Forest Service report on the wilderness area states, "The process of prospecting for minerals and developing claims often results in conflict with other wilderness values."

It took seven years to get the wilderness bill through Congress and conservationists had to compromise on the mining issue to secure its passage.

Rep. Wayne N. Aspinall (D-Colo.), chairman of the House Interior Committee, which hears all wilderness proposals, was instrumental in securing the mining provisions in the final bill.

The ranking minority member of that committee, Rep. John P. Saylor (R-Pa.), has introduced a bill, H.R. 6398, which would designate 12 areas on Forest Service lands as wilderness.

In proposing the legislation, Saylor noted that the Forest Service—by considering logging and other development proposals—would ruin the wilderness status of these lands.

The 14 proposals Mr. Nixon sent to Congress—which include the Sequoia-Kings Canyon area—were all in national parks, monuments or wildlife refuges—areas already protected from development.

Such conservationist organizations as the Wilderness Society and the Sierra Club are most active in pushing for new wilderness areas.

The best way to read an account of John Muir's ascent of Mt. Ritter 100 years ago is to dine on ox-tail soup, beef stroganoff, chocolate pudding, cookies and a shot of brandy. Then curl up with a cigar in a warm sleeping bag snuggled between two rocks at the west end of Thousand Island Lake. At the 9,800-foot level of the lake, the glow of the setting sun lingers on the crenellated peak thought to be inaccessible until Muir made his solitary climb.

Wrote Muir: "After gaining a point about halfway to the top, I was brought to a dead stop, with arms outspread, clinging close to the face of the rock, unable to move hand or foot either up or down. My doom appeared fixed. I must fall."

After mastering this temporary stroke of fear, Muir scrambled to the top and then discovered that the sun was setting. With only a crust of bread to eat all day, he had many miles of hiking in the night to return to his camp in a pine thicket where he slept without blankets in "the biting cold."

These instructions are now given to hikers along the Muir Trail in Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks. They state in capital letters:

"RECOMMEND THAT ALL DRINKING WATER BE TREATED WITH PURIFICATION TABLETS OR BE BOILED BEFORE USE. (BOIL 10 MINUTES)"

Park Supt. John S. McLaughlin said that tests of back-country lakes and streams had shown that the bacteria count from human wastes exceeded U.S. Public Health Service standards.

In the Inyo National Forest where the John Muir and Minarets Wilderness areas are located, the Forest Service has hired a hydrologist for the first time to test High Sierra water this summer for pollution.

In Yosemite National Park, the Park Service has hired a hydrologist for the first time to test High Sierra water this summer for pollution.

In Yosemite National Park, the Park Service is so leary of the drinking water in the Merced River below the heavily used Little Yosemite

area that it has closed its drinking facilities at the top of Nevada Falls.

Said Supt. Cone: "Because of the human wastes emptying in from the back country, we don't feel confident of the water source. The only way we could feel confident is to chlorinate the water."

Overcrowding has contributed to water pollution, according to the experts, in the following manner:

-- Because there is very little or no topsoil in the High Sierra and because warm temperatures exist for only about 1 1/2 to 2 months, human and animal feces have little chance of decomposing.

--More likely, they are liable to be washed undiluted into lakes which at the height of the hiking season have little or no outflow.

Water pollution is not the only evidence of over-use of certain wilderness areas. A Forest Service report on the John Muir Wilderness Area west of Bishop states:

"This intensive use is causing site deterioration --as is evidenced by vegetation being damaged or destroyed, increasing areas of bare ground and by the invasion of sub-climax species near trails, lakes and streams.

"In many heavily used areas, most or all the dead wood has been burned for firewood. Live trees are often cut and attempts made to burn the green wood... The opportunities for camping solitude are diminishing and in many areas no longer exist during the peak-use periods....

"During the summer, human habitation seems almost permanent because as soon as a camp is vacated by one party, it is often occupied by another. This level of occupancy is in conflict with the quality levels that offer the opportunities for solitude...."

When issuing the wilderness permit needed to enter the Desolation Wilderness area, the receptionist at the South Lake Tahoe Ranger Station cautioned: "You better hold onto your backpack. We just had a guy come in here and

report that his was stolen while he was sleeping by Eagle Lake."

At Yosemite, a park official said: "If you put a \$60 Kelty pack or a \$150 sleeping bag down you just might lose them. It is sad but true."

Wayne Merry, who runs the climbing school in Yosemite, is making an attempt to educate users of the back country. He is conducting six-day "minimum impact trips" into the wilderness this summer.

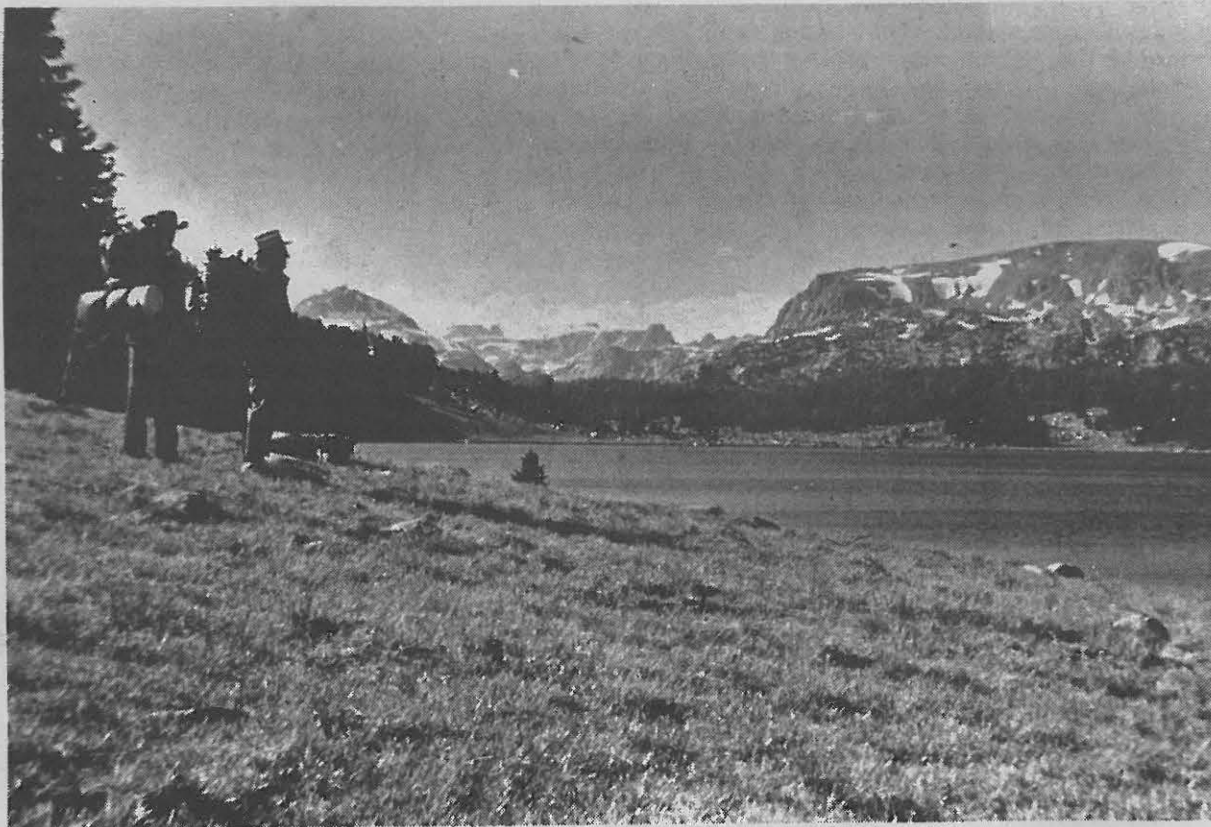
Said Merry: "It gets so bad that if you turn over a rock to hide the garbage, you find another camper has been there." So, on the trips all garbage will be hauled out, there will be no campfires and cross-country travel will cut down on trail use.

All of this would come as a shock to John Muir, should he now retrace his steps along the crest of the Sierra Nevada. He would be told by a friendly wilderness ranger:

"Bullfrog and Timberline Lakes are closed to all camping and grazing, in the Evolution Basin and at Kearsarge Lakes wood fires are prohibited and I am sorry to tell you sir, but you can only stay one night at Paradise Valley, Woods Creek, Rae Lakes, Kearsarge Lakes, Charlotte Lakes, Sixty Lake Basin, Junction Meadow and Bubbs Creek.

"Oh, and at these last named areas you have to camp 100 feet from the lakes and streams. Thank you and have a good trip in the wilderness."

The trail on the last day rises and falls along the east bank of the middle fork of the San Joaquin River. It passes through lush growths of larkspur, shooting star and vivid-colored mountain wild-flowers contrasting with the grey-green landscape. Across the canyon gouged out in the Ice Age and up the tributary hanging valleys, the spine of the Minarets stands out against the clear blue sky with incisor-like detail. It is a grand summation of a four-day hike. The woman should know there is nothing to fear.



Wilderness areas all over the West are feeling the impact of increased human use. Areas in close proximity to highways or easily reached by road get the brunt of the use. This area along the Red Lodge-Cooke City Highway from Montana, into Wyoming, and back into Montana will get greater use in the years ahead. The proposed Beartooth Wilderness Area, looked over by these two backpackers, will need more careful management in the future.

Wilderness Restrictions Coming

The wilderness areas of California and other states will have restrictions placed on them in the next year or two, according to the U. S. Forest Service.

Associate Chief of the Forest Service, John R. McGuire, told the Sierra Club Wilderness Conference meeting in Washington that restrictions are going to be necessary.

"To maintain wilderness quality we recognize that limitations are going to have to be placed on use of some areas if we are to perpetuate the wilderness resource," he said. "In some specific cases, restriction of wilderness use is only just around the corner."

Permits for travel into certain areas would be necessary, he said, and rangers would check

hikers and horseback riders. Permits have already been required in some areas as a check on numbers of people using them.

Pupfish Rescued

The Department of the Interior has come to the aid of the desert pupfish at Devil's Hole, Nev. The Department announced it had worked out an agreement with a farming corporation to do no more pumping after Sept. 9 and through 1972. Pumping from wells has lowered the water table and endangered the few hundred remaining fish. Scientists think the pupfish may be important for genetic reasons.

Trouble at Red Rocks Refuge

High Country News—7
Friday, Oct. 15, 1971

By Norma R. Hentges

Maybe a man named George was right! This executive, with the one-track mind, said that all man had to do was manage his technology and he could attain anything he wanted. Good industrial management means an endless supply of natural resources to George and his fraternity.

Two weeks after George had stuck his air polluting cigar into his mouth after ending his lecture with, "Man can manage his world, you conservationists are kooks," I again heard a man talk about management. Management had gone from the industrial to the natural.

This time, miles from my home where George had delivered his statement, I was now sitting in a log cabin at the headquarters complex in an area clearly marked National Wildlife and Migratory Waterfowl Refuge.

For the next five days a team of four of us was to carefully go over this refuge and the surrounding area. We wanted to see if the area merited wilderness classification.

The area being studied was Red Rocks Lakes, Montana. It has the current classification of National Wildlife and Migratory Waterfowl Refuge, and should imply that the whole of the area is being devoted to just that - a refuge for all forms of wildlife and fowl.

To the ranchers in the area, this section means pasture - lush green grass for sleek cattle to fatten on. To some, it even means hay for winter feed.

To the Bureau of Sports Fisheries and Wildlife, the area holds what they consider the necessities for a grand proposal for a recreation area.

Red Rocks is a sanctuary for wildlife and waterfowl - up to a point. That point is the point of management.

The great Centennial Valley is an area where deep winter snows are caught in the bowl formed by the Centennial and Gravelly mountains. The water is slowly released to provide a 40,000-acre area of open water, marsh and upland refuge.

It is in this valley that the trumpeter swans were given their last chance for survival. Man had come close to driving this graceful bird, the largest of our waterfowl, into extinction. The lakes were set aside so the swans could be afforded the habitat they need: solitude and isolation so necessary for the trumpeters.

This area is also an important waterfowl production area for the Pacific and Central Flyways. And not only were waterfowl to be protected but also Shiras moose which winter in the area, pronghorn antelope, elk, mule deer, foxes, coyotes and the muskrat in the marshlands which provide waterfowl nesting sites. The sage grouse were also to be afforded protection.

Man set aside the area to control and manage for the wildlife. But economics soon entered the picture. The cattle ranchers needed the land for grazing, so a program was set up to allow grazing and haying. Man gave as his reasoning for such activities the fact that controlled grazing would provide more succulent and attractive grass for the waterfowl.

This year there were approximately 6,000 head of cattle grazing on the refuge. We were told that there is close control and great care is taken to see that there is no overgrazing. Yet there is an area that is currently under consideration for sagebrush control. If there had not been overgrazing then how did the sagebrush invade the grasslands?

In regard to the sagebrush control, two methods are being considered: strip cutting it in 400 foot intervals, and spraying with herbicides.

The refuge that was to provide protection for the sage grouse and the pronghorn will now be either completely wiped out or stripped.

Another winter menace that comes under the heading of "management" is the sport of snowmobiling. Moose chases by snowmobile are not unknown. There is a snowmobile route directly through the refuge. I wonder what the swans think of this brand of management that promotes such solitude and isolation?

Now to the most shocking find. In a refuge set aside to protect the rare trumpeter, hunting is allowed. This is done by permits. The number issued is determined by populations of birds and the habitat conditions.

The information was divulged by an officer on the refuge. Yet, he also related that nature can be hard on the trumpeter swans. He stated that in some years, the cygnets that are hatched and reach flight stage may number around 100. But if weather conditions are not favorable, as few as five cygnets may reach adulthood.

Allowing hunting on the lakes puts the swans in jeopardy, not only from direct accidental shooting but also from lead poisoning through ingestion of lead shot from their dabbling.

"Management" is calling for new controls

with new impoundments planned. Irrigation and sedge control is under way. It is disguised in the name of wildlife and waterfowl management, but it is actually for improved cattle grazing and increased "recreational" use. More and more modifications of the original idea of a refuge! It is impossible to give shelter to wildlife if the area becomes a playground for people.

Red Rocks was set aside by Executive Order in 1935. It now needs the additional protection afforded by the Wilderness Act. The refuge plus adjoining public lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management, which lie along the Continental Divide, should be studied and considered for wilderness. The devastating proposals by the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife should be rejected.

Wilderness classification would assure that the purpose for which the area was originally established would be carried out. The area still has what it takes to save the swans, floating undisturbed on a mirrored lake, and the rare peregrine falcon which nest high in the crags of Sheep and Taylor Mountains. All forms of wildlife and waterfowl would gain protection.

It should be our moral responsibility to preserve the Red Rocks Refuge. It is a heritage we are fighting to save. We must revise our management in all areas where natural values are preeminent. Life holds higher values than money, be it dollars in industry or dollars from fat cattle.

We must all fight to hold onto what little sections of our land we can for wilderness. Once lost, it can never be regained. If we loose our wilderness, then we can only hope that man can "manage" the human race when it has no place left to go - no area where man can be alone with Nature - NO Nature! Where then shall man find an unshorn field in which to seek peace within himself?

Trout Unlimited Files Suit

Trout Unlimited, the hard-nosed, Denver-based water conservation group has initiated its second major legal action in recent months. In August, TU, The Environmental Defense Fund and the Association to Save the Little "T" filed suit in Washington, D. C. to stop the T. V. A. from further work on its controversial Tellico Dam on the Little Tennessee River. Citizens from local residents to Justice William O. Douglas have called for a halt to the project, but TVA has ignored public demand for review and moved ahead. The suit seeks to save the river with its great fishery, Indian historical sites, etc., for posterity.

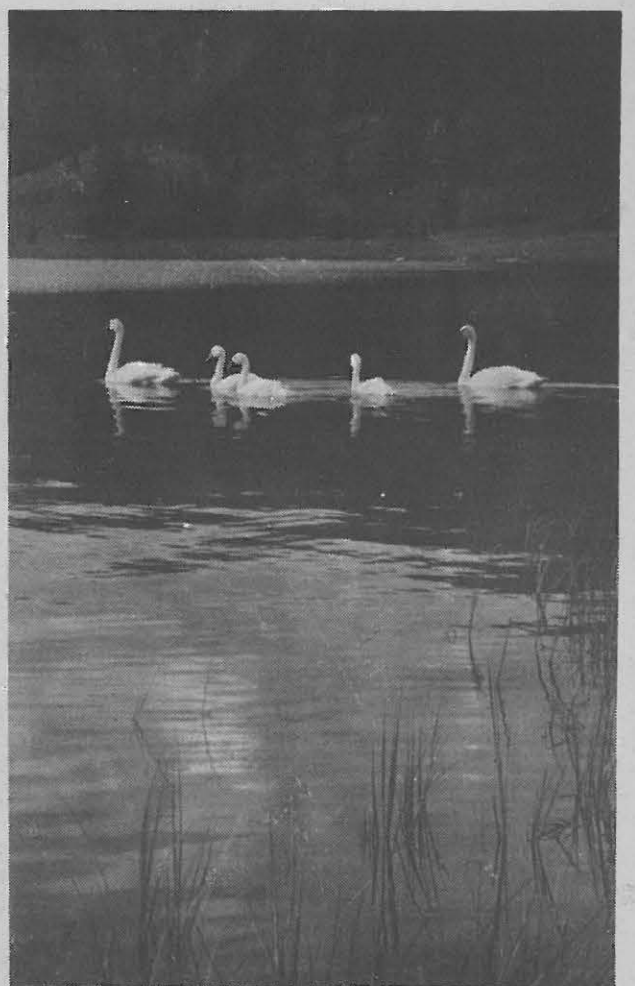
Last week another major suit was filed on September 27th, 1971, by Trout Unlimited, The Sierra Club, the Idaho Environmental Council and others, in the Federal District Court at Boise, Idaho, to enjoin any further construction activities on the Teton Dam, Reservoir and Power Plant, a project of The Bureau of Reclamation in Southeastern Idaho. The numerous plaintiffs include concerned individuals, a commercial enterprise and the National Resources Defense Council. The defendants are Rogers C. B. Morton, Secretary of The Department of Interior, Ellis L. Armstrong, Chairman of The Bureau of Reclamation, and other officials of the Reclamation Bureau having administrative or supervisory authority over the project.

The plaintiffs have alleged numerous violations of existing Federal and Idaho laws. Primarily, the plaintiffs claim that the Teton Dam project cannot be justified economically, as the costs of the project will greatly exceed its benefits, and also that the environmental impact of the project upon the ecology of the canyon of The Teton has not been properly considered as required by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and other applicable laws.

The plaintiffs claim that a thorough survey of the fish and wildlife present in the canyon has not been performed and that several important species, including golden eagles, reside in or inhabit the area and have not been mentioned in the superficial surveys which have been conducted. Plaintiffs also claim that construction of the dam will violate a 1903 Idaho statute declaring that any dam which impedes the migration of fish is unlawful.

The Reclamation Bureau's project materials purport to indicate benefits from the project for irrigation, flood control, power and recreation, but the plaintiffs claim that all of these have been exaggerated and that the actual costs of the project have been intentionally under-estimated.

In addition, the plaintiffs contend that the project will inundate a seventeen-mile long wild and scenic canyon and thus destroy one of the



Trumpeter swans fly back and forth from Yellowstone Park to Red Rocks Lake National Wildlife Refuge just west of the park in Montana. Continued protection for the swans requires the best management possible in the refuge.

best cutthroat trout fisheries in the United States. Inundation of the canyon will also eliminate the winter range of a sizeable herd of deer, elk and some moose, and will effectively deprive a large population of waterfowl of the only water in the area which does not currently freeze over during the winter. The Teton Dam's effects upon such fish and wildlife will be disastrous and irreparable.

The plaintiffs are well-aware that this project is widely supported by the people residing in the vicinity of the Teton Dam, but the plaintiffs contend that the Bureau of Reclamation has violated existing laws and therefore is subject to correction, criticism, review and other penalties for such violations. The plaintiffs believe that the local support for the project is primarily based upon the erroneous and exaggerated claims of the Bureau relative to the benefits of the project and the plaintiffs hope that such local support will dissolve when the true picture is presented.

The Complaint claims that purported recreational benefits from the project are entirely false as sufficient reservoir-type recreation already exists in the area to meet anticipated needs until at least 2020 A. D. Further, the Idaho Fish and Game Department has publicly stated that Idaho residents prefer streams and rivers to reservoirs for their recreation. As a result, the plaintiffs are contesting the loss of another wild and scenic canyon area, which is a vanishing resource and the plaintiffs are contesting the building of another reservoir, which are becoming increasingly abundant in the United States.

Dam Bid Delayed

The Teton Dam contract bid opening set for October 7 in Idaho was delayed at the last moment by an Interior Department decision to review the plans. It may be a temporary victory for conservationists who oppose the dam.

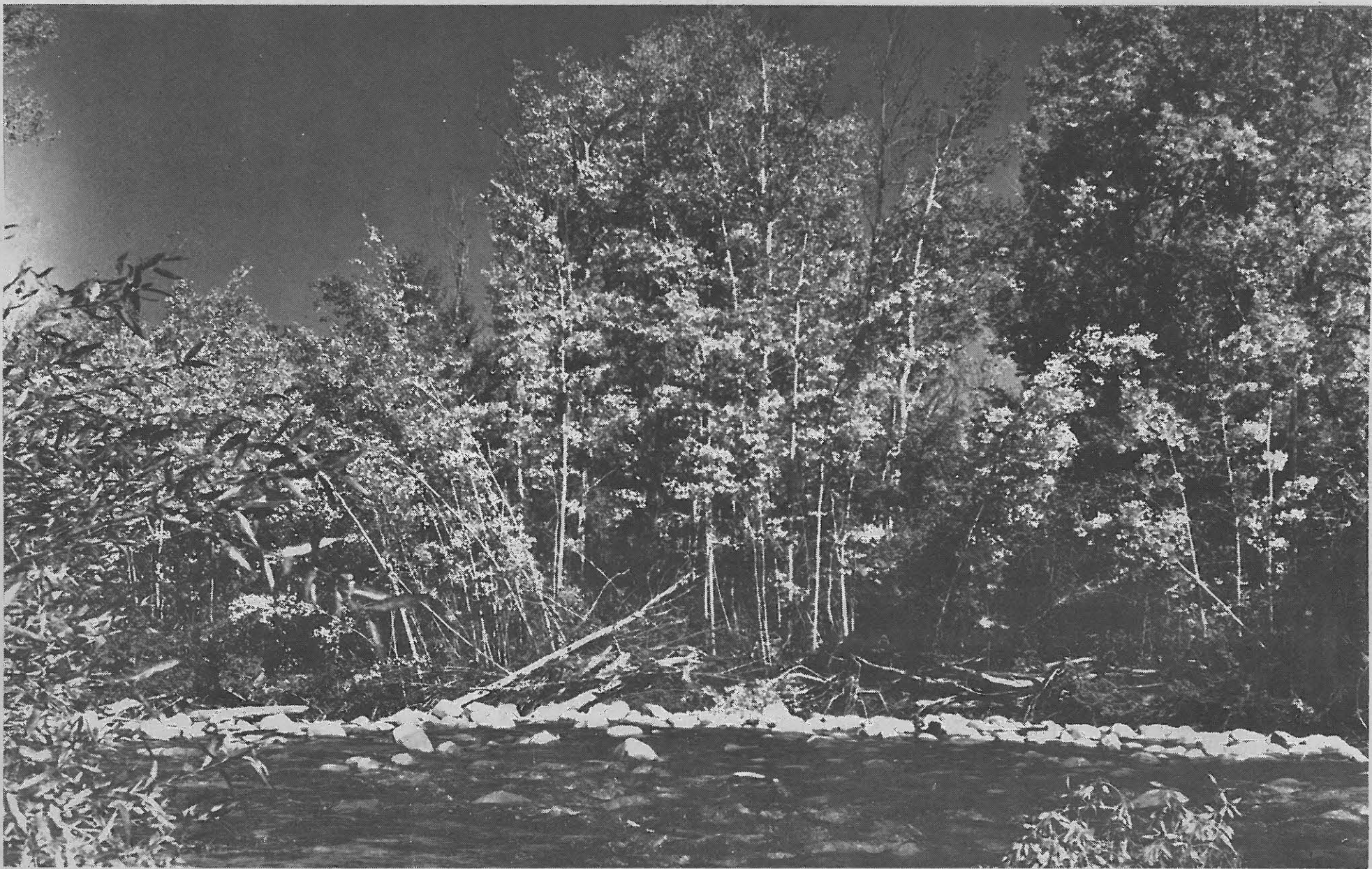
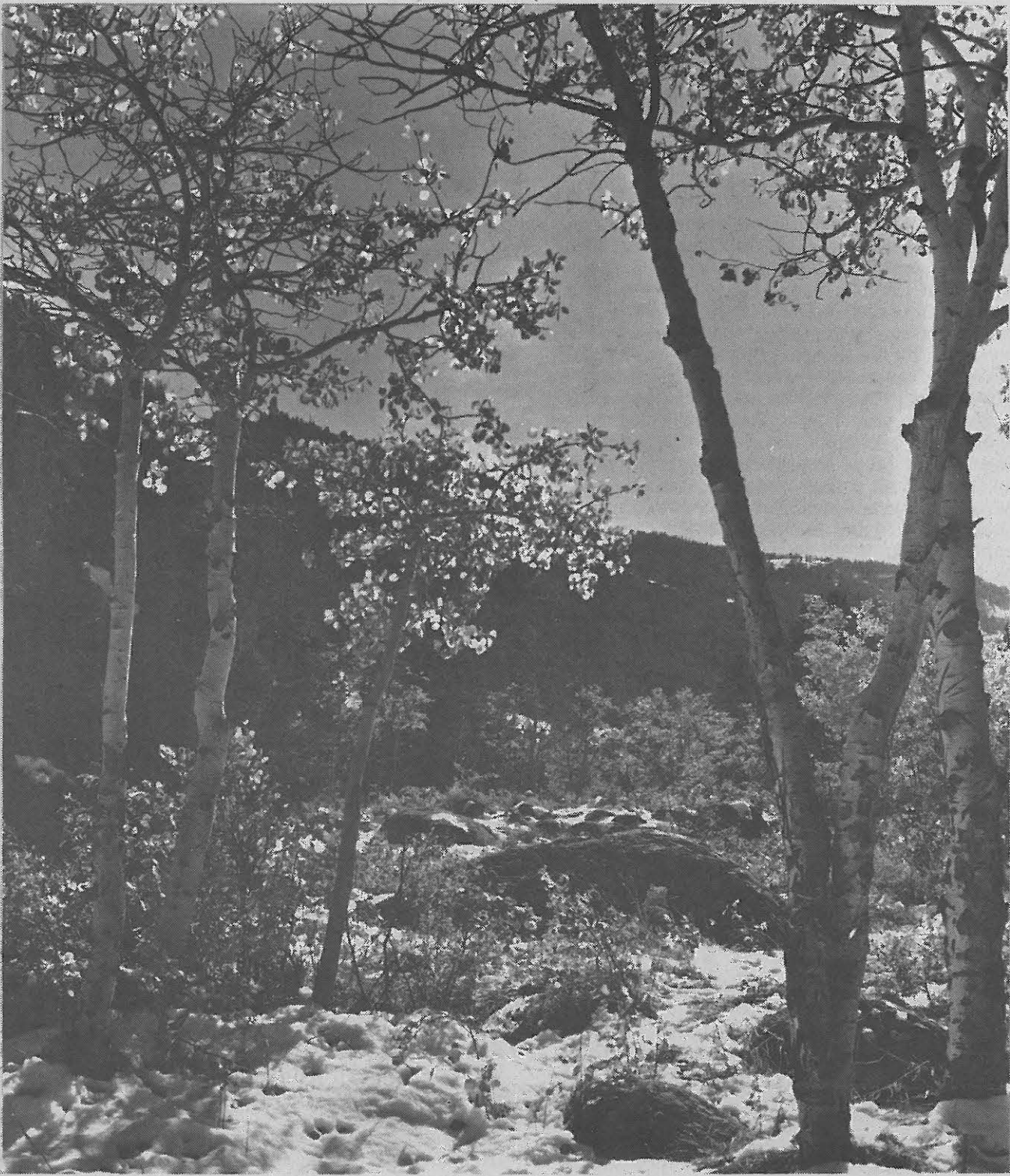
A telegram was read to an assemblage of about 200 persons gathered for the bid opening. Included were eight firms which had submitted bids for the estimated \$58 million project.

The telegram did not indicate that the Interior Department was abandoning the project, but was delaying the bid opening for at least one month.

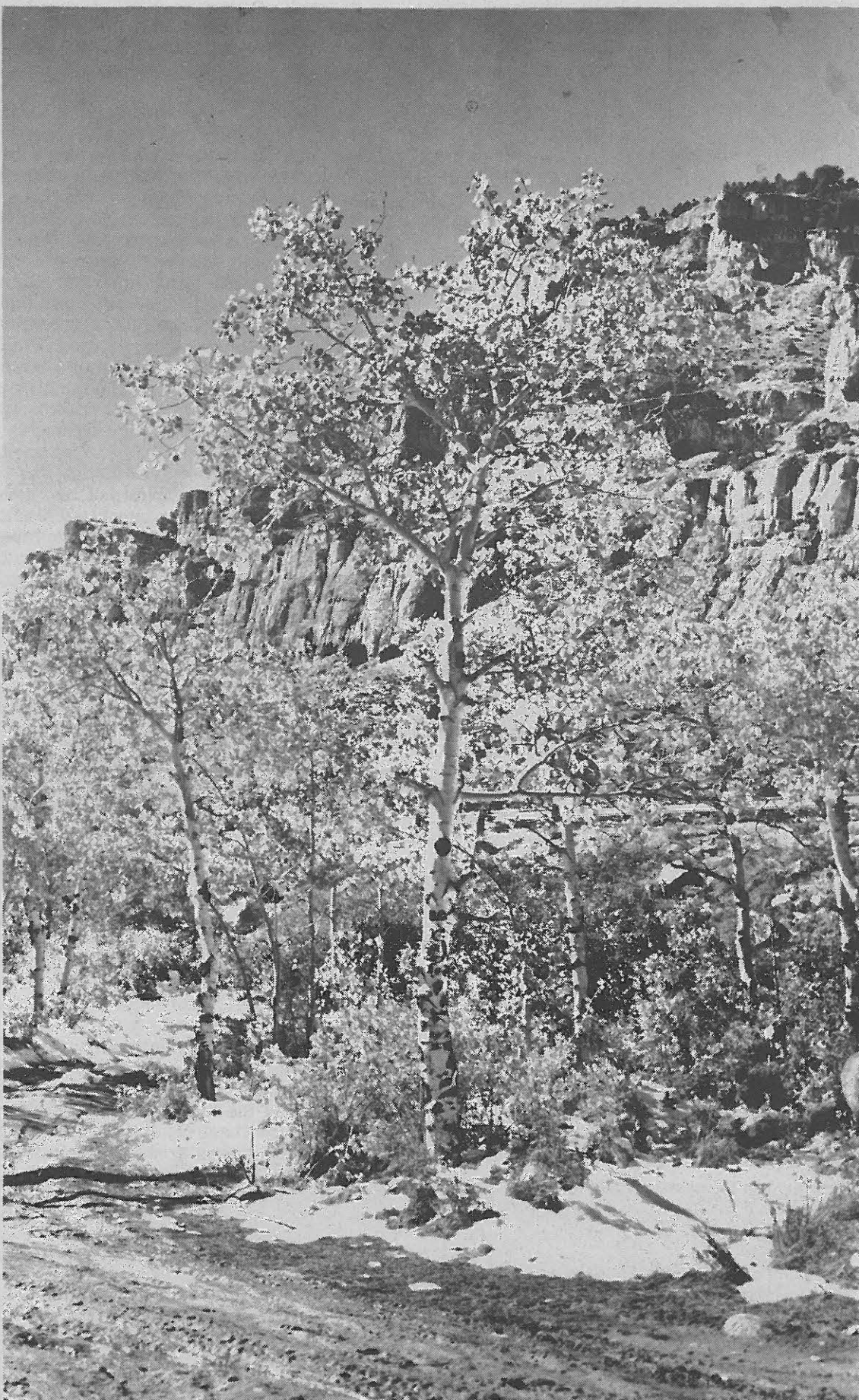
Idaho Gov. Cecil Andrus said Interior Secretary Morton had advised him that a decision would be made "in the near future on the merits of the dam and not on any political basis."

Conservationists have filed suit to stop the dam. (See story above.)

IT'S



FALL



Golden leaves and snow on the forest floor, a mountain stream at low ebb, clear blue skies, and a crispness to the air which wasn't there yesterday - this is October in the Mountain West.

Wyoming Wildlife Through The Lens

by Thomas M. Baugh

Wyoming, a hunting and fishing paradise, is also heaven on earth for the wildlife and scenic photographer. Almost every portion of this beautiful state has its resident population of finned and furred creatures. The photographic opportunities, for those willing to take a little time, are beyond listing.

You don't have to make an expensive back-country pack trip to enjoy and photograph this wonderful country. By keeping his eyes open, the casual shutterbug will encounter a panorama of both scenic beauty and living nature. Almost literally, at every turn of the road, the traveler confronts nature and the wild world at its best and most spectacular.

Entering Wyoming through the southern part of the state from the east or west, the traveler passes through some of the finest pronghorn country in the nation. The unique and sometimes humorous pronghorn inhabit much of the rolling prairie along U. S. 30 (Interstate 80) which enters Wyoming at Pine Bluffs on the East and exits several miles beyond Evanston on the West. U. S. 30, in the south-central part of the State, passes through the Red Desert area, prime pronghorn country, and an excellent example of our nation's prairie lands. Watch the sides of the hills and draws for this plentiful animal.

For those staying in Cheyenne, the state's capitol, take the short and scenic drive along the Happy Jack Road into the Medicine Bow National Forest. Pronghorn can quite often be seen in the rolling hilly country before the road enters the forest. Deer and elk make their home here and sometimes both animals can be observed by the casual traveler. For the photographer who wants that extra special shot, it helps to exercise both the leg muscles and a little woodcraft in bringing your chosen quarry into focus.

Leaving Cheyenne in a north and westerly direction, U. S. 87 passes through more rolling prairie and of course more pronghorn. The prairie provides a home for many other species, among them the ever present ground squirrels and several species of grouse. Where the highways and roads pass through wooded areas, watch for the shambling form of the quill pig or porcupine. The carcasses along the highway give mute and sad testimony to the prevalence of this interesting life creature.

If you enter Wyoming through Cheyenne, by all means stop by the State Game and Fish facilities to obtain information concerning the specific locations of wildlife throughout the state.

It is in the northwestern section of Wyoming that the wildlife photographer reaches his nirvana. For it is in this section that two of the world's most magnificent national parks exist. Both Grand Teton and Yellowstone National Parks abound in wildlife. Even the unobservant traveler will see a profusion of living creatures and no one traveling through this country should be unobservant. The wildlife panorama runs the

range from the small rodents and song birds, through the birds of prey and predators to the large herbivorous elk, moose and buffalo. The ever present beggar, *Ursus americanus*, our black bear, can be expected anywhere along U. S. 89 in either of the parks. If you encounter this great mooch, remember that he can be extremely dangerous. He may look fuzzy and enticing, but watch him yawn just once. That beautiful ivory in his large and capable mouth can, and has on occasion, made short work of the hand that attempts to feed him. It is worth a note of caution to state that all wildlife can be dangerous. The smallest rodent can bite and a short tempered bear, moose or elk can bring a tragic end to an otherwise memorable experience.

Just north of historic Jackson Hole, lies the Federal Elk Refuge. This is sagebrush country, surrounded by towering crags, snowcapped throughout much of the year. The refuge is fenced, but many points exist along the road where the photographer can shoot over the fence. The fence mesh itself is large, allowing for the passage of even the largest telephoto lens. During the late spring and early summer, the Refuge plays host to elk cows and their calves.

North of Jackson Hole, along U. S. 89, one encounters the splendor of Grand Teton National Park and a short distance north lies the world famous Yellowstone National Park. Again wildlife of many sizes and species abounds in both the parks and the surrounding areas. Perhaps the best locale to photograph the major game animals is in the Hayden Valley area of Yellowstone. In a matter of two hours in this location, the author photographed both bull elk and moose as well as a healthy, hunting coyote. If you travel through the Yellowstone-Teton country in the spring, watch the islands in the many rivers. Cow moose will often establish themselves and their calves on the relative safety and security of these islands.

When one is planning a photographic venture of this nature the question of what equipment to take always arises. For the person who is solely interested in snapshots for the family album the box camera or the handy instamatic serves the purpose. For the amateur and advanced amateur, however, the question of equipment is considerably more complex. Although the wildlife of Wyoming, especially in the park areas, is not necessarily shy, situations do occur when a good, long telephoto lens will enable you to make an exposure which would otherwise be unobtainable. That moose cow and calf on the island 50 to 75 yards away look much better through a 300 or 400 mm lens than they do through the shorter focal length lenses. The longer lenses also allow for better picture composition of relatively distant subjects as well as for close-ups of the smaller animals. Internal metering systems, especially the spot meter, provide the photographer with necessary control of the light situations. Remember that old axiom about fur eating light? A spotmeter covering a small area often results in perfectly

exposed transparencies in that it reads the light reflected from the subject. However, with distant subjects, it is often necessary to utilize an averaging metering system. Ideally, the wildlife photographer should have control of both of these variables if he intends to master the exposure problems inherent in photographing his chosen subject matter.

Available light conditions vary throughout the State. Season, time of day and habitat affect the amount of light available to the photographer. On the prairie the light during the summer months is bright and relatively harsh. This calls for f-stops in the area of f 8-16 with relatively fast shutter speeds of 250 through 1000. A note of caution concerning photography on the prairie; the prairie areas are subject to strong winds which move around quite a bit of dust. Camera and lens protection can be achieved inexpensively through the use of plastic bags. The size of the bag obviously depends on the size and amount of equipment you are using. Nothing is more disappointing than dust scratches on the emulsion of an otherwise perfect transparency. A fine camel hair brush is an excellent aid in the removal of dust particles which enter the camera or fall on the lens. By the way, that plastic bag trick also affords protection against the frequent thundershowers which occur on both the prairies and in the mountains.

Anyone who has photographed in mountain areas, know how changeable light conditions can be, especially in the mountain valleys. Although varying light poses exposure problems, it can be utilized. For both the wildlife and scenic photographer that moment of partial cloud can help create the perfect mood background.

Wyoming is a beautiful state and one which presents photographic opportunities for every photographic need, see it and shoot all of it.



Help A Wilderness!

by Norma R. Hentges

Arizona needs your help. Currently the Cabeza Prieta Wilderness proposal is being debated. The proposal, made by the federal Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, would change designation of 774,000 acres of Yuma and Pima counties from a game and military gunnery range to a wilderness area.

Arizona mine interests are opposing the establishment of a wilderness area. They contend there are 18 mineral deposits of copper, gold, silver, lead and other metals in the area. John Jett, director of the Arizona Department of Mineral Resources said, "Any withdrawal (from mineral exploration) is an artificial depletion of natural resources." Dr. Richard T. Moore, a geologist with the Arizona Bureau of Mines, said the region has a potential for geothermal energy.

Supervisor Mark Nelson of the Cabeza Prieta Game Range told a hearing in Tucson that the refuge contains 40 species of mammals, including the Sonoran pronghorn antelope and bighorn sheep, 200 species of birds and 40 kinds of reptiles.

Conservationists from both the Sierra Club and The Wilderness Society would extend the original proposal to include a total of 1,021,000 acres.

Letters may be submitted to Regional Director, Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, Box 1306, Albuquerque, New Mexico, before October 19.

Send a letter today and Help Save A Wilderness Area!

Morton Sounds Warning

Interior Secretary Rogers Morton told the governors of the Federation of Rocky Mountain States that he doubted if another great reclamation project or an electrical power development would be approved until a land use plan was in existence. Morton said 85 per cent of the nation's population is concentrated on the East and West Coasts, and that these people want to enjoy the beauty and clean air of the mountain region. He said future development in the "Western Heartland" has become critical.

Morton said President Nixon is aware of the land problem in the West and "is prepared to move boldly to solve it." He said the administration has proposed a national land-use policy.



Photo by Rusty Gooch

Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep are prizes for any photographer. They can be found in a number of areas, all the way from the deserts of Arizona to the Canadian Rockies.



Eagle Briefs

Evidence In

U. S. Attorney Richard V. Thomas at Cheyenne says federal game management officials have completed their investigation of eagle killings in Wyoming and have turned all evidence over to him. He said that after going over all the evidence, he will decide whether to go ahead and file charges or "whether it's something that ought to be presented to the grand jury." He said he still anticipates prosecutions in the case.

Prosecution Asked

Tom Kimball, executive director of the National Wildlife Federation, has called on Attorney General John Mitchell to vigorously prosecute the "wanton and senseless slaughter of eagles" in Wyoming. He said, "Speaking for millions of Americans, the National Wildlife Federation urges that your office prosecute this case to the fullest extent of the law."

Many Involved

Charles Lawrence, Chief of Management and Enforcement in the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, reports that, "Ten or 11 gunners, three or four pilots, and four or five ranchers were involved . . ." in the eagle shootings over Colorado and Wyoming. Lawrence said the federal investigation has disclosed that about 700 eagles were killed. He said the ranchers hired "young fellows who liked the idea of shooting eagles." The ranchers got the gunners to kill eagles because they thought the birds were preying on lambs.

Predator Funds Returned

The Montana Fish and Game Commission reversed itself on an earlier action to withhold \$40,000 from predator control funds. Faced with a closure of over a million acres of private lands in eastern Montana to any kind of hunting, the Commission backed down and reinstated the \$40,000 in its budget. The money is to be used only for shooting coyotes from the air (\$30,000) and rabies control (\$10,000). In the wake of the reversal, Fish and Game Director Frank Dunkle leveled charges at the appointed commission for misleading the ranchers and reneging on an "obligation." Dunkle had reference to a continuing agreement with the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife to annually provide \$40,000 in predator control funds.

League Takes Stand

Directors of the Wyoming Division of the Izaak Walton League have recommended that only the U. S. Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife be authorized to conduct predator control programs in Wyoming. The directors adopted a four-point stand on predator control. Besides the recommendation on control, the stand says that predators have no "significant, long-range detrimental effect on other wildlife population"; that sheep and lamb losses attributed to predators are exaggerated, and that use of poisons for predator control should be discontinued.

Shooting Prohibited

Earlier in the month, the Senate Commerce Committee approved legislation which would prohibit shooting or harassing wildlife from aircraft. If shooting from aircraft became necessary for limited and specialized purposes, it would only be allowed if conducted by a person with a special permit issued for that purpose.

Boycott Suggested

Canadian and American Wolf Defenders has suggested a national boycott of lamb, mutton, lanolin, sheepskin, and wool to combat the livestock lobby in Washington and at the state level.

McGee Ups Penalty

High Country News—11
Friday, Oct. 15, 1971

WASHINGTON—Sen. Gale McGee has introduced legislation which would amend the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act by increasing the maximum fine from \$500 to \$5,000 and the maximum jail term from six months to one year.

McGee's bill would provide that a second or subsequent conviction would carry a maximum fine of \$10,000 and imprisonment for a period of up to two years. Each violation of the act would constitute a separate offense.

"The penalty section of my bill provides for an additional sanction which is not currently contained in the law," the Wyoming Democrat noted. "It would require the revocation of any lease of federal government contract held by the offending party."

McGee's action came in light of hearings held by his Appropriations Subcommittee on agriculture, Environmental and Consumer Protection into the alleged slaughter of nearly 800 bald and golden eagles in Wyoming and Colorado.

"Since these revelations, Americans from across the Nation have written me expressing genuine shock and dismay that such an act could have been perpetrated in an age of growing environmental enlightenment," the Wyoming Democrat said.

McGee said he realized the simple gesture of increasing the penalties for killing or molesting bald and golden eagles would not solve all

problems concerned with the survival of these birds. It can only be an effort to control deliberate acts of destruction.

"As citizens concerned with enhancing the integrity of our environment and the survival of all living species, we must not limit our response to these revelations to shaking our heads and bemoaning the irresponsible actions of a few."

The Senator said there were many other subtle acts of man which also posed threats to other species of wildlife, as well as "our American eagles." We must also concern ourselves with these threats and give them considerable scrutiny and study.

"This legislation should be just one step in a search for a compatible relationship between man and his environment," McGee said. "We must not only learn to control our destructive tendencies, but we must also strive for the achievement and enhancement of those environmental values we are on the verge of losing forever."



Unjustified Use

"Hundreds of thousands" of birds and mammals have been the unintended victims of poisoned bait left in the wilds as part of this nation's "cruel and needless" wildlife control programs. These are the programs in which government agents and private ranchers seek to kill coyotes, prairie dogs and other species that can be a threat to livestock or crops.

The poisons are being set out "in flagrant disregard of the safety of wildlife and even man," charges the National Audubon Society, one of seven organizations which jointly filed a petition with the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency to outlaw interstate shipment of poisons for wildlife control, except to government agents in public health emergencies.

Unintended wildlife victims may be killed directly, as when poison set out for a coyote is eaten, instead, by a racoon, fox or badger; poisoned indirectly, as when a hawk or buzzard feeds on prairie dogs that have eaten poison. Audubon Society investigations led to the recent disclosures of poisoned eagles.

Furthermore, wholesale poisoning programs result in "over-kills" of the so-called "problem" animal, say the conservationists; for example, there have been needless kills of coyotes in forest areas where there is no livestock for coyotes to possibly molest. In fact, says the Audubon Society, much of the whole "predator control" concept is questionable. Some sheep ranchers try to exterminate coyotes and golden eagles on the theory that they may prey on sheep; yet both these predators prey far more heavily on rabbits - and rabbits are a threat to ranchers because they compete with sheep for the range's grass! In cases where there is justification for protecting ranchers from a legitimate wildlife threat, the conservationists add, the problem certainly can be solved in better ways than by spreading poison across the countryside.

The other petitioning organizations are the Natural Resources Defense Council, Defenders of Wildlife, Friends of the Earth, Humane Society of the United States, New York Zoological Society and Sierra Club.

Help Save Eagles!

"You can help save the American Eagle" challenges Publisher Merrill G. Hastings, Jr., in the new Fall issue of the Colorado-Rocky Mountain West magazine.

In a hard-hitting commentary on the recent killing of eagles and other wildlife by Western sheepmen, Hastings urges all concerned citizens to write their Congressman in protest of the indiscriminate slayings.

"Only an aroused public," says the Denver magazine publisher "can bring an end to the ruthless killings."

Illustrating the political influence of the woolgrowers, Hastings points out that Wyoming Governor Stan Hathaway has repeatedly sought open shooting of Golden Eagles in his state at the ranchers' behest.

Already several official investigations have been started since the dramatic expose "They're Poisoning Your Wildlife" appeared in the Summer issue of the Colorado-Rocky Mountain West magazine. The publication disclosed a close conspiracy between the Federal Government and private livestock interests in poisoning all sorts of wildlife on public lands, including the vast National Forests of the West.

In Washington, Senator Lee Metcalf praised the magazine and officially entered the article into the Congressional Record.

"This reckless poisoning is a serious threat to the survival of many of our wild birds and animals," said the Democratic Senator from Montana.

"The article explains the poisoning problem and gives it the public attention it deserves," Metcalf added as he expressed strong concern over the unwarranted killings.

The magazine is being sued for \$2.5 million by a Wyoming sheepman whom the Editors identified as a member of the poisoning establishment.



Colorado's Uncompahgre

Proposed Uncompahgre Wilderness Area

DENVER, COLO. - The US Forest Service last week cast its vote with the mining industry by proposing to declassify the entire 69,253-acre Uncompahgre Primitive Area in southwestern Colorado. This is the first time that no wilderness protection has been recommended for a national forest primitive area in the Rockies.

Not only has the Forest Service proposed to declassify this stunning area of jagged volcanic peaks and pinnacles; in addition it has also declined to consider any of the 50,000-plus acres of wild country adjacent to the present primitive area.

In sharp contrast to the government plan, a coalition of Colorado and national conservation groups are asking for a 127,000-acre Uncompahgre Wilderness. These same groups have also urged that 90,000 additional acres in the region be designated scenic areas by the Forest Service - in order to deter haphazard development, especially by the mining industry.

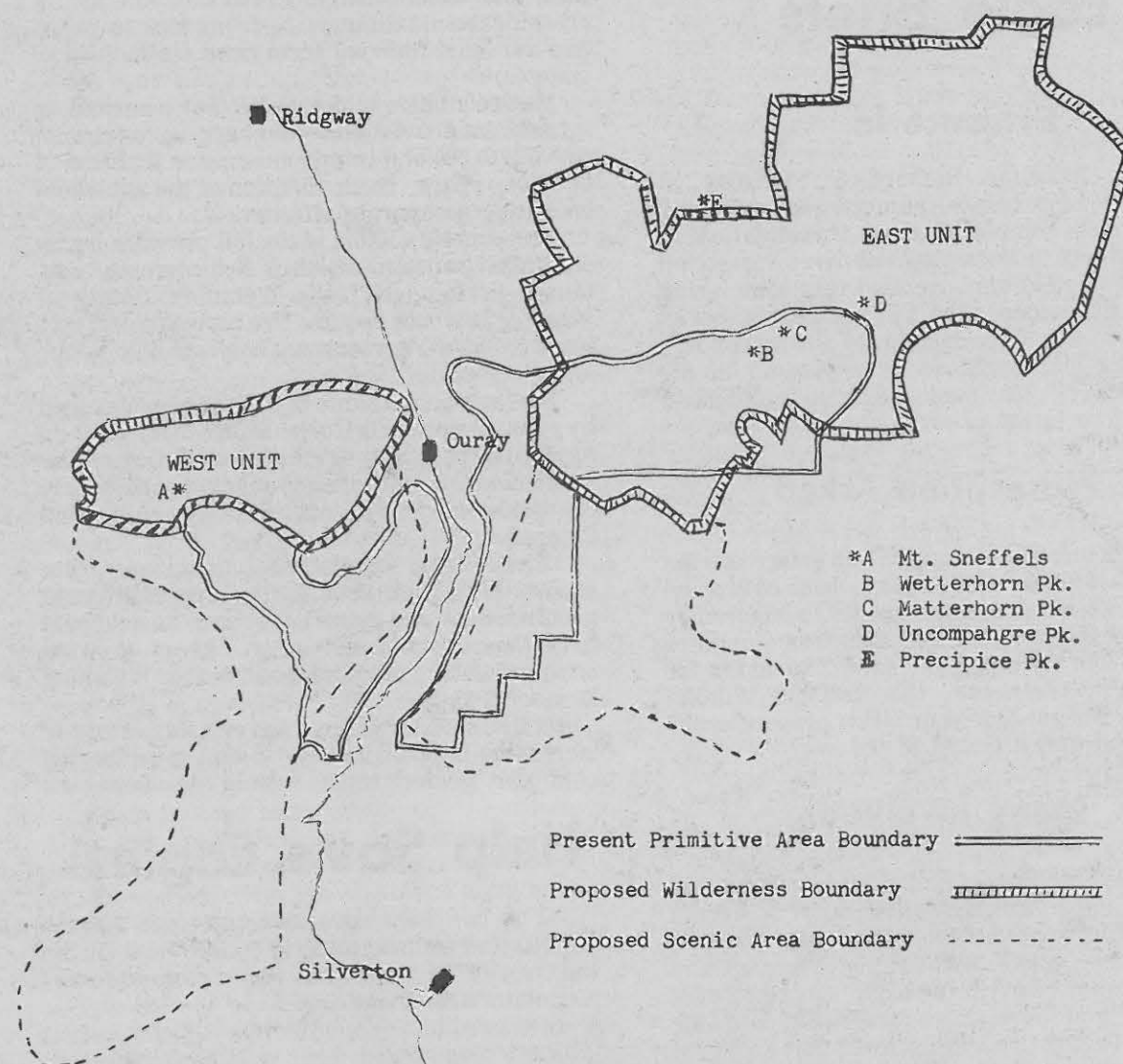
Wilderness hearings for the Uncompahgre have been scheduled for November 15 in Grand Junction, (the Ramada Inn, 718 Horizon Drive) and for November 17 in Ouray, Colo. (Ouray County Courthouse). The Forest Service has denied conservationist requests for an additional day of hearings in Denver, a center of pro-wilderness activity in the state.

Few areas in the Rockies can approach the lofty and chilling beauty of the Uncompahgre region. The proposed wilderness - as well as the current primitive area - lies in two units to the east and west of the old mining town of Ouray. Because of the abundance of scenic mountain country here, the entire region is affectionately known as "the Switzerland of America."

Most prominent are three towering 14,000-foot peaks: - Uncompahgre (14,309), Wetterhorn (14,017) and Mount Sneffels (14,150). Of these, Sneffels is best known - a classic, angular peak that is both a climber's challenge and a photographer's delight. More than twenty additional summits reach over 13,000 feet, and much of the remaining area is an unusually scenic blend of rich, rolling tundra and fantastic sawtooth rock spires and ridges.

Because of the heavy rainfall in the region, it teems with wildflowers in the late spring and summer. Though not uniformly abundant, wildlife is plentiful in many parts of the region. One of the state's largest elk herds, estimated at 1,500 summers in the area north and northeast of Uncompahgre Peak. Numerous streams drain from the high mountain basins - dropping over spectacular, high falls and through deep, multicolored canyons.

The Forest Service's main arguments for complete declassification - evident in both its formal proposal and in the Draft 102 Statement to be submitted to the President's Council on Environmental Quality - are traceable to two sources. First, is the long history of mining in the area, and second, is the Forest Service's now habitually narrow interpretation of the Wilderness Act of 1964.



Mining in the Uncompahgre dates back to the latter decades of the last century, when parts of the region bled gold and silver at staggering rates. Old access roads are still evident, and small clusters of ghost mine buildings remain in some of the high valleys. However, these man-made intrusions are minimal within the area proposed for wilderness by conservationists - and they are negligible in the contiguous areas which the Forest Service has not considered at all.

Current mining in the area is limited almost entirely to zinc and lead, which is now being dug from the earth at the Idorado and Camp Bird mines. However, since 1968, there has been an energetic rush by such industrial giants as the Humble Oil Company to patent extensive acreage within the Primitive Area. And an Ouray-based organization calling itself "The San Juan Multiple Use Committee," has launched a vigorous anti-wilderness campaign.

Behind the Forest Service's "constructionist" approach to the Uncompahgre, there appears to lie a highly nervous resistance to having its

management prerogatives limited here in any way. Both the official proposal for the Uncompahgre and the Draft 102 Statement insist on the need for "more intensive management" and the "application of modern techniques."

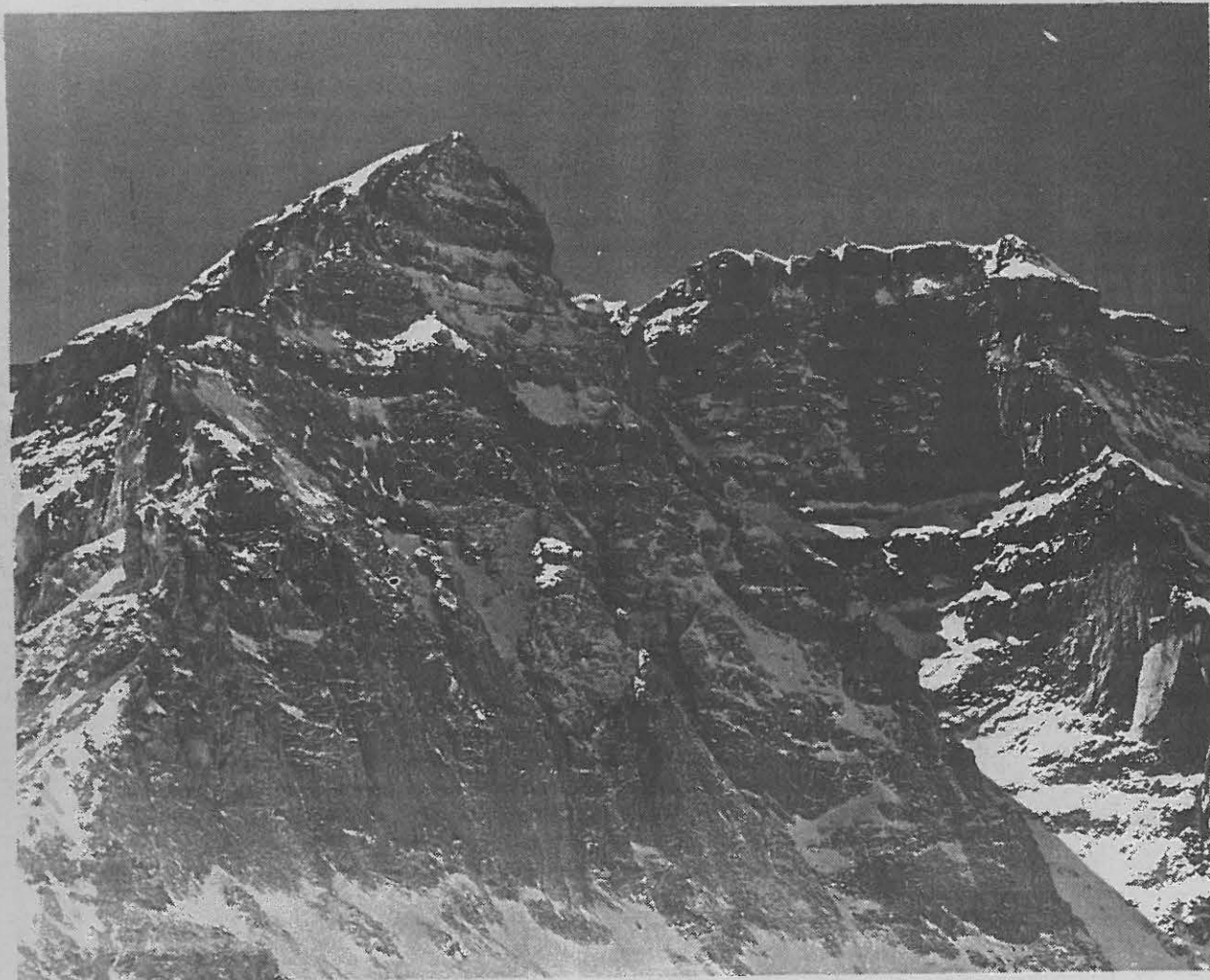
However, many conservationists believe the Forest Service has more than forfeited its right to exercise such options. Lands contiguous to the present primitive area already have been badly gutted because of lax management in a number of areas, and signs of change have not been forthcoming.

The drainage of the Big Cimarron River - three forks and a series of ragged intervening ridges topped with pinnacles, spires and turrets - is immediately north of Uncompahgre Peak and Wetterhorn Basin. Because of its volcanic origins, the Cimarron country is one of unusually unstable and shallow topsoil with only a fragile vegetative cover. And today, according to one Denver conservationist, this area is "the worst mess I've ever seen in a Colorado National Forest."

Streambanks along all three forks are a rubble of rocks, boulders, silt, sand, stumps and driftwood. Even in August, these waters run a vile coffee brown. On the West Fork, a substantial area where timber has been clear-cut is now a maze of barren eroding earth strewn with trees which simply have been felled and left. This cut of 4.5 million board feet was completed back in 1968; to date, no reforestation has been attempted at the 10,600-foot elevation where the scars remain. Heavy livestock grazing turns portions of rain-soaked meadows into sinks of mud. And the only evident "modern technique" of management as of last August was a D-4D Caterpillar bulldozer grinding along the West Fork; according to a Forest Service official, the purpose of this activity was to stabilize the streambank.

Confronted with such glaring examples of Forest Service non-stewardship in this fragile land, many conservationists are extremely uneasy about Regional Forester W. J. Lucas' claim that declassification of the Primitive Area will provide "a wide range of options to manage and enhance the... character of the area."

Copies of the conservationist recommendation for a 127,000-acre Uncompahgre Wilderness may be obtained from: The Wilderness Workshop, Colorado Open Space Council, 1742 South Pearl Street, Denver, Colo. 80203. The Forest Service declassification proposal is available from: Regional Forester, US Forest Service, Building 85, Denver Federal Center, Denver, Colo. 80225. Written statements expressing views on the future management of the Uncompahgre should be submitted to the above Forest Service address before December 20, 1971.



Monarch of the Uncompahgre - Mount Sneffels (14,150-ft.) as seen from the southeast, high in Yankee Boy Basin. It is in the proposed Sneffels (West) Unit of Uncompahgre Wilderness.

Hearings Announced

Regional Forester W. J. Lucas has announced two public hearings on the proposal to rescind the primitive area status of the 69,253 acre Uncompahgre Primitive Area near Ouray, Colorado. The first hearing begins at 9 a.m., November 15 at the Ramada Inn, Grand Junction, and the second at 9 a.m., November 17 at the Ouray County Courthouse in Ouray. People wishing to express their views on the proposed declassification and future management of the Primitive Area are invited to appear at the hearings or submit a written statement to the Regional Forester in Denver by December 20, 1971.

The Forest Service proposal for declassification points out that the area contains 16,000 acres of privately owned land, most of which is mineral patent. Hundreds of structures and buildings are scattered throughout the area. Many miles of road constructed over the past century lead to both active and inactive mines within the area. Current exploration work under the general mining law continues to make man's works substantially noticeable.

"There are two basic criteria of wilderness, as defined in the Wilderness Act, which are not met in the Uncompahgre Primitive Area" said Regional Forester Lucas. "The area must be one where the earth and its community of life are untrammeled by man - without permanent improvements or human habitation. Another criteria," Lucas said, "is that the area generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable."

"We believe that because the Uncompahgre area shows the imprint of man's work, and because of the mineral potential of the Uncompahgre's geological formations, extensive development under the general mining law will continue to be a significant impact on the land."

"The future management of this area, if declassified, will provide a wide range of options to manage and enhance the recreation, watershed, wildlife, and scenic values and wild character of the area, and at the same time allow more people to enjoy both the esthetic and economic benefits," said Lucas.

A ten page summary brochure "A Proposal, Uncompahgre Primitive Area" is available from Forest Service offices in Denver and Delta. A more detailed report entitled "Preliminary Report of the Uncompahgre Area, Uncompahgre National Forest, Colorado" is not available for mailing, but may be inspected at Forest Service offices in Denver, Delta and Washington, D.C.



Logging along the West Fork of Big Cimarron River, Uncompahgre National Forest. The proposed Uncompahgre Wilderness Area boundary is approximately a mile into the background and beneath Precipice Peak (left). This photo is looking south into the proposed East Unit of the Uncompahgre Wilderness. At this site, there was no attempt to do the clear-cutting away from the road. Elevation: approximately 10,600 feet. Cutting done by Emory Ray Timber Products - completed as of 1968 - approximately 4-1/2-million board feet of spruce-fir timber cut. No replanting to date.

Conservationists Win Battle

The 10th U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals has upheld an earlier decision by a U. S. district judge prohibiting a timber sale in the Gore Range-Eagles Nest proposed wilderness area in Colorado. The impressive legal victory over the U. S. Forest Service reinforces the conservation stand that the federal agency is not following the full intent of the Wilderness Act.

Anthony Ruckel, a young Denver lawyer and a vice president of the Sierra Club, handled the case. He said the main issue decided by the court was that the Congress and the President are the prime decision-makers in determining the areas to be included in the wilderness system, and not the Forest Service.

The Forest Service has contended that a

decision adverse to its position could damage its authority over land use in the national forests.

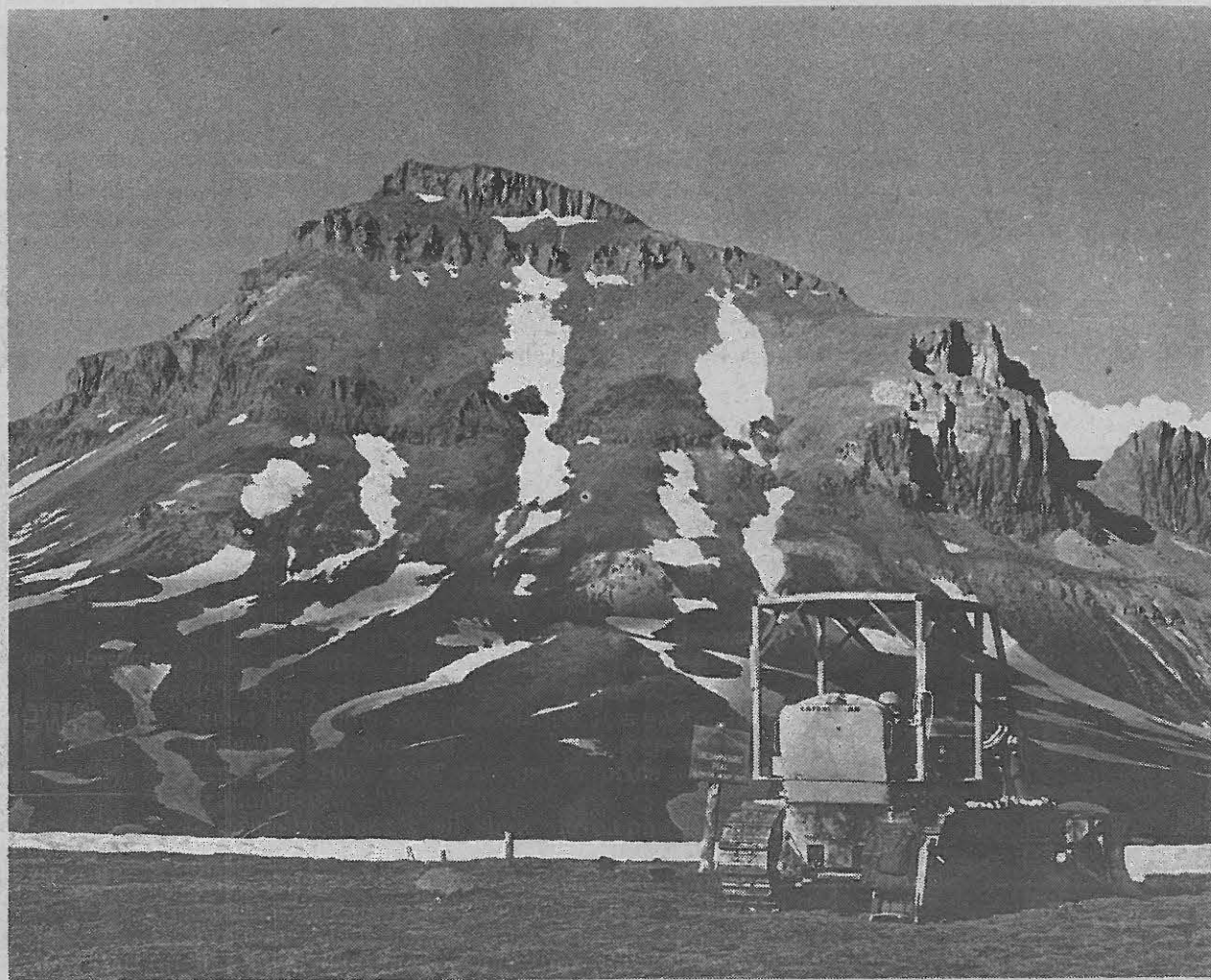
The Circuit Court decision found that conceding the right to destroy the wilderness value of areas contiguous to wilderness (by allowing a timber sale) would render meaningless the clear intent of Congress "that both the President and the Congress shall have a meaningful opportunity to add contiguous areas predominantly of wilderness value to existing primitive areas for final wilderness designation."

Ruckel said, "I think that it is a clear vindication of the principles of the 1964 Wilderness Act and extends the hope for as complete a wilderness system as possible for ourselves and succeeding generations."

Land-use Policy Is Necessity

Possible Democratic presidential candidate, Sen. Henry Jackson, told delegates to the Federation of Rocky Mountain States that a national land-use policy is necessary to cope with population problems. He said population and energy needs are clashing with environmental considerations because of no long-term planning. There needs to be coordination of environmental and energy needs.

Jackson said, "One aspect of the frontier - the 'land ethic' - may be detrimental to our best interests. Land today is no longer unlimited. The West, in a sense, has 'run out'."



Uncompahgre Peak, elevation 14,309-ft., located in the proposed East Unit of the Uncompahgre Wilderness. Photo taken on July 3, 1971, approximately two miles inside the present Primitive Area boundary. The bulldozer is a D-6 Caterpillar belonging to the Dixilyn Corp. It was apparently clearing snowdrifts from the old mining road here so prospecting could begin for the summer. In several places, the dozer lost the road and gouged across the tundra. In the area where it is parked in this photo, it apparently was used to play around. Activity is legal under the Mining Law of 1872, according to the U. S. Forest Service.

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Agencies...

pollution control measures before standards are adopted, and how many jobs might be lost.

In short, Stans appears to be spearheading what **THE NEW YORK TIMES** reporter E. W. Kenworthy characterizes (August 6, 1971) as "an offensive" by industry against EPA's vigorous implementation of the nation's clean water and clean air laws. He points to accumulating evidence that industry is actively seeking to curb Ruckelshaus' authority and, hopefully, even to gain veto power over EPA regulations. In a massive campaign to discredit so-called "environmental extremism" industry representatives are gaining sympathy in the Department of Commerce, the Federal Power Commission, the Office of Management and Budget, and some business-oriented segments of Congress for their complaint that the standards and regulations issued by the EPA are unnecessarily harsh and take insufficient account of implementation cost.

According to staff writer Roberta Hornig of **THE EVENING STAR** (Washington, D.C.), the embattled and valiant Mr. Ruckelshaus would be in serious difficulty, indeed, except for the backing of another influential cabinet officer. It turns out, not altogether unexpectedly, that Attorney General John N. Mitchell is a staunch supporter of EPA's champion environmental fighter. Ruckelshaus, himself, is playing it "cool," insisting that the conflict reflects differing constituencies and is not personal. We hope, if the situation deteriorates to a personal level, that the scrap is between Stans and Mitchell and we'll bet on Mitchell and the broader public-interest constituency (America as a whole) of the EPA to carry the day. President Nixon should step in early and resolve it before the matter begins to resemble the recent sad political debacle at the Interior Department.

In any event, the views of Ruckelshaus would seem to better serve both the nation and the Administration than do those of Stans in this matter. In witness thereof are these passages from a July 7 address by Ruckelshaus at the Annual Convention of the Izaak Walton League of America:

"...If anyone tells you we can get back to (the) halcyon days, he is either ignorant or a utopian. But anyone who tells you we have to put up with today's conditions to insure progress is surely deficient in imagination, if not common sense.

This Administration is convinced we can do better. For us, the cleaning up of our water resources ranks among the top priority tasks, not in the distant future, but right now. The EPA has already initiated over 80 enforcement actions of one kind or another against polluters under all sorts of federal laws...

In EPA, in conjunction with the Corps (of Engineers) and other federal and state agencies

we are making timely use of the Refuse Act of 1899. This historic legislation, strictly and simply regulates the discharge of waste into navigable waterways and their tributaries within the continental U.S. It has never been enforced until now.

...For the first time we will be able to get a realistic fix on what we are putting into the waters of our beautiful land. One of the biggest objections we have had to the permit program is that the forms are impossible to fill out because an individual plant did not know what it was putting into the water.

This claim-or fact-alone is reason enough for a permit program. How can any agency regulate dischargers or improve water quality if no one knows what or who we are trying to regulate?

All of the applications are not in and those that have come in are not complete, but we have made a beginning. We will get the applications in and properly completed or we will stop the discharge. It will take time and patience and determination but we will make it work.

...Permits will not be issued unless there is no violation of water quality standards or there is an agreed upon schedule written into the permit to effect a clean-up.

(Continued on page 15.)

Wyoming Area Reported Out

Congressman Teno Roncalio's bill to designate Washakie Wilderness was favorably reported by the Interior Subcommittee on Public Lands on October 1 with an amendment including the 30,000-acre DuNoir area.

Roncalio said the amendment includes the same acreage which the Senate version would have designated a Special Management Unit, with provisions against motor vehicle use, road construction and timber harvesting.

He added, "The amendment does not change, in substance, the intent of the Senate bill. Instead of relying on the administrative directive contained in the Special Management Unit provisions, the revised House bill gives DuNoir the wilderness status it deserves. After consulting Wyoming citizens during the Congressional recess and touring the area, I believe this is the proper and desired course of action."

The amended legislation must now proceed to full House Interior Committee consideration, which is not yet scheduled, before it goes to the House floor. If passed, the amended legislation would go to a House-Senate conference committee.



Congressman Teno Roncalio shows pictures of Wyoming's DuNoir country to Arizona Congressman Sam Steiger, middle, following hearings on the Washakie Wilderness bill before the Interior Subcommittee on Public Lands. As a youth, Steiger, a member of the Subcommittee, spent two summers working on ranches in the Dubois area. Joining the House members are the four Wyoming witnesses who urged inclusion of DuNoir into Washakie Wilderness. From left to right: Perc Yarborough, Dubois; Roncalio; Steiger; Keith Becker, executive director, Wyoming Outdoor Coordinating Council, Lander; Laney Hicks, Sierra Club representative; and Kathy Wilson, Dubois.

Environmental Eavesdropper

LOONEY LIMERICKS

by Zane E. Cology

The rock known as "Beaverhead"
Was doomed to the bulldozer's tread--
But this famous landmark
Known to Lewis and Clark
Was (Three cheers!) protected, instead!

Beaverhead Rock, a landmark of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, has been saved from destruction by road builders. The distinctive formation was slated for the rock crusher. Matching funds to buy the privately owned property on which it sits have been granted the Montana Fish and Game Department by the Department of Interior. The rock is west of Yellowstone Park, northeast of Dillon, Montana.

A Department of Environmental Protection has consolidated the anti-pollution activities of 16 independent agencies, boards and commissions in Connecticut.

A pollution-free auto incinerator capable of reducing 20 junked automobiles per hour will be built at Pueblo, Colo., under a grant from the U. S. Bureau of Mines. The research facility is to determine acceptable recycling methods for the junkers.

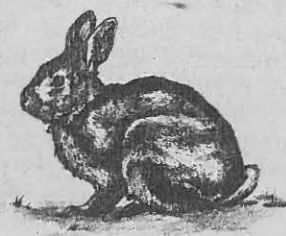
The Federal Office of Economic Opportunity is subsidizing a pilot project in Appalachia to provide voluntary sterilization for men and women. It is the first time that a federal agency has given aid on such a large scale. The project is centered in Tennessee where 30,000 poor people live isolated and untouched by American middle-class comfort. They are unaware of most birth control methods. Some families have 10 or more children.

Northern California's last free-flowing rivers may be doomed to dams as a state senate bill failed of passage. A measure which would have declared the Eel, Klamath and Trinity Rivers as "wild rivers" was defeated.

PCB has appeared in foodstuffs packaged in recycled paper. The chemical is similar in some respects to DDT and has caused liver damage and birth defects in experimental rats. The material has been traced to "carbonless" carbon paper which is recycled with other paper. Unacceptably high levels have been found in some foods.

Cobalt-60 is successfully being used as a tertiary water treatment system. Nuclear radiation removes about 98 percent of all solids from sewage effluent, breaks down about 90 percent of the detergents, eliminates all foaming, and kills many viruses and 99.9 percent of all bacteria, without the use of chlorine. Costs of a Cobalt-60 plant may run as low as 50 per cent of a traditional plant.

The Adolph Coors Brewing Co. cash-for-cans program has paid out \$848,378 for more than 203-million aluminum cans and containers through July, 1971. The company pays a dime-a-pound for all aluminum containers. The metal is recycled.





Mt. McKinley towers over one of the last relatively unspoiled areas in the United States. Here we have a chance to "do it right." With careful land use planning, we can

allow that development which is necessary and protect natural resources which will be necessary for our children.

Alaska - "Last Chance To Do It Right"

by Gregory Paul Capito

The gold seekers have come and gone. Yet the romantic lure of Alaska's far north lingers on. Thousands have fled the crime, the pollution, the urban blight, and moved to Alaska. Willing to endure the hardships of climate, distance and exorbitant cost of living, these modern day pioneers look ahead for a chance to start anew, to do it all over again, but this time right. Let's see what strides these people have made to insure the wise development of America's "last frontier."

In distant Barrow, on Alaska's Arctic coast, "Happy Eskimos" perform the blanket toss for seasonal visitors, while derelict cars line the streets and urine filled fifty gallon oil drums clutter the landscape. Modern day sanitary facilities and refuse collection haven't quite made it this far north.

In Alaska's interior, the city of Fairbanks nestles along the Chena River, this city's means of waste disposal. Sound familiar? While in mid winter, smoke and automobile exhaust mix to form a noxious, murky variety of air pollution that local residents term "habitation fog".

Anchorage, the state's largest city, is a monument to poor urban planning. Leapfrog housing developments and traffic congestion, so commonplace in the "Lower 48," are now an accepted facet of life in this far northern city. Urban Alaskans are already paying the price for uncontrolled, poorly planned, land use development. To complicate this situation, Anchorage is bordered on three sides by high mountain peaks and possesses, in character, the same air pollution problems as Los Angeles, California.

Farther west, in the sprawling Aleutian Island chain, the scars of World War II are clearly evident. Abandoned military fortifications and discarded equipment mar the landscape. The nation can thank the Department of Defense for this contribution to the "Great Land." While on Amchitka Island, in an area which is geologically unstable, the Atomic Energy Commission presses for yet another underground nuclear blast.

In Southeastern Alaska's rainforests, lumbering interests have made a shambles of portions of the Tongass National Forest, much to the consternation of both wildlife and conservation officials. The area around the city of Ketchikan, a lumbering and commercial fishing center, literally reeks from the stench and smoke of pulp mills located at the city's limits. It appears that air pollution controls haven't quite made it this far north either.

What does all of this "development" mean? Businessmen and industrialists throughout the nation clamor for the rapid exploitation and development of Alaska's natural resources. "Our country cannot afford to run short," one leading corporation advertises. However, a closer examination of the facts indicates that there is significant international investment in most phases of Alaska's resource development. In fact, ninety-five per cent of the state's mineral, wood and petrochemical products are shipped to Japan, at huge profits, to satisfy that

country's insatiable appetite for natural resources. Does the end justify the means? Are the myths of manifest destiny and superabundance so deeply rooted in our culture that we cannot remember the terrible blunders of the past?

What is needed in the forty-ninth state is a comprehensive plan for land use development coupled with a broad program for resource appraisal and utilization. This program is needed now, before rampant exploitation reduces the state to a ravaged wasteland. An intelligent program embodying federal, state and local interests must be devised in order to insure wise development of Alaska's vast

natural resources.

We've made critical mistakes in the past. We need not make these same errors in the future. "Alaska is our last chance to do it right — the first time."

Gregory Paul Capito is a graduate student at the University of Wyoming majoring in Resource Allocation, Department of Geography. He is enrolled in an environmental writing seminar which led to this article. He was a field research assistant in Alaska during the summers of 1967 and 1968.



Frome...

thwest Regional Forester for the U. S. Forest Service. Vice President Lloyd E. Partain is Assistant to the Administrator of the Soil Conservation Service. Both serve in the Department of Agriculture. Connaughton succeeded Paul M. Dunn, a former vice president and now a consultant to the St. Regis Paper Co.

Frome candidly says, "I was shut out by the Forest Service and the timber industry which dominate the AFA."

Uneasiness developed about a year ago when Frome led a rising crescendo of protest over Forest Service policies. It was then that he was asked to submit his copy for editorial censorship. When Frome declined to submit his copy, his column was prefaced by a disclaimer. The disclaimer told the reader, "Mr. Frome's views are his own and do not necessarily reflect the policy of The American Forestry Association."

When Frome's pen continued to assiduously dissect Forest Service policies in regard to clear cutting, serving the special interests, and the unresponsiveness to public concern, he had sealed his own fate in the magazine. The die was cast even as such damning reports as those by the Bolle Committee and the Wyoming Study Team came in.

His column was originated -- "To express the independent voice of the public" and was not to be subject to editorial whim.

Executive Vice President William E. Towell wrote Frome that it appeared he did not want to adhere to AFA policies. When Frome wrote in reply asking for a clarification of AFA policies, he received no answer.

Frome's column appeared in the pages of American Forest for the last time in the August, 1971, issue. There was no mention or notice of its demise. Similarly, no mention is made in the September issue.

Letters from many members of the AFA have already asked what happened to the monthly column. They will receive little consolation from the lame excuses of the AFA hierarchy.

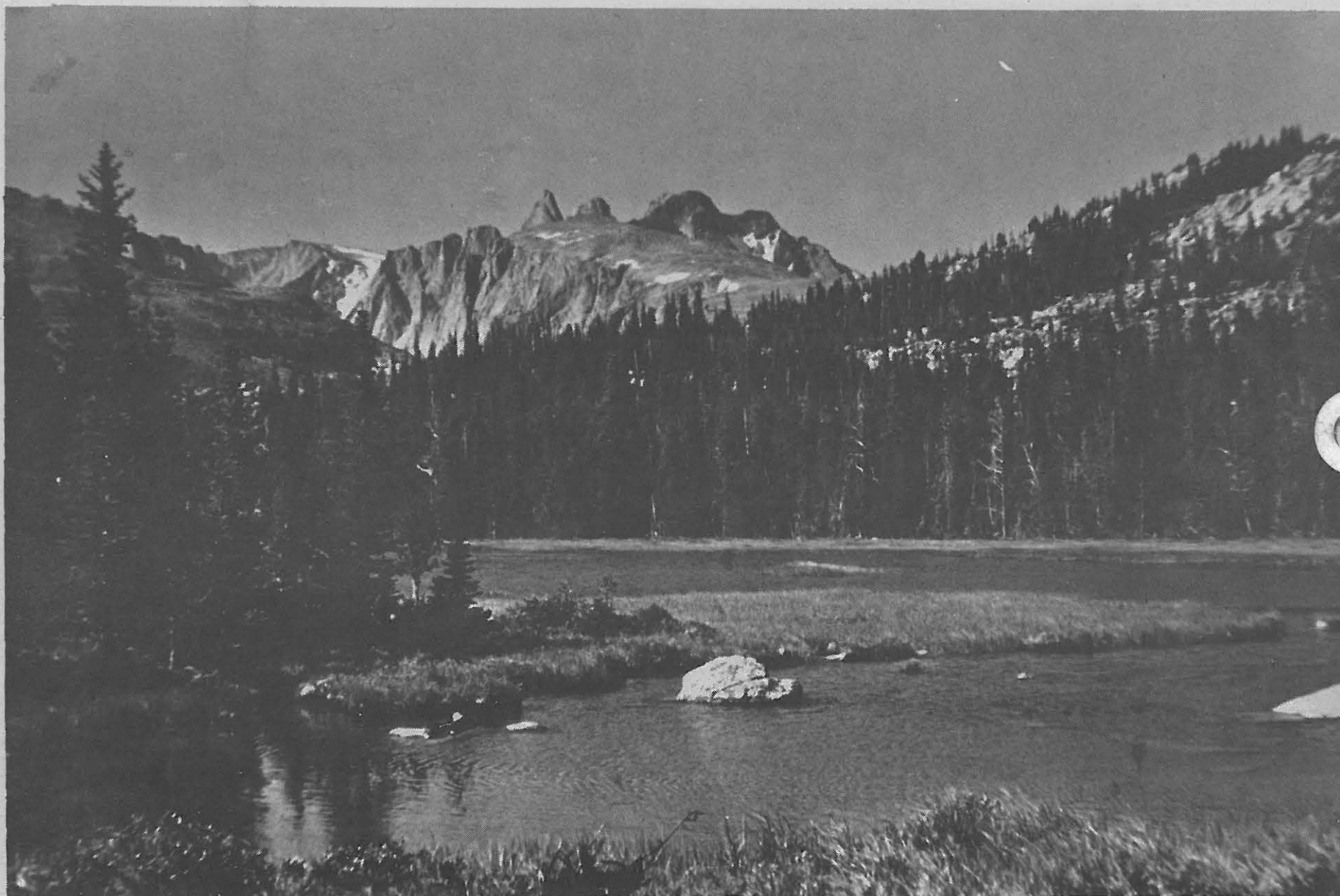
Agencies...

This is not a one stop ad hoc, hit-or-miss enforcement action that singles out one visible polluter in the vain hope that his fellow polluter up and down stream will get the message. This is a massive, across the board, even handed effort to get 40 to 100 thousand dischargers to pull together to stop the rape of the nation's waters. Instead of nit picking, carping, complaining and second guessing everyone in this country who is interested in environmental sanity should applaud this courageous step.

...We do not contend that the permit program is the end of all our troubles. We have asked Congress for more authority...Under the President's plan, both industrial and municipal polluters would have to meet precise effluent standards. New industrial plants would be required to install the latest and best waste treatment technology on the market. EPA would be empowered to subpoena witnesses or records, and to require monitoring and reporting of pollution. If a violation happened, we could order it to stop and assess heavy fines.

As you can see, this is no "sweetheart" bill, it is a plan for fundamental reforms that could put us over the hump in our efforts to restore our riparian heritage. In combination with our proposed Pesticides and Toxic Substances Control bill, we would have effective power to limit the quantity of the most dangerous chemicals entering the total environment."

An administrative environmental donkeybrook is evidently in the offing unless somebody check-reins the team. It should not be allowed to proceed to a point where public credibility in Presidential intent to assure a high quality of life becomes undermined. President Nixon should move quickly to stamp out this potentially disastrous conflagration before it heats up uncontrollably. We trust he will not listen to any misguided advice that EPA "wait a minute"—the nation has already waited over 7,889,000 minutes for water pollution control, alone. We trust that President Nixon will recognize that Time Won't Stands Still for desperately needed pollution control.



Blacktooth, 13,014 ft. jagged peak in Wyoming's Cloud Peak Primitive Area, looms above Penrose Peak in this view from Frying Pan Lake. The primitive area in the

Bighorn National Forest must be reclassified for wilderness status.

Geyser Activity Draws Questions

Widespread changes in thermal activity in one of the most volatile geyser basins in the world at Yellowstone National Park has Rangers and geologists guessing as to what's going on beneath the park's volcanic crust.

The normal schedule of eruptions at the Norris Geyser Basin suddenly became erratic last month while hot pools and clear springs turned murky with underground sediment. One new feature opened up in the middle of the nature trail which leads visitors safely through the steaming basin.

Geologists estimate that the molten core of the earth lies about two miles beneath the surface at Norris. Heat radiating continuously to the surface prevents even the heaviest Rocky Mountain snows from accumulating in the basin.

Norris is located about 30 miles north of Old Faithful which appears not to have been disturbed by what ever changes are taking place underground.

Some of the hot pools and geysers lived up to their names, like "Africa Geyser," which is pounding and exploding now more than ever. The names of other features might give future visitors to the park reason to ponder.

"Emerald Spring" is more like a chameleon now, alternating from bright green to a murky gray. And dark brown mud is seen gushing out from the enlarged opening of "Green Dragon Spring," instead of clear water.

Logging Curbed

Region One Forester Steve Yurich, headquartered at Missoula, Montana, has announced a ban on clear-cutting in the Bitterroot National Forest except where other methods won't work. The Bitterroot has been the center of swirling controversy over clear-cutting and terracing.

Other stipulations in the forester's directives will further curb clear-cutting practices. These relate to slope, soils, water quality and wildlife values. One of the recommendations says, "areas should be withdrawn from cutting and the allowable cut reduced correspondingly where clear-cutting is unacceptable because of aesthetic considerations and where other cutting methods are not feasible."

The forester's directives said that environmental consideration must have at least equal priority with commercial goals of timber harvests in the forest.

At least one geologist speculates that "Steamboat Geyser," once the highest in the world, is dead for good. Playing as high as 400 feet in 1963, more than twice the height of Old Faithful, the geyser in recent years has shown only minor activity and now has ceased altogether.

The Hebgen Lake Earthquake in 1959 set off the most profound thermal fluctuations in the history of the park. Changes and new eruptions were reported in all the geyser basins along the

Firehole River as well as at Norris on the Gib. River.

The earthquake was one of the strongest ever recorded in the United States. The first heavy shock brought an avalanche of rock in which 28 persons camping along the Madison River just outside the park lost their lives.

While geologists are impressed with most recent activity at the Norris Geyser Basin, they stress that there appears to be no danger of a repeat performance.

Norton To Represent FOE

Boyd Norton, free-lance writer and photographer and former nuclear physicist from Idaho, is serving as Rocky Mountain representative for Friends of the Earth. He will be working out of a regional field office at Evergreen, Colorado.

Norton will coordinate conservation activities in Colorado, Utah, Wyoming, and Idaho. Within this area, Norton intends to involve FOE in examining the destructive oil shale development and strip mining of coal.

"Friends of the Earth is seeking nationally to stimulate research into more rational and less environmentally damaging energy sources, such as solar power. At the same time, we seek to educate the public on the need to conserve electricity," Norton said. "The strip mining of oil shale deposits and coal here in the Rocky Mountain West promises devastation on an even larger scale than that of Appalachia. And it's not too hard to envision vast reaches of our unspoiled West covered with a pall of smog such as is happening in the Four Corners area already. All of this is being done to provide power to Los Angeles to run their electric can openers. It must not happen here."

FOE will also work to halt proliferation of destructive land development schemes, and continue to press for additional wilderness.

Friends of the Earth is a hard-hitting conservation organization, newly arrived on the national scene. It is not tax deductible because it engages in substantial lobbying.

Established in 1969 by David Brower, former executive director of the Sierra Club, Friends of the Earth has major offices and staff operations in Albuquerque, Anchorage, Honolulu, London, New York, Paris, Portland, Seattle, Washington, D.C., and Zurich. Main headquarters are in San Francisco.

Norton is seeking volunteer help of concerned citizens to help carry out the programs of Friends of the Earth. The address of the office is Route 2, Box 437, Evergreen, Colorado 80439. Telephone is (303) 674-3009.

Recycled Paper

The following from the Massachusetts Audubon Society News may be of interest to those who have inquired about recycled paper.

"The Society has ordered the change to recycled paper more as a gesture than a practical matter. Neither printing stock nor stationery are ideal (uses) for recycled paper... The practical use of recycled paper is in shipping and packaging cartons where the imperfections cause no problem. The carton industry should be able to use all the fiber collected in paper drives. It can use 100 percent recycled paper. The printing stock which the Society will use varies from 20 to 25 percent.

"While it may be possible to make printing paper from 100 percent recycled paper, the de-inking process necessary to remove impurities causes more chemical damage to the environment than the production of new paper.

"While it has been estimated that a ton of recycled wood pulp saves 17

"While it has been estimated that a ton of recycled wood pulp saves 17 trees (size unspecified), saving trees is not the major object of recycling paper. Paper is by far the bulkiest commodity clogging town and city dumps. The object is to prevent not only waste but also to reduce the needless destruction of land involved in dumping material which could be used again."