

High Country News

The Outdoor and
Environmental Bi-Weekly

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Lander, Wyoming

Friday, Aug. 4, 1972



Photo by Dale A. Burk

Floaters ride the white waters of Montana's Middle Fork of the Flathead River.

The Flathead - A Wild River in Danger

Photos and text by Dale A. Burk, Environmental Editor, THE MISSOULIAN, Missoula, Montana

It begins hard against the Continental Divide in the steep, highly erosive slopes where once a glacier rode the earth. It tumbles down to form quiet pools that alternate maddeningly with rushing bursts of wild, cold and clear water. And then it takes on other rivulets, and other streams, and soon it is a wild, surging river that drains a wilderness and provides the vital spawning grounds for two native species — the westslope cutthroat trout and the Dolly Varden.

It is a wild river. It is, in fact, the one that originally inspired Dr. John Craighead in the early development of the wild river concept that led to the ultimate writing of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. And it is also an important free-flowing river in its upper stretches. It is important both to the life-giving spawning grounds its headwaters provide and the lifeline it provides those same fish to gigantic Flathead Lake a hundred miles downstream. It is to the lake they journey in their third year and from whence they once again return to spawn in the same headwaters that gave

them life.

It is the Middle Fork of the Flathead River in northwestern Montana, draining one of the nation's largest de facto wilderness areas. It is the subject of a concentrated effort by conservation and sportsmen's groups to save not only it but the wilderness about it. The Middle Fork country lies between Glacier National Park on the north and the Bob Marshall Wilderness on the south. It is mostly wild country yet, though the logging roads threaten its innards and logging interests push to cut its lodgepole pine and Douglas fir and occasional spruce thicket.

But it is also elk and grizzly country. And it is, in its ecological entirety, the site of the proposed 418,700 acre Great Bear Wilderness. Advocates of designating the area as wilderness expound its virtue as a last stronghold of the mighty bear along the Continental Divide and the value it affords survival of the grizzly by providing him a natural corridor. It is a link, if you will, between the park to the north and the Bob Marshall to the south.

The proposal has met with general public acceptance, with the expected exception of the big money timber interests. At present the area is one of the Forest Service's Wilderness Candidate Study areas — in fact, the largest proposed study area in the Northern Region. It also is the subject of a Coordinated Resource Management Inventory study by the Flathead National Forest. And the river itself is presently under study for possible (and likely) classification under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

And yet, the anti-wilderness forces continue in their efforts to deny protection to the area. That's why the Middle Fork of the Flathead Preservation Committee says the area needs both wilderness designation under the Wilderness Act of 1964 and wild river status for the upstream 35 miles of the river itself — to protect the drainage and to prevent construction of a dam on the river. A dam was proposed years ago, at Spruce Park some seven miles upriver from where the

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HIGH COUNTRY

By Tom Bell

A recent environmental forum in the nation's capitol sponsored by the Conservation Foundation has once again pointed up the dilemma facing the western states. Coal and the Future of the American West was the discussion topic. I was privileged to participate in the half-day session.

The conclusions, if any, that could be reached following the session are not reassuring. Our discussion was mainly confined to the vast, undeveloped coal fields of Montana and Wyoming. However, the developing experiences of the Southwest were used to throw some light on what we can look forward to here.

At this point in time we do not know how much development is coming, nor how soon. But that development is coming is unquestioned. And that the far-reaching effects will bring about great change in the style and quality of life in the area is also unquestioned.

Of paramount concern to those of us from Montana and Wyoming is the lack of overall planning for future development. It was particularly and vigorously expressed by Gary Wicks, Director of the Montana Department of Natural Resources, and by Ted Schwinden, Commissioner of State Lands. Both men related the frustration of knowing what their state faced, and yet being unable to cope with the situation. The state simply does not have the money nor the manpower to do the comprehensive planning needed. The same can be said for Wyoming.

The size of the area, the scope of the development, the coal and water resources required, and the resulting impact of people and heavy industry are beyond the capabilities of any one state. It will require a super-agency. But the states must be allowed to function effectively within that super-agency.

More than anything else, the problems facing Montana, Wyoming and North Dakota particularly tend to point up common national problems.

How can there be adequate, effective planning for coal development in this one region without a clearly enunciated national energy policy? Concomitantly, how can we plan for reasoned, enlightened land and water use without the larger framework of a comprehensive national land use policy?

The need for an energy policy has become a crisis in and of itself. Even the influential people within the energy system are speaking out. A recent UPI article said the energy industries want a new governmental department established to lend them direction. The article quoted John Brock, senior vice president of LVO Corp., as saying, "Energy is the root of our balance of payments, our standard of living and our defense system, among others, and it is things like that that wars are fought over. On that basis alone, I think one of the most important cabinet positions we could have would be secretary of energy."

Development for power, coal gasification and coal liquefaction in Montana, Wyoming and North Dakota, as well as the Southwest could be a disaster without an energy policy. Uncoordinated, helter skelter development could be as ruinous to the West as it has been to areas of the East. Environmental problems could be monumental.

Wyoming's newest water and land resources planning program for northeastern Wyoming anticipates the need for much more water than is available within the area. The plan proposes a number of alternatives. Among these are such ambitious projects as a 40-mile tunnel beneath the Big Horn Mountains, and several schemes to dam the Green River in the Colorado River Basin for water transport to the Powder River Basin.

At the same time that Wyoming is talking about removing up to 113,000 acre feet of water from the Colorado, concern is being expressed about water problems there. Salinity as it affects Lower Colorado Basin states and Mexico is a problem which is going to have to be dealt with. Proposed development of oil shale could quickly deplete all available supplies of water in the Colorado.

John Rold, Director of the Colorado Geological Survey, recently said the population of Colorado's West Slope could double if oil shale is developed. He also said not much was known about the availability of water for such development.

Those concerned with environmental problems become more concerned each passing day. When asked at the environmental forum in Washington, Deputy Under

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The Powder River Basin of Montana and Wyoming is ranch country. The 1970 census of northeastern Wyoming showed an approximate population of 50,000 people, 415,000 head of cattle, and 610,000 head of sheep. The change from agriculture to heavy industry will bring about a drastic socio-economic change in the entire area.

Letters To The Editor



Editor:

Please renew our subscription to **High Country News** for another year. It's a great publication — some of the best conservation reporting we've seen anywhere, excellent background material for our own freelance travel writing.

Louise & Mike Burton
Monterey, Calif. 93940

* * *

Editor:

Enclosed find my check for extension of my subscription, to your wonderful magazine.

You are the voice of us who wish very much to preserve as much as possible the beautiful grandeur and natural beauty of the God-given country of the high mountain country and free flowing rivers that arise in those areas. Keep up the good work.

Sincerely,
Ralph A. Fry
Montezuma, Kansas

* * *

Editor:

We do enjoy your paper and are for all you stand for. We have a lot of the same problems here in Missouri — pollution-poison spraying and destroying so much cover for wildlife. We have quite a lot of deer, quail, rabbits and lots of coyotes here in southwest Missouri.

We have visited quite a lot of your part of the country and really enjoyed it.

Enclosed is our subscription. My husband reads it, then we keep it for our Grandson.

Thank you, again.
Ruby E. Johnson
Carthage, Missouri

* * *

Editor:

I recently received a gift subscription to your paper and want to praise you and your staff for your informative work.

I always knew how truly wonderful Wyoming was, but the past two months have implanted this idea in my mind. I was a resi-

dent of Wyoming for six years while attending the University. During this time I was one of the many who headed for the mountains to "get away from it all." I was appalled at all the litter that people seem to think will vanish and produce fertile soil or food for wildlife.

To those who feel industrial growth and fenced in plains are the answer to Wyoming, I invite them to the Midwest where wildlife is seen in picture books and blue sky is a cherished memory.

Sincerely,
Mary C. Johannsen
Moline, Ill. 61265

* * *

Editor:

My family and I are currently planning to move to Wyoming or Montana to live and practice medicine.

We have been following, with interest, the debates and discussions appearing in various newspapers and magazines concerning plans for mass strip-mining and water diversion in Wyoming and Montana. Enclosed is one such article from a Kentucky newspaper. As the article points out: your residents should pro-

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HIGH COUNTRY NEWS

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Guest Editorials

Reprinted from the DESERET NEWS

Public Will Demand Clean Air

More power plants must be built if America is to meet the growing demand for more energy.

Despite repeated assurances that new power plants will include the latest and best safeguards against pollution, many Americans aren't entirely convinced.

That much is clear from this week's report from Environmental Protection Agency, apparently leaked to the Denver Post. The EPA report, claims the Post, declared that the Grand Canyon could fill up with haze, and aspen groves on Colorado hillsides could be stripped of their leaves unless adequate restrictions are placed on power plant development in the West.

In addition, claims the EPA, dangerous heavy metals such as poisonous arsenic, selenium, and mercury can be expected to find their way into the soil and water.

Those are serious charges, and some of them sound familiar.

Take, for example, the charge that vistas across unspoiled distances of more than 50 miles will be reduced to a half-mile, and that the Grand Canyon and other canyons along the Colorado could fill up with hazy particulates.

That prospect, of course, has been denied by the power companies. Only last February,

an association of 23 Western utilities denied that smokestack emissions from a network of electric generating stations in the Southwest would combine to create one massive pollution problem over the entire region.

A meteorological study, they said, showed that the atmosphere in the region does not represent a single "air shed," but a series of separate air sheds and that there was little significant meteorological interaction between the sheds during stagnant periods.

There must be adequate emission controls on new plants in what has traditionally been an area of fresh, unpolluted air. Power advocates can hardly blame the environmentalists for wanting to retain as much as they can of that diminishing commodity.

Professional conservationists aren't the only Americans who are keeping a close eye on the power plants being built in the Southwest. If the new plants don't meet reasonable standards for keeping the air and water clean once they get into operation, the public will have a right to demand whatever extra effort it takes to get the job done.

We're confident that the power companies know better than anyone else that it's easier and cheaper to install adequate pollution controls while a plant is being built than after it's completed.

Reprinted from MICHIGAN OUT-of-DOORS, July, 1972.

More Recreation Areas Are Needed

More and more hostility is being witnessed at campgrounds, parks and outdoor recreation areas where people should normally be having fun.

This point was vividly portrayed over the Memorial Day weekend at Silver Lake State Park. The 1,967 acres just couldn't accommodate the mass of campers, picnickers, swimmers, fishermen and other outdoor enthusiasts seeking a place to get away from the old routine. Controls became virtually impossible for the limited state park staff. Campgrounds overflowed onto roadways, on the beaches, and other areas where no waste disposal and toilet facilities were available. Behavior was terrible as noisy parties lasted throughout the night. People were intimidated. Obscenity was standard and private property adjoining the state lands was invaded.

In an unrelated incident on that weekend, a gang of young, drinking, marijuana-smoking "toughs" took control of the Houghton Lake Forest Campground. They dominated the scene by taking over the entrance and choosing whom they would let pass, intimidating campers and going so far as to talk extortion. When forest rangers arrived, they were greeted with a hail of stones and abuses, and retreated for support from the State Police. To prevent a recurrence, the Department of Natural Resources was forced to close the campground until they could come up with a plan for camper control.

All across the state the DNR has been forced to tighten their controls in state areas by reassigning enforcement officers to park and campground patrols. This is unfortunate as their normal assigned duties will be relinquished. Too, salaries which come from Fish and Game Protection Funds (hunting and fishing license money) are being diverted to programs that should be funded from the State's general funds.

At the same time, too, legislators are telling the DNR not to close campgrounds even though they suffered cuts in their budget appropriations last year.

Obviously when things go wrong, everybody starts pointing accusing fingers. The DNR is mismanaging, youth are irresponsible, etc. The basic facts are simple. There is a demand for

recreation areas far beyond the supply available, and it's likely to get further out of balance in the future. We just aren't able to acquire, develop and maintain outdoor areas fast enough for many reasons, foremost of which is money.

Short of reducing the number of people, there will have to be a drastic social change in people themselves. Knocking heads, shooting rowdies or filling the jails aren't part of this change, but understanding is. We must be made to realize that we have a problem of too many people for the available park areas and

Reprinted from the DESERET NEWS

Land Disappears

The American landscape is being gobbled up at a prodigious rate as sites for subdivisions, shopping centers, highways, industrial plants, schools, and other needs.

Yet in all too many cases, little provision is being made for outdoor recreation near urban areas.

So it's important that the public make its views known on what today's needs are. The Interior Department held a public forum in Washington, D.C., for that very purpose — to give private citizens and non-federal public officials the opportunity to present their views on what they feel to be the major outdoor recreation needs of the American people.

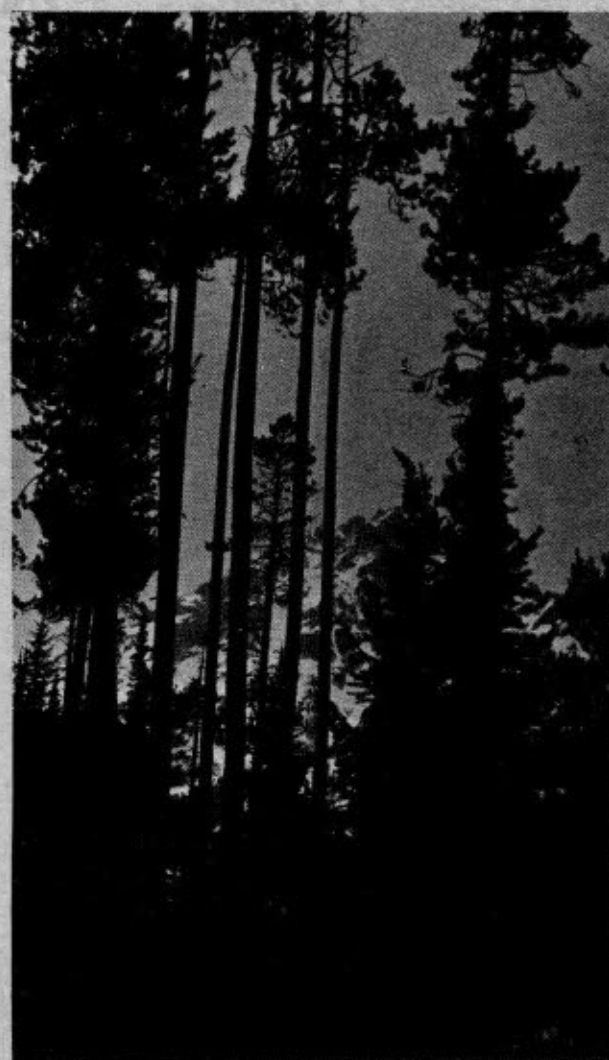
A recent federal survey shows a backlog of about 5 million acres of recreational land is needed to fill long-range requirements, at an estimated cost of almost \$2 billion. But just as important as land is the need for adequate development to help satisfy the growing needs of an increasingly leisure-oriented society.

Both leisure time and the monetary means to enjoy it more fully are increasing in America. The crush on campgrounds and recreational waters over the July 4th holiday confirmed that.

As Joseph Prendergast has observed:

"Unless the public insists on its right to adequate park and other recreation areas, the vanishing wilderness and the vanishing frontier will be joined by vanishing outdoor recreation."

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that everyone can be accommodated, even though in more cramped surroundings, if there is "respect for others."

Without this respect, we can predict further regulations, restrictions, patrols — and be regimented until the very thought of leaving on a vacation would be sickening.

Reprinted from THE IDAHO STATESMAN.

Area Protected

At long last it appears that Sawtooth Valley, high in Central Idaho's unique batholithic region and ringed by mountains of alpine beauty and fragility, will be protected from the greedy, wasteful hand of man.

A Senate-House conference committee has agreed to a bill which will curb mining activity and authorize Forest Service zoning restrictions as means of preserving the precious valley and the far more precious mountains.

It is a credit to the Senate conferees that the provisions of the Senate bill prevailed in the conference. The House bill simply did not protect the area. The mining lobby rejected the Senate bill and said it did not have "strong objections" to the House measure. If the House and the Senate approve the conference report and the President signs the bill, a Sawtooth National Recreation Area will be created. And the National Park Service will be authorized to determine by end of 1974 whether the upland reaches of the Sawtooths, White Clouds and Boulder Mountains should have national park status. The conference report would include the Pioneer Mountains in the national park study.

More than 60 years ago, Idahoans envisioned a national park for the Sawtooth Mountains. Ultimately the Sawtooths became a primitive area. The conference report would establish a Sawtooth Wilderness Area, but would make it a part of the overall recreation area.

The conferees accepted in the Senate bill the right of the state of Idaho to control hunting and fishing in the recreation area. Under the House bill the federal government would have controlled this resource.

Predator Control...

Part 3 of a series
by Verne Huser

Two years ago while Jack Olsen, a senior editor with Sports Illustrated, was researching the predator control situation for a series of articles in that widely-read and prestigious magazine, he called me to verify a piece of information he'd picked up concerning a field trip I'd been on in Colorado in search of illegal predator control practices. We talked for an hour, during which I learned that he was also writing a book on the subject.

That book was published last year: *Slaughter the Animals, poison the Earth* by Simon and Schuster. It soon became a best seller among those who are concerned about our environment and especially our vanishing wildlife. It is required reading for anyone who is interested in the predator control picture, and I recommend it highly to readers of High Country News.

The book's first chapter gives an account of the death of Raymond Medford, a surveyor for the Pan American Petroleum Company, near the west-Texas town of Fort Stockton several years ago. Cause of death? Cyanide poisoning from a coyote getter, the explosive device used by government trappers, game and fish animal control experts and individual ranchers — thousands of poisoners all over the country, especially in the West — to kill coyotes.

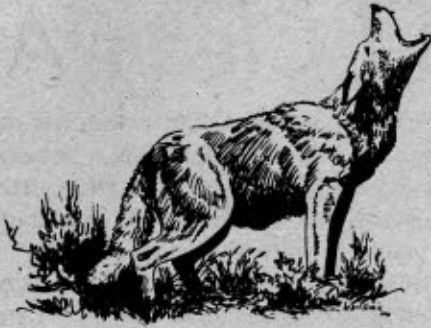
But the problem is that the device is dangerous to any curious animal — including man. Hundreds of meat-eating animals are killed by this device, which fires a cyanide capsule into the mouth (usually) of whatever creature pulls at the scented rag that sets off the device (known as an M-44 to the in-group that uses them) by the thousands, frequently unmarked). Medford is not the only human being hit by a cyanide pellet from an M-44, and President Nixon's recent ban on the use of poisons in predator control may have no effect upon the use of these deadly devices because the government trappers do not consider the use of M-44's as poisoning. (When I interviewed Wyoming Director Fred Christensen a couple of years ago, he said that his state-wide program did not poison but that they did use getters — pretty naive attitude, don't you think?)

Although the coyote getter that killed Medford was unmarked and therefore illegal (and was re-set the same day by whoever had put it out to kill again), no legal action was ever taken against the setter because "who wants to prosecute someone for killing coyotes?" In the American West, apparently not many of the people in power — too many of them are stockmen, especially sheep ranchers.

Olsen goes on to document case after case of illegal poisoning, not only by sheepmen who openly admit that they are using poison illegally but by government trappers who constantly ignore their own regulations and state as well as federal laws. He cites one Montana legislator who lost his seat in the election following his attempt to get a law passed that would require government trappers to obey their own regulations. The sheep ranchers pressure defeated his bill and no doubt cost him the election.

Olsen researched his subject thoroughly, both in the library (game and fish regulations as well as Division of Wildlife Services regulations) and in the field (with sheep ranchers, government trappers and game and fish personnel). He found constant and consistent disregard for regulations: "It began to dawn on me that even in the presence of an editor of a prestigious conservation-oriented magazine these hand-selected government employees were engaged in the wholesale violation of their own rules. I saw them shoot coyotes on private land without authorization, and put out traps that were plainly illegal. I watched them mount murderous campaigns in farm areas where they had been begged to desist. I joined them in long coffee-sessions with rich sheepmen who bragged openly about their violations of state and federal poisoning reg-

ulations, while the DFA's (district field assistants, euphemistic name for government



trappers) shook their heads and cluck-clucked, apparently for my benefit."

The 1964 Leopold Report on predator control was supposed to change things (as the Cain Report of 1972 is supposed to), but all that happened was a few name changes and a little paper shuffling. According to a Wyoming trapper Olsen interviewed, "Nothing new happened in the field. . . we kept on doing things in exactly the same way, and nobody seemed to care." Out on the range it was business as usual, suggested Alfred Etter, a long-time enemy of predator control abuses.

It was Etter, who frequently used to write for Defenders of Wildlife before their somewhat shabby treatment of that thorough scientist, who uncovered in Colorado the Division of Wildlife Service abuse of the one 1080 station per township rule. Technically Federal law limits poisoned carcasses to one per township, but Etter found that the rule was being flagrantly violated: "63 townships were baited with 3 or more stations; 18 of these contained more than 5 stations; some had 10 or 11 baits, and one had 15." (The latter was one in which Etter himself lived, a famous ski area; Etter's own dog was killed as were dozens of other dogs by the vicious poison 1080 for which there is no known antidote.)

Another problem related to 1080: the dosage is 1.6 grams to a hundred pounds of meat so that theoretically 1080 will be somewhat selective (at that dosage it is supposed to kill only canines — coyotes, foxes, dogs, etc.). But in practice, who can be sure that a bait is uniformly injected? As a former government trapper put it, "A lot of the guys

will take a sheep and poke it a time or two with the needle. Then they'll keep the 1080 that's left over and sell it to sheepmen, or put it in a deer or antelope." At any dosage. And illegal by any standards, state or federal or human reason.

And in addition to the DWS bait stations, the sheepmen put out their own. The poison ban may make it more difficult to obtain 1080, but the sheepmen have a stockpile of the deadly stuff. Al Jackson, branch chief for the DWS in Washington, D.C. reports that in Wyoming's sheep country, "They're using more 1080 in those three counties than we're using in the whole United States." How much do they have on hand now that the poison ban prohibits interstate shipment of 1080? No one seems to know except the sheepmen, and theirs is a tight circle.

As Olsen points out, "The circle is complete, and vicious; the attitudes of the stockmen reinforce the prejudices of the government poisoners, and the prejudices of the poisoners, regurgitated in official form by Fish and Wildlife bulletins, help to shape the attitudes of the stockmen. The results, in the long run, must be conservational disaster."

Another point he makes: "Seldom in history has a government agency spent so much energy in the official rapine of its own lands, and seldom has the rapine been carried out with such dedication, with such gusto and verve." The government trappers are in cahoots with the sheepmen, and in the book, Olsen follows the course of the development of this relationship.

The fact that "Fish and Wildlife Service regulations and Fish and Wildlife Service practices in the field are widely divergent and that the rules are being violated so openly as to suggest a conspiracy of evasion from executive levels down" leads to blatant abuse of public lands, and the public is getting tired of it. Yet sheepmen who illegally poison on their own and on public lands are rarely if ever prosecuted (grazing leases are theoretically contingent upon the grazers' promise not to conduct their own predator control programs if they cooperate with the DWS).

See page 91 of *Slaughter the Animals, Poison the Earth*:

(Continued on page 5)



OWNERS OF DOGS TAKE NOTICE

Poison meat baits have been placed
in this locality under direction of the
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife
and local agencies to control predatory
animals that kill livestock and game.

WARNING

Keep Dogs Away. Do not interfere
with baits. They are dangerous.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
BUREAU OF SPORT FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

3-806
(Dec. 1968)

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1969-O-489780

... A Review

"Under the policies of the Bureau of Land Management, private poisoning is strictly forbidden on public lands. BLM records in Washington do not list a single case of denying a grazing permit to a violator of this policy."

"Under the policies of the U.S. Forest Service, private poisoning is strictly forbidden on public land. Forest Service records in Washington do not list a single case of denying a grazing permit to a violator of this policy."

"Under the policies of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, ranchers cannot obtain government poisoning assistance on their range lands, public or private, unless they pledge to remove all poisoning paraphernalia of their own. Fish and Wildlife records in Washington do not list a single case where violations of this pledge has met any enforcement whatever."

Remember the conviction of Van Irvine for "Wanton waste of game animals" under Wyoming Game and Fish laws last year? He paid minimal fines, but he lost none of his grazing rights. So it goes, and Olsen documents case after case of official abuse. Yet, the book is infinitely readable, a must if you want the facts (not that the facts do much good in the conspiracy that rules the western lands, public

or not).

I grow bitter at times; Olsen lays it on the line without bitterness although he often engaged in a bit of stiff irony. He speaks of the stockmen who "have long since learned that representatives of the Bureau of Land Management, the U.S. Forest Service, and other land agencies tend to look the other way where coyote getters are concerned, disobeying or failing to enforce their own regulations."

He quotes a Montanan — a man from a state where one insurance agency agreed to insure every head of livestock in the state for half the cost of predator control — as saying "If they spent as much money and energy protecting their sheep, building fences, improving the land and doing some intelligent selective control of predators, instead of trying to kill everything that moves through their pastures — if they spent as much time on that as they spend on buying politicians and pushing people around and trying to crush nature," the sheepmen would be worth their salt.

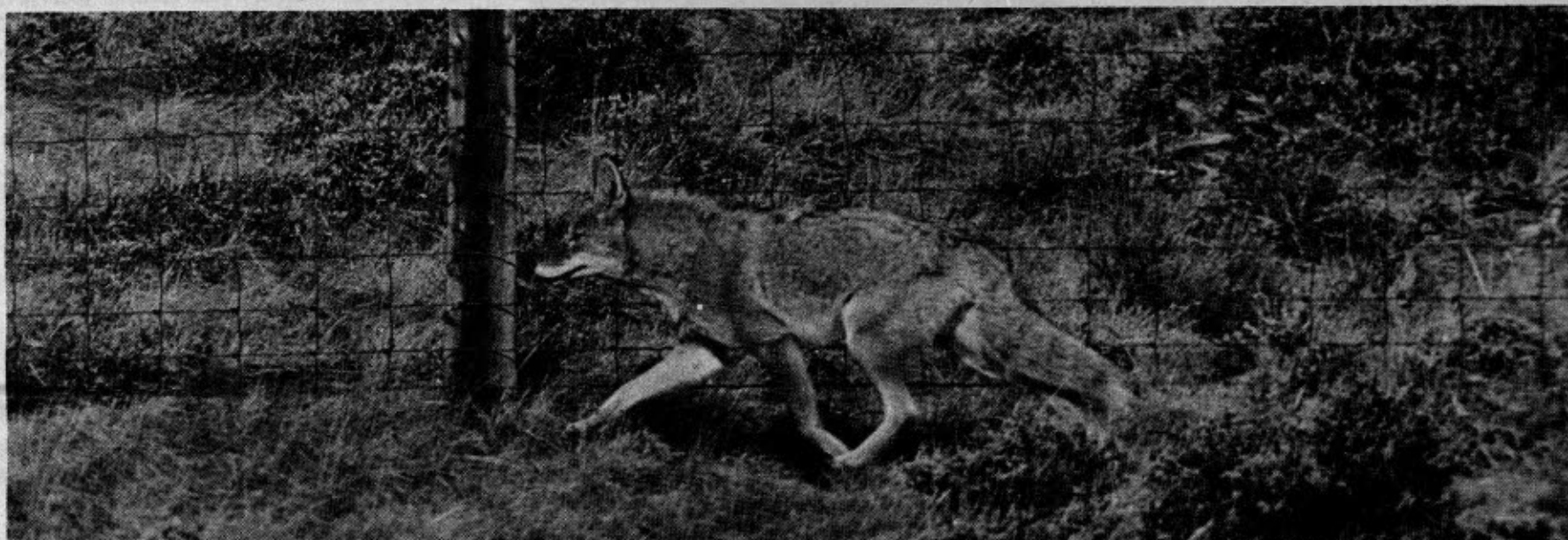
I could go on and on quoting from this important book, but you really must read it. Before I got my own copy, I tried to get it at the local library in three different states

during my pergrinations. Everywhere it was on a waiting list — people in Oregon, Idaho, and Utah were obviously reading it as they were in Wyoming. You must read it, too.

Along with the 1964 Leopold Report and the 1972 Cain Report, the 1972 Senate Hearings on Predator Control and Related Problems (ask your Senator for a copy), this book should be part of the basic background to understanding the overall implications of the total picture of predator control in the West. It reveals some harsh truths, but like the Pentagon Papers, it has brought few real changes yet. Perhaps it has influenced a few important pieces of legislation and even the President's ban on the use of poisons (how effective that will be remains to be seen), but its influence will be only as widespread as its readership.

Read the book, then write your Congressman. Look for local abuses, and let's put the needless slaughter to rest once and for all; let's end the poisoning of the Earth, our mutual and only home. As Olsen says in closing, "We animals of the earth are a single family, and the death of one only hurries the others toward the final patch of darkness."

Photo by Pat Hall



A coyote makes his way along a sheep-tight fence. Many ranchers now depend on fences to contain their sheep. But this also compounds the problem of predators. As a result, sheepmen have resorted to the indiscriminate and widespread use of poisons.

How To Influence Your Congressman

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Can the average citizen influence how his Congressman will vote in Washington? A resounding "yes" is the answer given by a veteran lobbyist in "How to Influence Your Congressman", published by the environmental lobbying group, Friends of the Earth.

Prepared by George Alderson, the chief lobbyist of Friends of the Earth, the leaflet tells in detail how to go about influencing Congressmen and Senators, and why these

tactics work. Although written with reference to environmental legislation, the advice in it is applicable to many other subjects considered in Congress.

David R. Brower, president of Friends of the Earth, said: "George Alderson's advice bears out the basic conviction of Friends of the Earth that government is not a spectator sport. It depends upon participants, and any number can play."

The leaflet covers not only things a citizen can do by himself, but also what he can do to organize others for greater influence. It emphasizes the hometown citizen: "Everything lobbyists do depends on the influence you exert in your Congressional district; there is simply no substitute for the voice of the voter."

Friends of the Earth is distributing "How to Influence Your Congressman" on a non-profit basis, at prices designed to cover only the printing and mailing costs. Single copies are 15 cents; 50 copies are \$2.50; 100 copies are \$4.00; 200 or more copies are \$3.00 per 100.

Requests should be addressed to Friends of the Earth, 620 C Street, SE Washington, D.C. 20003. The text previously appeared as a chapter in The Voter's Guide to Environmental Politics (FOE/Ballantine, 1970).



Letters...

fit from, and heed, the advice of those eastern states which have "sold out" to large, nature manipulating, industries.

Your state's greatest asset is its natural beauty and limited population. If you give this up by attracting big industry, and its associated problems, your residents and legislators are literally "killing the goose that laid the Golden Egg."

Because your state appears less concerned than does Montana, and other Rocky Mountain states, about these large generating plants, strip-mining, and water diversion I'm sure many potential residents and contributors to your economy will settle in the latter. Apparently these states realize that selling of their intrinsic resources for monetary gain today will cause a greater, overall, financial loss in the future.

Sincerely,
William F. Ware, M.D.
Louisville, Kentucky

School starts soon

Keep young people informed

A Worthy Gift for a Worthy Cause

I want to donate a one-year subscription to High Country News to a school library.

Payment of \$10.00 is enclosed.

School

Address

City

State

Zip

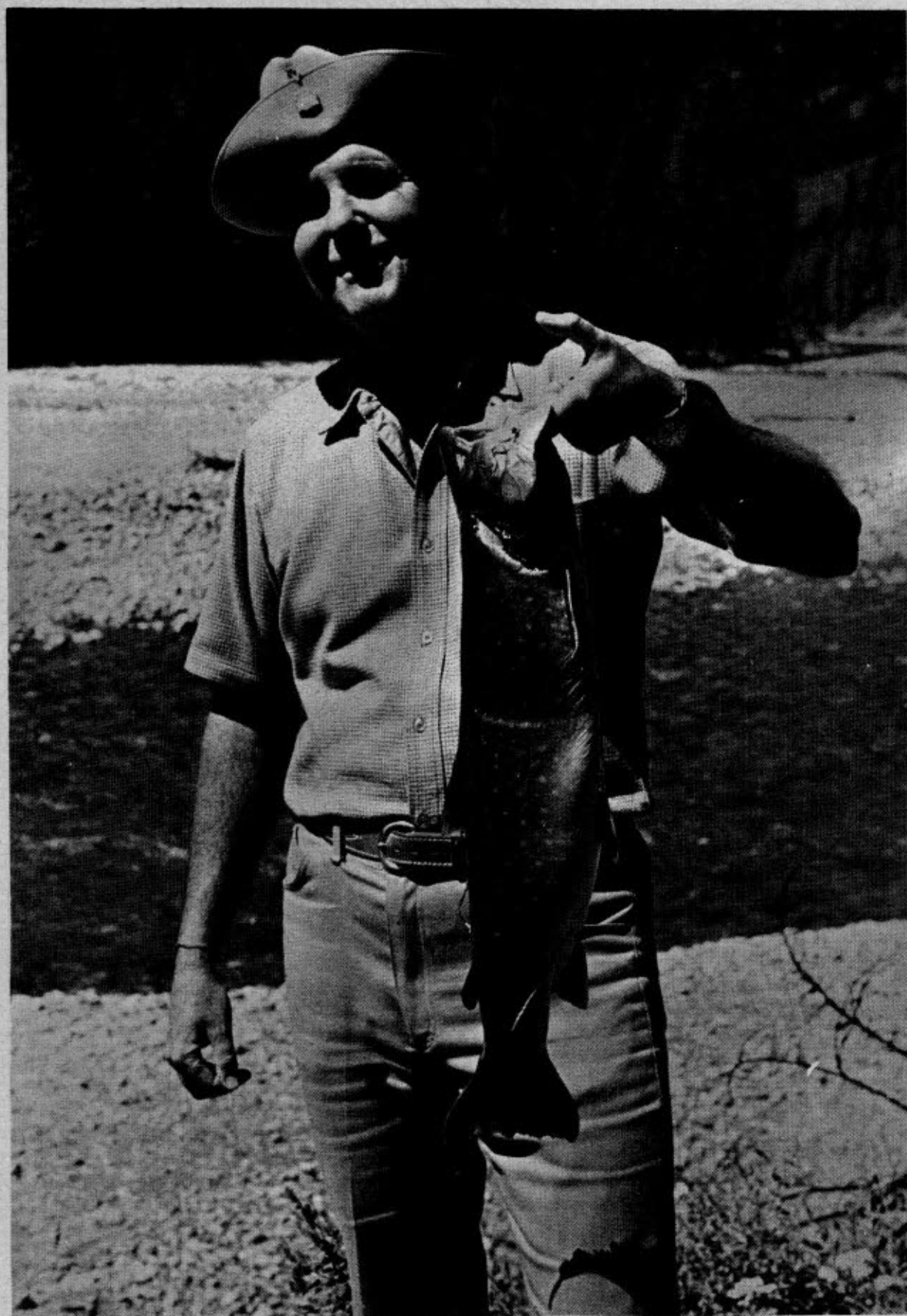
Please sign the donor's card as follows:

High Country News

Box K Lander, Wyoming 82520

6-High Country News
Friday, Aug. 4, 1972

The Flathead...



D.B. "Bud" Ozmun of Chicago, Ill., shows a fine Dolly Varden taken in the Middle Fork.



"..Noted & Quoted.."

"There have been an infinite number of euphemisms used to describe citizen participation. Phrases such as citizen involvement, public information, advisory committees, public hearings, and even systems integration have been bantered about. It seems quite clearly that citizen participation is a categorical term for citizen power. It is the redistribution of power that enables the have-not citizens, presently excluded from the political and economic processes, to be deliberately included in the future. In environmental planning, it is the inclusion of the non-economic producer, such as the preservationist, in the planning process. It is reasonably apparent that every economically productive interest, such as agriculture, urbanization, transportation, industrialization, recreation, etc., is adequately represented by its own government agency directly involved in the planning process. It is only that amorphous group known as the people who are not adequately represented."

Vernon L. Rifer
Engineer with Stevens, Thompson,
and Runyan, Portland, Oregon

Middle Fork reaches "civilization" at U.S. Highway Two at its confluence with Bear Creek. Now the Corps of Engineers say the dam is on the back burner, but Corps critics (we were able to find one) noted the fact that the burner was still on. They want to extinguish it, according to Chris Roholt, chairman of the Committee.

The Middle Fork is a river that begs visitation, either to float its wild run, to fish it for the big Dolly Varden, or merely to hike or ride along its serene beauty. Access is easy via Forest Service trails that take off at Bear Creek and travel upriver, from either Morrison-Lodgepole Creeks, the Granite Creek trail, or from the South Fork of the Flathead side over several trails.

There is a grass airstrip at Schafer Meadows, 27 miles upriver from the highway. It is a common adventure to fly rubber rafts into the strip and then float out — but this practice is possibly nearing the end of its day should the area receive wilderness protection.

The Dolly Varden average six pounds. They must be 18 inches to be legal, but most fishermen release what they catch. Cutthroat run from pan-size up to four pounds, with the average big fish being about two pounds. The Dolly Varden hit best on lures or locally-made wooden plugs designed especially for the fish. The cutthroat love dry flies, but the bigger ones are more likely to be caught on a wet fly or bait sunk deep into the deep, green pools along the rock walls through which the stream has cut.

Access to the area is via U.S. Highway Two on the south edge of Glacier Park. There are outfitters who work in the area. It would be best to write the Montana Wilderness Guides Association or the Montana Outfitters and Dude Ranchers Association to make arrangements with them. Either organization can be contacted through R.H. "Buff" Hultman of Seeley Lake, former president of the Montana Wilderness Association, who is an outfitter and officer in both organizations.



Timbering is already taking place in some drainages of the Middle Fork. The Dirty Face sale (above) was for "insect control."

Reprinted from TROUT, official magazine of Trout Unlimited

High Country News-7
Friday, Aug. 4, 1972

The Trout Stream Gets Into Trouble

Photo by Dale A. Burk

Those of us who were encouraged to see the beginnings of widespread environmental awareness less than a decade ago are confused by signs that, despite all the fuss and fury, the environment doesn't seem to bother anyone in official Washington. However, the fiscal 1973 budget calls for only one percent of that year's budget to be applied to the general category of "Natural Resources and Environment."

The question: How did we get into this mess and what can TU do to help lead the way out of it? If that seems pretentious, consider the alternatives. Be assured that, left to their own devices, big government, big industry, big labor, big agriculture, and big politics are going to continue to sweep our environmental interests aside unless people like us begin to make much more positive inputs into the system.

It's difficult and nonproductive to try to finger the heavy in this piece. There are lots of villains, including, as Pogo first pointed out, ourselves. Maybe the process is at fault.

The first man on stage in Washington is usually the economist with his charts. This man terrifies the ranks of government, industry, labor, agriculture, and politicians with horror stories of growth and of what growth is going to do to the economy. There are graphs which depict population trends (these never turn out to be accurate over time, but this doesn't dissuade the economist from his annual try). From these projections you are led through a series of scary charts about demand: demand for schools, for health care and hospitals, for more cars, for mass transit, for new factories and office buildings. And, of course, the chart-maker can also show you how this growth relates to demand for food, for housing and appliances to make the houses comfortable, for solid-waste disposal systems to get rid of the worn appliances and cars and other trash we will generate. And don't forget electrical power and fuels to make the whole thing run. And...

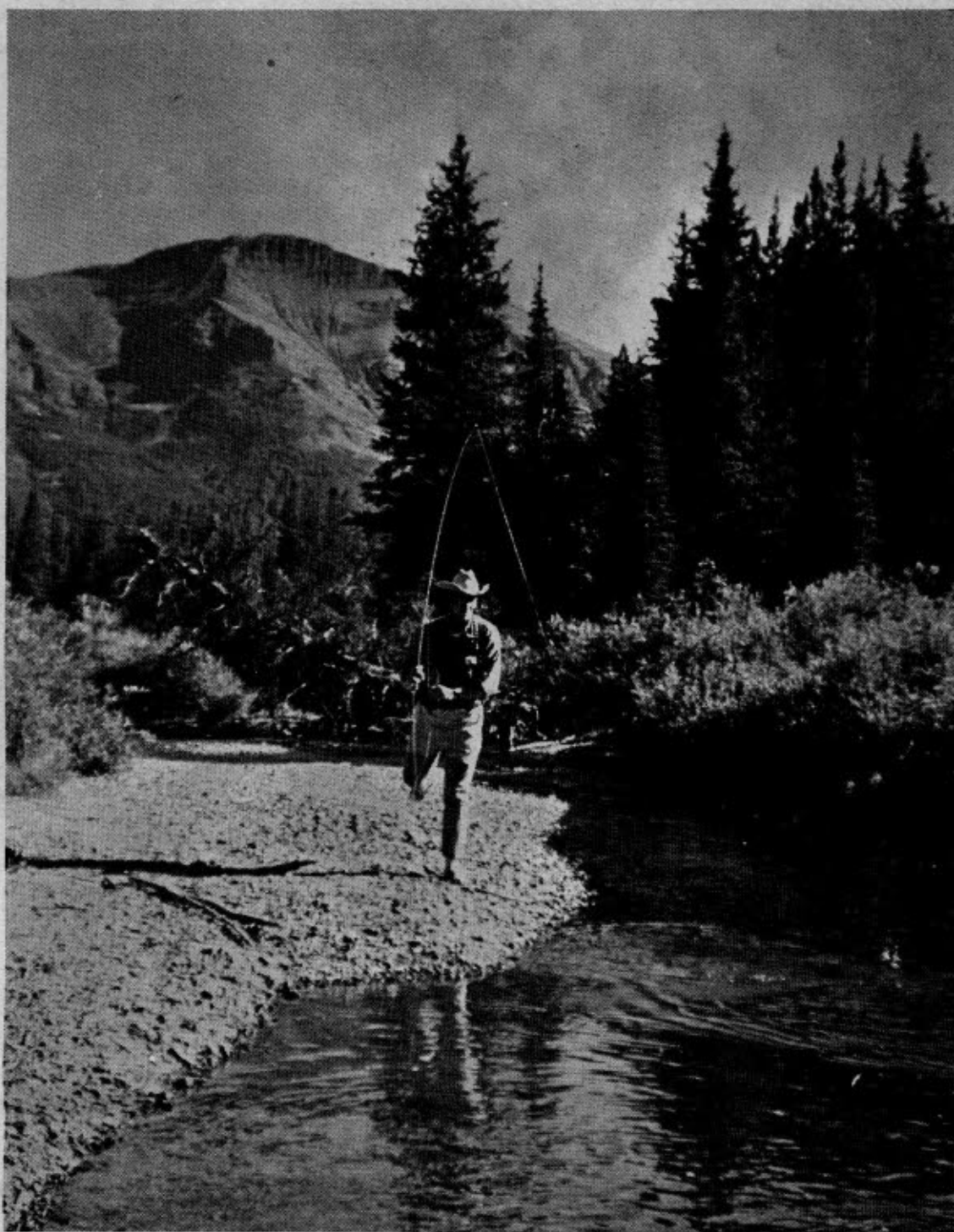
Right here is where the trout stream gets into trouble.

Right here is where forces are set into motion and a process begins which will, several years later, see a stream turn warm and muddy or disappear altogether behind a dam. It may be helpful to take a simplistic voyage through one of these processes to see how it works. Let's look at the problem of housing for all this new population we are supposed to have. The companion conclusion is that only lumber can build a house. This leads in turn to the easy conclusion that the only way we can get sufficient lumber is to start crash programs to grow more lumber on private lands and to convert the public lands into a giant tree farm composed totally of fast-growing softwoods which make good plywood and many of the other wood products which go into a house. Plans for managing the public's forests take high-sounding names such as "balanced use" or "multiple use" but hide ways to increase the amount of timber that industry can expect to cut from National Forest land.

If you look at the timber business and its impact on national policy you come up with some interesting findings. Lumbermen cut their way through the virgin timber of this country as part of the great American tradition of pioneering and progress. They didn't know the extent of the damage they were doing, but all of us can see in retrospect that these Paul Bunyans operated with reckless disdain for the nation's water resources.

When you clear-cut at the timberline, for instance, you leave nothing to hold the snowpack. Come spring, snow water runs downhill carrying a load of topsoil which will no longer be available to start the next crop of trees. Hundreds and thousands of these trickles converge to turn small creeks and brooks into muddy torrents which finally recede to leave barren and silted watercourses.

The farmer downstream calls frantically for help to prevent erosion of his banks and finds, to his everlasting gratitude, that the Congress



Cutthroat fishing is excellent in small tributary streams of the Middle Fork of the Flathead River in Montana. Here, R. P. "Pete" Van Gytenbeek, executive director of Trout Unlimited, has a nice one on.

has provided a Soil Conservation Service with money to riprap or concrete his banks and a Corps of Engineers to channelize his streambed so the next runoff can rush downstream unimpeded and without damage to his banks. When the hundreds of such "improved" streams finally meet on the flatland, there are huge floods which bring vast damage to persons who allowed developers to persuade them to build on the flood plain and who now cry out to their government for assistance. Again a provident government comes to the rescue with the Corps of Engineers or the Bureau of Reclamation and a multi-million dollar dam to control floods and provide electricity for some future customers who may one day need it. The dams also provide irrigation water with which to reclaim deserts to grow more crops to increase the surpluses or qualify for agriculture subsidies (which alone in fiscal year 1973 are twice the entire budget for the environment) and to pour chemical fertilizer and pesticide residues into the stream along with topsoil and the irrigation water.

This process, however simplified its telling, is what has built a major part of the administrative and political structure of the United States and still underlies much of western politics. It has created bureaus and agencies which have a momentum and a life of their own and, in some cases, a bureaucracy which has become almost autonomous in its power. Since the activities of these agencies don't have a direct effect on the lives of most Americans, they tend to operate beyond public surveillance. In this manner, for instance, it is possible for industry to persuade the Forest Service that the one eighth of America which is National Forest should be managed as timber stands to be exploited by the industry as irresponsibly as its forbearers, who didn't know any better, exploited them.

No one who has cruised the massive clear-cut areas of the National Forests can avoid this conclusion. The two remaining watersheds of the country whose headwaters lie within National Forests—the Missouri-Mississippi and the Columbia—are being destroyed as systematically as the timbermen destroyed all the lesser watershed of the East. And with it, of course, they are destroying your trout, salmon, and steelhead streams.

There was a time when the creators of Smokey the Bear could tell you one thing officially and do an entirely different thing in practice. That is no longer possible. It bears repeating as often as necessary to drive home the point: Trout Unlimited is the only organized group whose members regularly and routinely work their ways to the tops of all the cold watersheds in this country and who can read the signs that the water is healthy or that it is sick. In the case of the National Forests, we can call the shots on malpractice and have already done so in some cases. Although we have no quarrel with harvesting timber, we will fight, however, against methods of harvesting which damage the remaining water resources of the nation. We will also fight specious arguments to justify destruction of the forests to house the coming hordes of Americans. These arguments fly in the face of facts, a matter with which we will be dealing in the coming months.



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Friday, Aug. 4, 1972

WYOMING STATE



SUNSET

High Country News-9
Friday, Aug. 4, 1972



Photos by Marge Higley

10-High Country News
Friday, Aug. 4, 1972

Reprinted from THE IDAHO STATESMAN, Boise, June 14, 1972.

They Don't Buy "Development"

by Ken Robison, Editor, Editorial Page

Idaho cannot preserve the high quality of the natural environment—part of the "quality of life" the people of this state enjoy—and accept a fast-buck philosophy of "development at any cost."

That lesson is emerging clearly in this summer of political activity. It's a lesson that shouldn't be lost on the people drafting platforms of the Republican and Democratic parties this weekend, or on the candidates.

The "development at any cost" philosophy says another dam must be built on the Middle Snake in Hells Canyon, that the White Clouds must be "developed" with a big open pit mine, that a dam must be built on the South Fork of the Boise River.

It says a dam must be built on the Middle Fork of the Payette, flooding Garden Valley. It says no restriction should be placed on out-of-state promoters who buy Idaho land for recreation subdivisions. It says if someone wants to put a trailer park in a residential area, the people have no right to object.

This is the philosophy so apparent in what has happened to Southern California. In their votes and opinion surveys on such issues as the Middle Snake and the White Clouds, Idahoans have said "no."

Yet we have politicians who still accept the "development at any cost" philosophy. We have a state agency, the Idaho Water Resource Board, which still promotes it.

The Teton dam controversy is an eye-opener. Like the Emperor's new clothes, most of the benefits officially claimed for Teton do not exist. It's a case of government-sponsored fraud.

Idahoans bought it several years back because they were conscious of the benefits of past irrigation projects, and they didn't recognize the Bureau of Reclamation as a fast-talking promoter.

(Less than one-third of the land to receive supplemental water from Lower Teton really needs more water, and it could be irrigated by pumping. The Bureau of Reclamation's claimed annual flood control benefits for Teton (\$356,000) are more than twice as much as claimed (\$140,000) by the Corps of Engineers. And Teton will not solve the flood problem.)

Lower Teton will cost about \$70 million, with all but \$4 million paid for by taxpayers and Northwest power users. It will flood 17 miles of excellent trout stream (better than any stream in Southwest Idaho) and the winter range for a herd of 1,000 deer.

If it is completed, the "quality of life" in Idaho will move down another notch.

Dworshak Dam is another example. It blocked the salmon and steelhead migration up the Clearwater. It flooded a crucial winter range area for deer. The fish can no longer reach their historical spawning areas and many of the deer are dead. The deer herd will be permanently diminished.

There are economic benefits, but there are also environmental costs which were neglected when the dam was planned.

The development of Williams Lake near Salmon is also instructive. Gene Shumate, former Rexburg radio station owner, wrote a column which tells the story.

"Williams Lake, in Lemhi County, was long regarded as one of the most beautiful and best fishing lakes in the high country. Developers came in a dozen years ago and scratched a road up the mountain and laid a worn-out bridge across the river. Lake lots were sold for prices ranging from \$4,500 to \$10,000. Resort facilities, after a fashion, were constructed or hauled in.

"Forty-two houses and mobile homes now ring the private half of the lake front. The resort and remaining building lots have been sold and resold and reclaimed. The developers of a dozen years ago have taken more than a million dollars from the area, but the lake is dying.

"The State Health Department stepped in last year. It ran tests on the water and then declared that until a proper sewage disposal

system is built, there can be no more private construction."

Shumate also cited the Salmon River ranch land purchased by a Californian who subdivided and sold it, with an extensive advertising campaign in California.

"So far there has been one home built. Gravel roads crisscross what once was farm and pasture land. Weeds flourish, but little else. There's no sewage system, there's no domestic water supply. The developers say they can't afford such niceties until enough people build. The people can't build because of lack of facilities. But the down payments have been spent and the 'paper' has been resold."

Idaho should have tax policies which encourage farmers and ranchers to keep their land by taxing it lightly. It should impose a tax penalty on the sale of agricultural land for subdividing. It should protect public access to streams and lakes, and to hunting on public lands.

In the Boise area irrigated farm land is being rapidly converted to subdivisions. The dam-promoting Idaho Water Resource Board says nothing about it—but tells us we should dam the South Fork of the Boise and the Middle Fork of the Payette to irrigate more land. (Those dams are part of the Southwest Idaho project.)

People are coming to Idaho to find the living qualities which the "development at any cost" philosophy would destroy. They are not coming in hopes of seeing the White Clouds mined or Garden Valley flooded.

With the in-state people who subscribe to the development-at-any-cost philosophy, and the out-of-state people who buy up agricultural and recreation land with the same idea, Idahoans could find the "quality of life" declining rapidly.

Bit by bit the quality of the natural environment goes down.

The pressures for this kind of development seem to be increasing. A lot of people are

"discovering" Idaho. Some see only dollar signs, rather than majestic mountains, clear lakes and fine fishing streams.

People anxious to get hold of Idaho land, or escalate land values, can be observed promoting dam projects to irrigate new land. (Farmers troubled by crop surpluses and low prices aren't promoting them.)

The open pit miners and the dam builders should have the burden to prove that the value of what they are creating far outweighs the value of what they are destroying.

Too many of our existing laws do not adequately recognize the values which are being lost. The dam builders are inclined to ignore them.

We should not be building more dams in Idaho to supply power. Nuclear power plants are recognized as the source of much of the nation's future energy demand.

We shouldn't be building dams for irrigation when some Idaho farmers are being paid not to farm their land, and the Department of Agriculture is advising potato farmers to trim their acreage.

Industries are moving to Idaho which do not destroy the natural environment, or have only modest impact.

No large dams have been built in Southwest Idaho in recent years, but the area is growing rapidly. Those who tell us that we must choose between the dams and economic stagnation are wrong.

There are communities in Idaho which are suffering from the effects of bankrupt farm policies — the mass migration of people from the farm. They are in need of new industries.

Idaho needs policies which serve that need without the destructive impact of a Dworshak or a Teton or the sewerless development at Williams Lake.

Idahoans need jobs for themselves and their children. But many of them choose to live in this state because of the high quality natural environment. They don't buy "development at any cost."

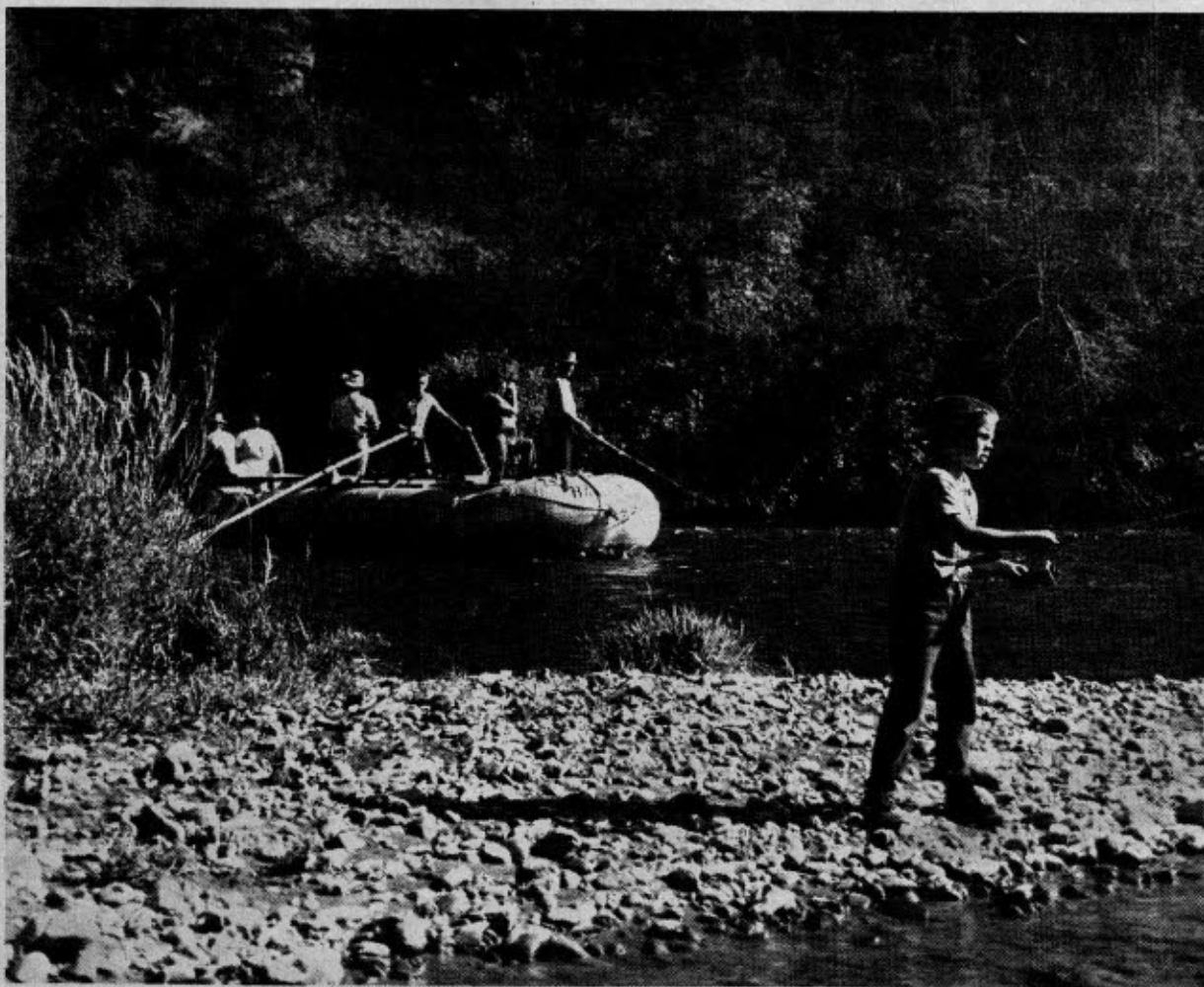


Photo by Gerald A. Jayne

This scene along Idaho's Teton River will be removed if the Lower Teton Dam is eventually built. Preliminary construction of the dam is now underway. Dr. Frank Craighead has rated the Teton River as excellent for both floating and fishing. Paul Jeppson, regional fishery biologist with the Idaho Fish and Game Department, says 17 miles of blue-ribbon trout stream will be inundated and replaced by a fluctuating reservoir if the dam is completed. And in addition, some 1100 mule deer will eventually be lost because of loss of winter range as the reservoir fills.

Western..... Roundup

High Country News-11
Friday, Aug. 4, 1972

Funds Requested

President Nixon has been urged by a bipartisan group of 12 Senators to increase Forest Service funding for timber management. Senators Mark Hatfield (R-Oregon) and Lee Metcalf (D-Montana), both members of the Senate Interior Committee, released the text of a letter sent to the President in which several concrete steps were urged.

The Senators told the President that budgetary restrictions had dealt the Forest Service "a severe blow" as it attempts to implement a balanced national forest management program. Impounding appropriated funds, employment cutbacks, and future budgetary restrictions all are crippling the ability of the Forest Service to provide the management needed, according to the Senators.

"Increasing pressures on our National Forests are being generated from both recreation users and lumber companies," said Hatfield and Metcalf. "Expansion, not reduction, of Forest Service programs should be our goal if we are to meet future competing demands from these groups and other forest users."

"The President should realize every Federal dollar spent in forest management is multiplied many times, and failure to provide proper management tools to the Forest Service ruins our forests," said Hatfield and Metcalf. "Such a renewable resource cannot be starved today with plans to feed it tomorrow."

The letter urged Nixon to restore 100 unfilled Forest Service positions and to relieve the agency of the average grade reduction. The Senators also called for release of funds appropriated by Congress for the Forest Service but impounded by the Executive Branch, and for the restoration of \$11.6 million cut from the 1973 budget request. They also urged acceleration of the "Environmental Protection of the Future" program now under development by the Forest Service.

Metcalf and Hatfield held extensive hearings over the past year on different legislation to increase reforestation, provide greater lumber production, and to offer additional wilderness area protection. They have been at odds over several specifics of the bills; however, they are continuing in their efforts to reach a compromise.

The two men said today's action in urging Nixon to increase the Forest Service program is a united statement that "action must be taken and taken soon, or consequences of inactivity today will be felt for decades ahead in forests across the country."

Other Senators signing the letter with Hatfield and Metcalf were: Frank Church (D-Idaho), George McGovern (D-S.D.), Bob Packwood (R-Oregon), Jennings Randolph (D-W. Vir.), Frank Moss (D-Utah), Howard Cannon (D-Nevada), James O. Eastland (D-Miss.), Mike Mansfield (D-Montana), Walter Mondale (D-Minn.), and Ernest F. Hollings (D-S.C.).



Thousands of acres of clearcut forest lands in the West are badly in need of replanting or revegetating. Some clearcut areas going back 20 years in time still do not have any trees growing on them. Ironically, in some areas it may cost more to get trees growing once again than the value of the timber removed actually brought in benefits.



Ecology Studied

ASPEN, COLO. More than 110 decision-makers representing a diverse cross section from government, industry, education, the media, and the professions left Aspen on July 5 with a greater understanding of the science of ecology and its applications. These were the participants from throughout the nation who had attended the sixth national Seminar on Environmental Arts and Sciences (SEAS), staged by Thorne Ecological Institute of Boulder, Colorado.

The theme for this year's session of SEAS was "Ecological Insights in Decision Making," and under the guidance of a distinguished staff of ecologists, lawyers, designers, and executives, participants spent five days exploring ways in which basic ecological principles may be applied in various decision making situations.

In order to implement this goal, participants examined two case studies: "Oil Shale Development in the Piceance Creek Basin, Colorado" and "A New Town in the Roaring Fork Valley, Colorado." Discussion of these case studies was climaxed by two mock public hearings on the issues, held on July 4 in the Pitkin County Courthouse, in which participants assumed roles that were often quite different from those they held in real life. In this way, corporate executives discovered how it felt to be in the shoes of a "citizen environmentalist" and conservation writers found out what it was like to be a government agency head.

"Don't Need It!"

In a meeting with the Federal Property Review Board, President Nixon pointed to a map of the United States and commented that the federal government owned more than half the land in most western states.

He is reputed to have said, "That's ridiculous. We don't need it!"

Presidential counselor Donald Rumsfeld later said the President's remarks were only directed at "acquired" lands. He said the President's comments were not "meant to apply to public domain land."

Acquired lands on the national forests of the West amount to about 3,250,000 acres. Oregon & California Railroad grant lands in Oregon account for 2,583,000 acres.

Effects Studied

Studies are continuing in Sublette County, Wyoming, on the possible effects of underground nuclear blasting. Engineers for El Paso Natural Gas Co. have begun detailed studies of irrigation dams, canals and siphons which might be affected.

The company is proceeding with Project Wagon Wheel in spite of almost unanimous opposition within the area. The project involves the detonation of five 100-kiloton nuclear devices, one after the other at five minute intervals, in a sequence one above the other. The purpose of the project is to see if natural gas trapped in rock formations can be freed.

El Paso says the earliest date the nuclear testing could be done is 1974.

Dam Doomed?

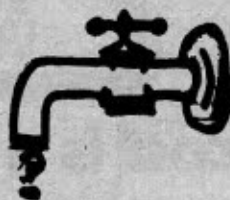
The controversial China Meadows Dam in Utah may be doomed. An alternate Bridger site may be used instead. The China Meadows site is on the Wasatch National Forest in Utah while the Bridger site is off the forest and within Wyoming.

The Council on Environmental Quality has requested more data on the Bridger site. Conservationists have opposed the China Meadows Dam because of the impact on the stream and mountain meadow in the national forest.

Water from either site is for a Bureau of Reclamation project in Wyoming. Opponents of the project have pointed out that each of the 60 farm families within the irrigation project will receive an \$80,000 subsidy. The subsidy results as a cost to the federal government which the farmers would not have to repay.

Additional irrigation will also result in increased salinity in the Colorado River.

DROUGHT?



Arizona and California, both woefully short of water, have found an abundant new source in Utah. The Colorado River Compact allots each of the states of the Colorado River basin a certain amount of water per year. Those two states have been searching for ways to get more than their share, and now have found it. By building their power plants in Utah, the millions of gallons per day of water needed to cool their turbines comes out of Utah's allotment, not theirs. Arizona and California get cheap electric power. Utah gives away its precious water, and as a bonus, gets air pollution that would not be allowed in either California or Arizona.

If you would like to learn more about how power plant development affects you and Southern Utah, or would like to help, write:

UTAH CLEAR

1247 Wilmington Ave., Salt Lake City, Utah 84106

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Friday, Aug. 4, 1972

Photo by Arlis Packer



Cold weather gives a different aspect to Rock Springs, Wyoming. This coal mining town along the Union Pacific Railroad may soon see increased industrialization in the form of a coal gasification plant.

NEPA Withstands First Assault

Environmentalists won a major victory when the Senate Interior Committee failed to take action on a bill which would have allowed for the interim licensing of nuclear power plants prior to completion of the review required by the National Environmental Policy Act. The bill, H.R. 13752, had been passed by the House and had been heavily supported by the utilities.

Friends of the Earth along with a number of other environmental groups had lobbied hard against the legislation, claiming that it would do little or nothing to solve the "power crisis." Robert Rauch, FOE's Assistant Legislative Director, termed the decision a "major victory" in the campaign to save NEPA:

"This bill represented probably the most serious threat to the integrity of NEPA, and its defeat should discourage further efforts to exempt the programs of other agencies from

compliance with the Act. Had the bill passed, it would have served as a dangerous precedent to further erosion of NEPA."

Rauch pointed out that environmentalists have been responsible for delaying relatively few power plants and that the utilities have been conducting a "smear campaign" to blame environmentalists for their own mistakes.

"The real cause of 90% of the power plant delays has been construction problems, labor stoppages, and equipment malfunction. The utilities are deliberately trying to deceive the public by blaming environmentalists for delays which can only be laid to the utilities themselves."

"Fortunately, the Senate Interior Committee saw through these propaganda efforts and refused to sacrifice the environment to cover up for the bungling of the utilities. Special thanks go to Senators Buckley, Church, and Moss who were instrumental in killing the legislation."

Friends of the Earth is a national conservation organization and a part of the SAVE NEPA coalition.

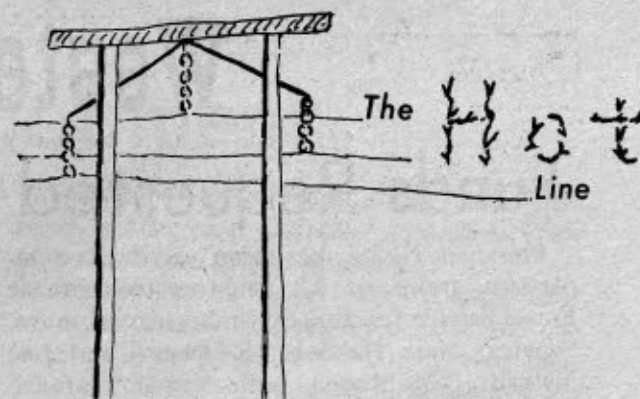
Study Proposed

Senator Lee Metcalf of Montana has introduced a bill (S. 3660) which would authorize a feasibility study of the Montana-Wyoming aqueducts unit of the Bureau of Reclamation. The bill would direct Federal agencies to give "full recognition to the Montana and Wyoming compact in regard to division of waters of the Big Horn, Powder and Tongue Rivers, and to the multiple uses for water including, but not limited to, agriculture, municipal and recreational uses, as well as industrial use."

Metcalf wrote Montana Governor Forrest Anderson, "One of our principal concerns must be the effect of large water transfers from traditional uses — agricultural, municipal and recreational — to industrial use, in the event the North Central Power Study plan or a portion of it is implemented."

Wyoming Senator Clifford P. Hansen had earlier introduced legislation authorizing a feasibility study for the Montana-Wyoming aqueduct unit. He also asked \$400,000 for the feasibility study to be done by the Bureau of Reclamation. The Bureau is not noted for its environmental awareness in the projects it is assigned to do.

In action related to Montana-Wyoming water, Governors Forrest Anderson and Stanley K. Hathaway were to have met Aug. 1 in Billings. The meeting was cancelled July 31 without explanation except that it was not re-scheduled. The two governors were to have discussed the transfer of water from the Yellowstone River into the coal fields.



An Electric Power Research Institute has been formed to sponsor research related to future power sources and environmental aspects of electric utility operations. Industry is already sponsoring 14 projects costing \$40.5 million. It is anticipated that research will be increased to \$138 million for 1974.

Projects underway include studies to devise better methods of utilizing or dissipating waste heat from power plants, placing higher voltage circuits underground, developing more powerful and long-lasting electro-chemical batteries for electric vehicles, and more efficient air quality control equipment for coal, oil or gas-fired steam-generating plants.

* * *

Daylight Savings Time was first adopted by Congress in 1918 in an effort to save on electrical energy. Farmer's protests brought about repeal in 1919. President Franklin D. Roosevelt reinstituted the measure during World War II. It is estimated to have saved 700 million kilowatt hours of power per year.

* * *

Dawson County in northeastern Montana reports more than 68,000 acres of land have been leased for coal. Landowners report more prime grazing and farming land is being leased every day. The county is north and east of the proposed North Central Power Project.

* * *

Allen Gray, Vice President of Energy Development Corporation of Sioux City, Iowa, told an environmental forum of the Conservation Foundation that there had been a generally negative response from North Central Power Project participants for mine-mouth electric generating plants in the Powder River Basin. Gray said basic installation costs for such plants would run \$15-\$20 billion.

High Country...

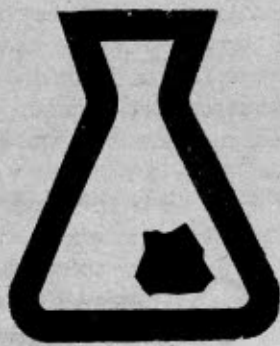
Secretary of the Interior for Science and Engineering Frank E. Clarke said he thought an energy policy was still two or three years away.

A national land use policy is hung up in politics. Congressman Wayne Aspinall tried to tie land use policy to features favoring his special interest constituency in HR 7211. That bill now is in doubt, and so is any action on land use policy until after election.

There is a gleam of hope. New legislation is being proposed to deal with energy problems. The latest is a bill co-sponsored by Wyoming Senator Gale McGee which would establish a council on energy policy under the executive branch. The proposed council would collect and analyze data, coordinate the energy activities of the federal agencies, and monitor the energy impact statements that would be required under the Act.

McGee said, "Energy policy is formulated on an ad hoc basis in response to one crisis after another." He said the nation was totally unprepared to systematically deal with both the energy crisis and the environmental questions associated with energy production.

In the meantime, we blunder further into irreconcilable chaos, both in energy policy and land use policy. We need leadership and statesmanship of the highest order if we are to avoid some disastrous consequences later on. The disasters will not only be to our environment but also our social and economic systems. The resulting damage to our whole way of life could be irreparable.



coal is a gas...

Westmoreland Resources recently negotiated mining rights for an estimated billion tons of surface mineable coal in eastern Montana.

We are going to use this new tonnage for steam coal and coal gasification. Since supplies of natural gas cannot keep pace with demand, since oil is in short supply, and since atomic power has not begun to meet expected returns... the almost "limitless" supply of coal will be used to meet our country's insatiable demand for energy.

Investment of more than 200 million dollars will be required for the construction of a coal gasification plant in Montana. More than 1,100 new jobs will eventually be created, including up to 425 men needed to mine the coal. An additional 1,500 men will be needed for two years to construct the plant. The first coal gasification complex is already in the planning stage. As we go, land disturbed by mining will be restored to productive use.

The world has "rediscovered" coal — and, it's no surprise to us that "Coal is a gas." Now, through our new partnership, Westmoreland Resources intends to make that statement more than just a catchy phrase.

Westmoreland Resources Hardin, Montana 59034

A Joint Project of
KEWANEE OIL COMPANY
Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania 19010
PENN VIRGINIA CORPORATION
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15109
MORRISON-KNUDSON COMPANY, INC.
Boca Raton, Florida 33433
WESTMORELAND COAL COMPANY
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15109

THE WILD WORLD

by Verne Huser

Recent public hearings on national park wilderness plans and on Forest Service consideration of the wilderness quality of roadless areas brought to the forefront some vicious anti-wilderness forces, well organized to dupe the public and pressure the federal agencies.

One of these, Boise Cascade Corporation, spent thousands of dollars to run ads in dozens of newspapers in the realm of their power structure in the Pacific Northwest. The basic point: "Wilderness and Primitive Areas do not provide jobs that you need today and your kids need tomorrow. Wilderness doesn't help pay your taxes — it uses them." And the ad mentions 3600 jobs lost forever.

I can't help remembering a talk I had several years ago with Stan Murphy, president of a major timber company in northern California. Showing me a "clean" logging operation in virgin redwood growth, Murphy boasted of the fact that his loggers were now cutting five times as much timber today with 150 men in the field as his father's loggers cut forty years ago with 750 men in the field.

In fact, the mechanization of the timber industry has cost more jobs than all the wilderness areas in the nation. Abusive forestry practices have cost many more jobs because in many parts of the West, forests haven't come back from clear cuts forty and fifty years ago (for example, the southern Oregon Coast).

Another point the Boise Cascade ads tried to make was that fewer than .5% of all Americans use wilderness and that the other 99.5% "choose to go to it in automobiles, campers, bikes, snowmobiles or other such vehicles not permitted in the wilderness." Their statistics are invalid in the first place (and the Forest Service helps the timber industry lie with statistics by providing misleading interpretation: at hearings in Baker, Oregon a few months ago the Forest Service officials suggested an increase of only 8% in wilderness use in the Eagle Cap Wilderness during the last ten years, but the fact is that there has been an increase of 8% per year over the past ten years).

In the second place, their assumptions are wrong. Oregon elk hunters polled last fall reported that they prefer roadless areas (87% suggested that they'd rather hunt in areas where they have to walk in or ride a horse). Most Americans don't choose to go by vehicle; they simply have no choice in the matter because roads have already been built for logging, and the public is likely to use an established road. Close the roads, and most hunters appreciate the move.

Another anti-wilderness force that calls itself Outdoors Unlimited and bills itself as Multiple-Use Conservationists showed up in force at both Forest Service and Park Service hearings throughout the northern Rockies during recent months. One of their basic statements is a bald-faced lie: they said that the designation of park lands as wilderness is "primarily a change in park policy."

The areas referred to have always been managed as wilderness; giving them wilderness protection changes nothing but provides legal force to provide protection. One of the contentions of the Outdoors Unlimited group was that if we protect too much of Yellowstone National Park as wilderness, restricting development within the park, there will somehow be a greater demand to "lock up" more of the national forests: "Without expansion of the Yellowstone Park Road System, continued over-use could dictate additional national parks... carved out of our remaining national forests multiple-use lands."

The multiple-use conservationists suggested that "our citizens are in need of recreational growth and development... that protects the resources but provides recreation for all the people." They want resources protected in the park but not in the forest; they want recreational development in the park but timbering in the forest, roading in the forest.

They also want recreational development based upon "need, availability and suitability." What makes Yellowstone so suitable for recreational development? It is available only because of development, only because it was set aside a century ago to be preserved. Outdoors Unlimited pushes the Parks-Are-For-People concept, but they also seem to believe that parks are for people's machines and toys and ease.



Timbering in the forests of the West represents more than a "use" of the wood products. Waste wood is almost incredible, and, in addition, operations to clean up the debris result in a scarring of the earth. That in turn results in accelerated run-off and increased sedimentation in the streams. Many observers of this process have called for environmental impact statements of each timbering operation.

Another Letter to Another Editor

Editor, The Statesman:

Boise Cascade's "It isn't raining rain" advertisement on page 7C of The Idaho Statesman of June 8, 1972, is too disgusting for me to ignore. Having been of the opinion that Boise Cascade was one of the more responsible companies in the forest products industry, I am extremely disappointed to see them take this attitude toward those who are trying to preserve some of our wilderness heritage.

I am not one of the environmental extremists, but I become alarmed when an industry with a history of environmental abuse mounts a campaign apparently aimed at gaining unrestricted access to every tree in the country. Please note that I am not specifically accusing Boise Cascade of rapacious behavior, although its hands are not entirely clean, but that I am accusing the forestry industry. The industry has not demonstrated that it is capable of living up to its responsibilities in this area.

The advertisement points up again that too many industrialists measure a thing's worth only by the money it puts in the stockholder's pockets. Has a tree no value until it has been harvested; has a stream no value until it is producing electrical power; has a desert no value until it has been plowed and irrigated? Certainly we need lumber and electrical power and potatoes — and we'll need even more in the future — but to say that these needs justify allowing industry to move in wherever they want to go is completely irresponsible. With that kind of logic, Hansberger's lawn would be planted with wheat.

Wild World...

This anti-wilderness organization (Outdoors Unlimited) held its annual membership meeting in Salt Lake City June 3, its fifth annual confab to organize its opposition to national parks and wilderness, wild and free-flowing rivers, and in general the wild world. The abusive users have organized, and their force is being felt.

It thus behooves conservationists of every state and creed to counteract their organized opposition with letters (at hearings, to elected representatives, to newspapers) and telegrams and phone calls. It is the squeaky wheel that gets oiled, and the anti-wilderness forces are making lots of organized noise these days.

As for the statement that less than "one-half of one percent of our people" have used our Wilderness Areas and Primitive Areas, this is more an indictment of industry than support for Boise Cascade's right to rape. If we had not crushed and consumed the wilderness as our nation spread westward that percentage would be much higher today. As it stands, the only wilderness left is in the more inaccessible areas of the West, because we let our economic demands destroy all the wilderness that stood in the way of our development. Now Boise Cascade wants a whack at what little is left, because not enough people are using it. I would point out that nobody "uses" a wilderness — people enjoy it, listen to its sounds, but when they leave, it all remains — it didn't get "used." Boise Cascade logic would put Col. Sanders Kentucky Fried Chicken restaurants into Mt. Vernon and the Alamo so they would be "used" by more people and provide more jobs and profits.

Certainly there are benefits to be derived from managed forest lands, as Boise Cascade points out — lumber, jobs, and recreation. But for Boise Cascade to imply that since management of forests brings benefits, wilderness has no benefits, reflects narrow, pocket-book thinking and a deliberate attempt to mislead the public. Managed areas are fine for the mass of weekend sportsmen who haven't the time or inclination for anything more "pristine." But the mass popularity of the Reader's Digest doesn't rule out the need for the Saturday Review and the mass appeal of Schlitz doesn't mean that Tuborg and San Miguel don't taste better to some people. And how many have been driven out of the managed recreation areas onto the wilderness trail recently by wall-to-wall campers and the inconsiderate roar of the trailbike cretins? Take a look—that "one-half of one per cent" is growing by the month.

Mr. Hansberger, give a thought to your company's policies; your greed is showing. No environmentalist wants anything that belongs to you—we just want to keep your hands off what belongs to the people. Think about where the real values lie and join our ranks. If you can't do that, at least tell your PR men not to expose your avarice in any more ads like that one.

Lawrence A. Gilmore, Boise.

Thoughts

from the

Distaff Corner

By Marge Higley

"The meeting will now come to order," whoo-ted Owl. (He had been chosen as chairman because of his dignified mien and his attention-getting voice.)

"As you know," he continued, "we are gathered here to discuss how we wild creatures can exist in the same world with Man. At our last meeting, we decided that this is impossible, without Man's cooperation. Therefore, we have invited a representative of that species to meet with us today.

"Man, would you care to say a few words before we discuss our problems?"

"Since I must hurry off to an important business conference," he said, "I won't take much of your time. But I do want to assure you that you are worrying needlessly. Man will look after you. We are animals, too, you know, so why don't you adjourn this foolish meeting and go back to your forests, and let us, with our superior technology, handle your problems? After all, it is a well-known fact that Man is far more intelligent than other animals!"

Owl was forced to pound on the table to silence the angry mutterings that filled the air.

"That fact," he said solemnly, "has never been proven to our satisfaction. Let us proceed with the meeting.

"Whoo-oo is the spokesman for the four-footed mammals?" he asked.

"I am," answered Wolf, "and I have here a list of grievances. Man has come into our forests and cut away the trees, leaving great expanses of barren, shelterless land. The water behind his dams floods many of us out of our homes and blocks our migratory trails. He shatters the quiet and frightens our young with noisy, roaring vehicles. He puts up fences which some of us cannot jump over or crawl under. He spreads poison indiscriminately around the countryside. As spokesman for the four-footed mammals, I point out that Man has not been very helpful to us so far, so why should we trust him now?"

"Very nicely put," said Owl. "Now whoo-oo represents the birds?"

"I do," answered Hawk, "and we also have a list of complaints. We, too, have been affected by the cutting of such large areas in the forests. Many of our species have fallen prey to the poisons mentioned by Wolf. Even worse, Man has sprayed into the air so much DDT that the shells of our eggs cannot harden, and we are unable to hatch our young. Man's smokestacks and auto fumes have so polluted the air that most of us no longer go near his big cities. As representative of the birds, I suggest that we cannot trust Man with our future well-being!"

"Thank you, Hawk," said Owl. "Now whoo-oo will speak for the fish?"

"I will," said Trout, "and some of the complaints on our list have already been mentioned, such as dams and DDT. Besides those, Man has dumped so much phosphate into our waters that algae is smothering us, and his nitrogen literally makes our blood boil. His huge power plants heat the water to unbearable temperatures. He spills oil into the ocean. Lakes and rivers in his industrial areas are clogged with sewage and chemical wastes, and even where he vacations, he fills them with his garbage. As delegate for the fish, I must say, we don't trust Man in our waters!"

"Oil in the ocean," muttered Owl. "How gruesome! Now, whoo-oo speaks for the insects?"

"Well," said Lady-bug, smoothing her red polka-dot dress, "I guess that just about everything on our list has already been mentioned, but I'd like to ask Man a question."

"Certainly — go ahead with your question," nodded Owl.

All heads turned toward the place where Man had been sitting. But Man, being Man, had slipped away to his important business conference.

"Oh dear," pouted Lady-bug, "Man said that he, too, was an animal. Yet all our problems are caused by his actions. I did want to ask him . . . if he's so intelligent . . . can't he see that his own future is threatened? Just who does he think he is, anyway?"

"Yes," blinked Owl. . . "just WHOO-OO?"



Photo by North Dakota Travel Department



Prairie Philosopher

Yodel and sing on the sage-covered plains;
Yip from the mountains and call from the hills,
Oh coyote, the shadow of wildness who feigns
A great sadness; who voices such rollicking trills
To the stars. In loneliness though you may cry
And recklessly tell of the far-away trails
That never are found, may you always defy
Man, sly coyote, and yodel your scales.

MAE URBANEK: Songs of the Sage

Reprinted from THE IDAHO STATESMAN, May 28, 1972.

Mama Meets the Energy Crisis

by Betty Penson, Statesman Woman's Editor

IS THERE really an energy shortage?

"Nobody will tell you the whole truth," a Boise business man told me in an off-the-record conversation.

"Everybody will tell you something different. It's hard for anybody in the energy-producing business to admit he might have to cut a customer off at the pockets."

The chairman of Pres. Nixon's oil policy committee told Congress on March 3, 1972 that . . . "the nation's natural gas problems are bad and they are going to get worse before there is light at the end of the tunnel."

"Electric utilities have been unable to keep up with demand, which has been increasing . . . because of delays in construction of new generating plants . . . Certain areas of the country are particularly vulnerable . . . the Northwest region has a reserve of only 4.4 per cent (Chicago has 13.8)." — Fortune Magazine.

On stone tablets in King Tut's memorabilia in Egypt you can read the same song the energy industry is hearing today: That companies are holding back production until business becomes more profitable.

Maybe you've heard about the Rowley report and the ruckus it stirred up last year. A Washington firm (Rowley), hired by the American Public Power Association to study rising fuel costs, claimed control of U.S. energy is concentrated in a small band of giant conglomerates, resulting in artificial shortages and higher prices.

"Big business is so big and powerful that it works through government to achieve its goals," Rowley said, adding that putting control of energy all in one government agency might result in industry dominating national policy.

WHAT ABOUT environmentalist issues?

"A bad law is not the solution," said the Los Angeles Times on March 12, 1972, in an editorial entitled "Wrong Way to Clean Up the Air." In criticizing Proposition 9, an environmental measure on which Californians voted June 6, the editorial called it "a deceptive measure . . . would increase pollution . . . cost millions in unnecessary expenses and penalties."

Some conservationists are against Proposition 9 but hesitate to say so, said the San Francisco Examiner in calling it "carelessly drafted . . . meat-ax approach . . . if passed it would set the cause of conservation back 20 years."

The California situation sums up industry-wide fears that well-meaning but poorly-informed groups of self-appointed citizens can cause lasting harm to the very thing they are attempting to safeguard . . . the total public interest.

The California Wildlife Federation, in a resolution opposing Proposition 9, said environmental issues "require the most competent skills of science and engineering to properly evaluate" and should be handled only by "properly established and fundamental agencies."

Said Gov. Curtis of Maine, "A lot of those who oppose oil projects in Maine are people from other states who made their money polluting other states and now they've come here for serenity."

The question for Idahoans: Will this be true here tomorrow . . . or is it today?

WHAT IS the oil story?

This article will be continued in ensuing issues.

Environmental Eavesdropper

LOONEY LIMERICKS

by Zane E. Cology

At the lake, little Peter McGrath
Ran gleefully down the path.
"Let's swim!" he did shout,
But when he came out
His mom said, "NOW, you need a bath!"

In spite of a National Academy of Sciences report saying it would be dangerous to bury radioactive wastes underground in South Carolina, the AEC is going ahead with its plan to do so. The report said the wastes could leak out of the tunnels into the Tuscaloosa Aquifer. The aquifer supplies much of the water of the South-east.

Tiburon, California, will soon be using a new sewage treatment process utilizing algae as a purifier. Algae converts the chemical nutrients and releases oxygen as a by-product. The water affluent is said to be clean enough to meet federal drinking water standards.

Observers of the Mediterranean Sea say the sea's vitality has declined 30 to 50 percent in the past 20 years. Predictions are that it will be dead by 2000 if the present rate of decline continues. Some species of fish have reportedly disappeared already.

Water pollution from streams entering Pearl Harbor is being blamed for the mysterious deaths of 99 percent of the harbor's oysters. Estimates of the total number lost run to 34 million.

The Idaho Resources Board has adopted a 110 percent water quality standard on nitrogen supersaturation. The standard was adopted to protect fisheries of rivers blocked by big dams which cause the supersaturation problem. The cost of modifying dams to meet the standard is estimated to be \$1 million to \$1.5 million per dam.

Oregon Governor Tom McCall told the Western Association of State Game and Fish Commissioners meeting in Portland that Oregon may limit its tourist visitors. He said the state was making a study of the tourist impact and its effect on a deteriorating environment.

Backpackers into some wilderness areas of California are now required to have a permit. Officials say that within a few years reservations may also be required. The permits are a result of overcrowding.

Maine lobsters which sold for twelve and one-half cents per pound in 1933 now sell for \$8 per pound. The reason — lobstermen find fewer lobsters to catch, and demand and inflation drive prices up.



The quality of the environment of the Mountain West continues to be its prime asset. What the industrialized East has lost, the West still has in abundance. But land development, strip mining, and industry have begun to make inroads. Only an alert and aroused citizenry can prevent wholesale degradation of the environment.

Environment Is Prime Asset

Larry Gordon, executive director of New Mexico's Environmental Improvement Agency, has prepared a position paper for his department. It can be appropriately applied to any of the Rocky Mountain states by substituting the name of the state in place of New Mexico. The statement is so good that we have taken the liberty of reprinting it here.

The editor

1) New Mexico's quality environment is its prime asset.

2) New Mexico is one of the few areas of this Nation which still has options open to determine its own future and the type of environment which is desired by this and future generations of New Mexicans.

3) New Mexico and the Southwestern United States in general, have a very delicate ecological balance. It may be very difficult, if not impossible, to restore a given environmental situation once it is damaged or degraded. Therefore, regulations adopted for the purpose of environmental control must be preventive in nature.

4) All New Mexicans should strive to create a viable economy and jobs for New Mexicans without harming our prime asset, our environment.

5) Environmental quality is more than the currently popular air-water-waste syndrome and reaches additionally to such matters as congestion, transportation, visibility, open spaces, and pressures on recreational facilities and areas.

6) We know of no studies which indicate that increases in population and attraction of more and more industry lead to an improved economy and quality of living. To the contrary, we have only to look at the problems of the populous industrialized areas of the Nation to observe that such growth leads to a decreased quality of life, increased cost of living, increased social problems, and increased taxes. Therefore, at this period in our history, there is no doubt but that environmental quality is closely related to population levels, and population growth beyond a certain optimal population is not compatible with a quality environment or a viable economy. New Mexico should not and can not serve as a haven from congestion and pollution for those persons from other areas of the Nation, as it will only serve to eventually destroy our prime attraction and prime asset.

7) The competing demand for limited tax funds to support public agencies is tremendous in all states and at all levels of government. A number of agencies, boards, and commissions are already involved in the struggle to retain or regain New Mexico's quality environment. These include the Environmental Improvement

Agency, the Environmental Improvement Board, the New Mexico State University Board of Regents, New Mexico Department of Agriculture, the Office of the State Engineer, Department of Game and Fish, Parks and Recreation Department, New Mexico Water Quality Control Commission, and the Environmental Quality Council. Fragmentation or proliferation of environmental or ecological responsibility and programs only serve to confuse the public, and place further stresses on an already over-burdened state tax structure. All environmental factors, such as air, water, wastes, food, environmental chemicals, water supply, etc., are inextricably interdigitated both in the ecological and program management sense. Therefore, they are most effectively and efficiently managed within a single, or at least a limited number of regulatory agencies.

8) We have no doubt that man can survive in a grossly polluted environment; however, we feel that man should thrive rather than merely survive. Therefore, environmental quality controls in New Mexico should be predicated on retaining our quality environment rather than on mere health standards.

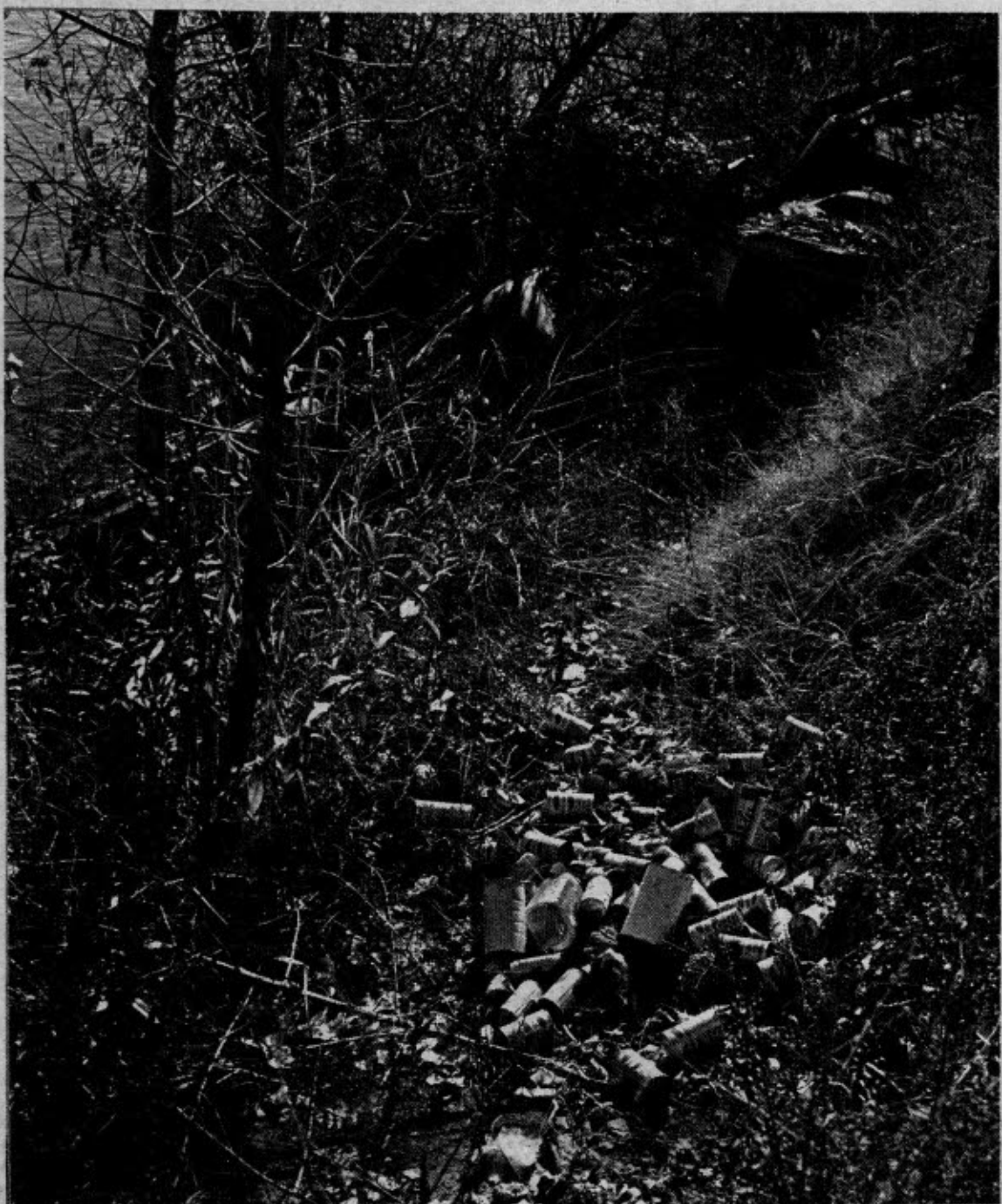
9) It has been repeatedly shown that technology does not advance or improve control methods until forced to do so by legal requirements. Therefore, environmental quality controls should be based on the needs of protecting the environment and protecting man in the environment rather than on the latest limitation of technology.

10) All men must live in the environment and are supported by the life processes obtained from the earth. Therefore, environmental quality controls should be administered by an agency having a prime mission of public service and consumer protection rather than by an agency having a mission of protecting or promoting any given industry.

11) Federal standards have been promulgated for the needs of overpopulated industrialized areas which do not have the options or alternatives available to New Mexico and New Mexicans. Therefore, for the most part, adherence to current and proposed federal pollution control standards would allow a drastic degradation of New Mexico's relatively high-level environment.

12) All persons engaged in the business of promoting a viable economy should be well informed of the delicate ecological balance of New Mexico's environment and her environmental control regulations, in order that time, materials, effort, and money not be inappropriately invested. The New Mexico Environmental Improvement Agency stands ready to discuss environmental quality issues or consult with any person or firm regarding compliance with established environmental quality standards and regulations.





Poem Photos by Larry Turner

I Remembered the Snake

I remembered the Snake
Through a dream one night
As it flowed untouched
In all its might ...

Down mountainside to vale below,
Tumbling to Oregon from Idaho.
Crystal clear, lucid hues,
Unblotched by residues.

I remembered the Snake --
Its winding course --
Trickling forward ...
Peacefully, unscorched.

Cutting precipices
Across the land,
Swiftly rolling
Without fear of man.

But when I awoke,
I realized then --
It isn't the same Snake
Coming round the bend.

Ambling slowly
With vapid gray
Muddled water ...
Man's Toupee.

Choking quietly
From our debris ...
Dam upon dam,
Myopic industry.

Nitrogen saturation
Causing fish to die;
Plundered water
Bid sturgeon goodbye.

Salmon and steelhead
No longer come our way.
Dams may indefinitely
Cause their delay.

Pop cans, beer cans, trash
Line the banks
Of a once proud river ...
Lifefull; now faint.

Is this the price
For being free?
To rob a river
Of its identity?