

High Country News

The Outdoor and Environmental Bi-Weekly

Vol. 5, No. 14

Lander, Wyoming

Friday, July 6, 1973

We're alive and well, thank you!

Ours is one of those Cinderella stories in which miracles do come true. We haven't gone from rags to riches exactly, but we are alive and well. Happily, it's a story not only of this paper but also you, our readers and the stockholders.

Let's go back in time to March 2, 1973. It was then that I announced the demise of High Country News. I told you that my wife and I had gone as far as we could. We had put \$30,000 and three years of work into the paper. In all of 1971 and 1972, I drew \$910.97 in salary. We still owed about \$7,500 on a bank note entered into when the paper was first launched. We had come to the end of our limited resources. There were few regrets.

The announcement on March 2 drew al-

most instant response. Within a virtual matter of hours, pledges and commitments from just Wyoming people was enough to give hope. By the time our next issue was out on March 16, I could announce "Optimism Reigns." What was to have been our final

High Country News will not be published on the regular publishing date of July 20, 1973. Publication will resume on the regular publishing date of August 3, 1973. See you then.

The Staff.

issue on March 30 became a "Thanks!" The miracle had happened. I went to the bank on that date and paid \$7,482.16 to retire our

bank note.

I had announced that we needed \$30,000 to put us on a solid financial footing. From March 1 until May 31, our total income was \$29,467.75. Of that amount, \$20,176.00 was in the form of contributions. On March 1, we had 2,108 subscribers. On July 1, we had 2608.

However, subscriptions and renewals are now definitely slowing down as people go on vacation. Our July and August renewals together ran about 100 last year.

Because we had had such a large cash in-flow during March and April, we were able to put \$12,000 into a 90-day Time Certificate of Deposit on May 4. That money and the

(Continued on page 4)

Meet The Staff



Left to right: Mary Margaret Davis, Marge Higley, Marta Adams, Bruce Hamilton, Joan Nice. Mary Margaret manned the office before the first issue of Vol. 1, No. 1 was published. Marge has not only struggled with circulation but written columns, done much of our darkroom work, and helped on layout. Marta will help Marge on circulation and Mary Margaret on typesetting. Bruce and Joan will be editors, editorial assistants, and reporters at one and the same time. The result should be a better paper with less worry for us all. We hope you approve.

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HIGH COUNTRY

By Tom Bell

Additional wilderness and land use planning are both in for a rough time in the West. The reason is that both deal very specifically with land and how it is to be used. Both put a curb on human greed and selfishness. Both are aimed at long-term values rather than short-term profits or self satisfaction.

People in the West are still too imbued with what some have termed the "frontier ethic," or what Oregon Governor Tom McCall has tabbed the "buffalo-hunter mentality." We are still too close to the Old West where we ruthlessly exploited the land and all its riches.

Governor McCall put it very succinctly in his keynote address to the National Audubon Society in Denver. He said, "Man has proved his ability to destroy the land. Saving it somehow runs counter to the American ethic of limitless growth and rugged individualism."

Those traditional American attitudes crop up in Congress where meaningful land use legislation is being debated, or in a wilderness hearing in a local community. Wyoming's Senator Clifford Hansen only grudgingly admits to a need for any wilderness. And he carried on lengthy debate in both committee and on the Senate floor against restrictions on use of areas determined to be "of critical environmental concern." Arizona's Senator Paul Fannin argued that land use planning was contrary to the concepts of free enterprise.

There are more enlightened politicians. In Colorado, where the state is virtually under siege from land developers, Gov. John Love has said there has to be more government interference in people's lives than we are accustomed to if there is to be any effective land use planning. Gov. Tom McCall agrees.

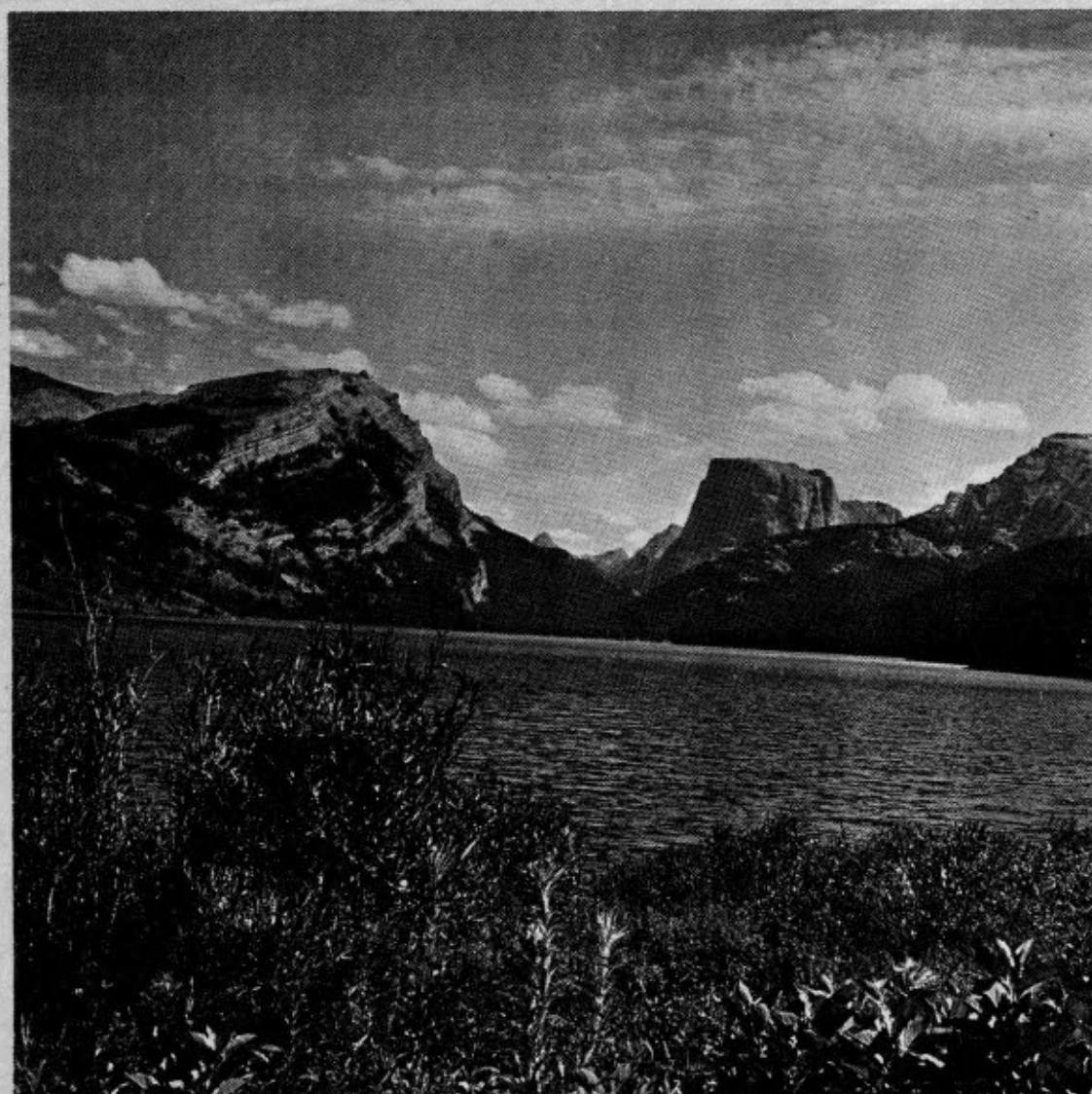
Colorado Sen. Floyd Haskell has said the alternative to land use planning is uncontained and explosive growth. That, he said, would be "destroying our land and making it virtually unlivable for generations to come."

Hold a hearing on either land use planning or wilderness in a local, western community and you can get the same arguments against both. If wilderness designation were to be determined solely by local interests in any of the western states, there would be little if any yet set aside for future generations. But the Wilderness Act placed the whole concept into a national perspective. A land use planning act should do the same.

It is true that local people and local interests have much to contribute to decisions on land use planning, whether it be of zoning a glue factory or designating a wilderness. But too often, special economic interests or selfish private interest get the last word. It is then that higher authority should step in and make a review. Facts and the higher public interest may support a local decision. But if they do not, then the decision should be overriden.

There are those who would argue that all growth and development of the West would stop if "outsiders" were allowed to veto our plans. That's Chamber of Commerce talk — a reversion once again to the "frontier ethic." Our own myopia and selfish interests should be no substitute for wisdom.

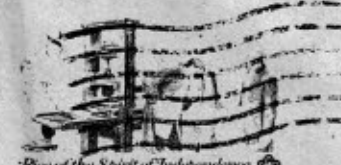
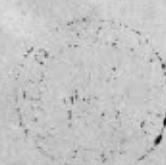
Governor McCall said what many environmentalists have been saying for some time: "Our resources are not so expansive or infinite that we can continue our headlong consumption of resources and energy. We need a new set of values in which progress will be wedded to a commitment to environmental quality."



Wilderness, condemned by many as a "lock-up", is in reality a form of land use planning. Many westerners look with strong misgivings upon both the wilderness concept and land use planning. Both concepts, to them, infringe upon the freedoms and rights of an individual, and therefore the state. At one time the Bureau of Reclamation had plans, strongly endorsed by the State of Wyoming, to cover Lower Green River Lake with a reservoir. It would have backed water into the Bridger Wilderness Area. The national interest would no longer allow such a reservoir. At some future time, the national interest might allow it.



Letters To The Editor



Gentlemen:

Miss Hazel A. Watts, R.F.D. 1, Londonderry, N.H. 03053, recently asked you to mail me a copy of your newspaper, as it contained an article on the Tule Elk, in which we are both interested.

It had some interesting and informative articles, and as I am quite active in conservation and legislation for animal welfare, I would like to subscribe to it.

Therefore, I am enclosing my check in the amount of \$10.00, for a year's subscription.

As this is a highly industrialized state, you probably have no subscribers from Rhode Island; as you know, it is also the smallest state. However, you are doing a good job, and I would like to help out.

Yours very truly,
Mrs. John N. Lally
Cranston, R.I.

Editor's note: Our thanks to Mrs. Lally for her interest in our western problems and her support. You will be interested to know we have six other subscribers in the great little state of Rhode Island.

HIGH COUNTRY NEWS

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Guest Editorials

Reprinted from THE DENVER POST, May 2, 1973.

What Kind of Controls?

In years past Colorado's environmental movement tended to be sporadic. It mounted opposition to specific projects: roadways which threatened scenic areas, a dam which disrupted fishing, water expansions which called for transmountain diversions and badly-planned subdivisions in the wrong places.

For several years the Colorado General Assembly has reacted in like manner. It has tackled environmental problems phase by phase. It established some controls of subdivisions. It required water well permits as a means of policing subdivisions which were launched irresponsibly. The assembly even set up the Colorado Land Use Commission to study and exercise very limited control over commercial abuse of the land.

These "bandaid" approaches haven't been fully effective. Colorado is being pushed toward more and more emphasis on full land use controls — either strongly state oriented or established as part of a local-regional-state control system.

The reasons are several. Colorado voters appear to be control-oriented. They were somewhat influenced by environmental arguments last year (along with fear of taxes) in rejecting the 1976 Winter Olympics. They are increasingly hostile to industrial projects and housing in the Front Range. And this seems a good time to move toward city-type zoning. Reapportionment of the Colorado General Assembly has left only a handful of legislators representing the purely-rural approach to commercial development — an attitude that traditionally has regarded growth as good.

But an almost overwhelming fact is the evidence throughout the Front Range area, from Pueblo to Fort Collins, that Colorado is under truly fantastic pressure. We are becoming a "Los Angeles of the Rockies." The open field one passes today en route to work a month from now may be plowed up for

condominiums.

Clearly Colorado's livability and scenic beauty are at stake. So citizens are fighting back. In the process, they are finding that local government doesn't always have the power — or resources — it needs to function as a counterweight to overdevelopment.

Local government must be intimately involved in environmental decisions, or those decisions will lose their effective basis in solid public support. Decisions taken behind closed doors at high government levels without proper mechanisms for full public involvement will in the long run be decisions rejected in some fashion by that same public. But local government, though accessible, often does not have the legal or geographical scope to deal with wide-ranging environmental issues. As an example, a subdivision is approved in Mount Vernon Canyon. And, according to the story circulating in the Colorado General Assembly, the county couldn't prevent it. As long as the developer satisfied specific planning requirements on roads, open space, plumbing, water, etc., nobody could stop him. Yet such developments could soon mean the state will have to build another four-lane highway to supplement I-70.

Is this the way to treat the Front Range? The question is being widely asked, even by county commissioners. And if the answer is "no" then we need greater statewide action to influence and control such things.

These are the public problems which have helped to bring proposals for tough land use controls into being at the Colorado General Assembly in 1973. Senate Bill 377, proposing a state landuse commission with sweeping powers, is probably the strongest environmental measure ever introduced in the assembly. The question seems to be "what kind of controls?"

Reprinted from THE DESERET NEWS, Salt Lake City, Utah, June 5, 1973.

What Will Utah Be Like?

What will Utah be like five years from now? Or 10 years, 25, 50?

One thing is certain: It will be different and some adjustments must be made that won't always be easy.

Another thing is for sure: If Utahns are to feel comfortable about the shape of what's to come, the changes — usually involving growth — must be carefully managed.

An Urban Growth Policy for Utah has now been written after more than a year's study by a blue ribbon committee of community leaders. The statement deserves wide dissemination and its conclusions should be studied, challenged, and debated.

Sponsored by the Brookings Institution and the University of Utah Division of Economic and Community Research Services, the study concludes that Utah must develop some thoughtful plans for managing inevitable growth if the high quality of life here is to be preserved and enhanced.

One particularly sensible decision is that the formulators of the policy statement will meet twice a year to review the progress being made, make further recommendations, update the statement, and even initiate or stimulate action.

That's wise in view of the way some parts of the proposed blueprint for Utah's future have already become outdated and others look questionable.

In calling for a constitutional amendment to allow greater flexibility in forms of govern-

ment, the report calls for what Utahns have already done regarding county government.

Then there's the recommendation that Utah actively seek defense and governmental installations "of a permanent nature." But when it comes to federal undertakings, who can be certain what's permanent? Few federal activities looked more firmly established than the Forest Service operations in Ogden, which have now become caught up in some governmental reshuffling.

But in any report as wide-ranging as this one, it's easy to find something with which to take issue. And in this case there's also plenty to be applauded. Like the call for a state-wide land-use plan to make sure commercial, residential, and recreational developments can coexist compatibly and without abusing the environment. As the report wisely observes, "a quality environment attracts quality enterprises."

Or like a more united industrial promotion effort through the establishment of a central clearinghouse for ideas and information on new business opportunities.

Or — not to exhaust the list — like the development of a statewide natural resources policy for recommendation to the Legislature.

This proposed and highly tentative blueprint for Utah's future is certainly not the last word on the subject and is open to considerable refinement and debate. What's beyond debate is that, as the policy statement

UTAHN SHOULD TO STATE

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Friday, July 6, 1973

Reprinted from THE IDAHO STATESMAN, Boise,

April 2, 1973.

A Thorny Issue

A week ago a speaker at the annual meeting of the Idaho Wildlife Federation said that two million acres of Colorado land has been sold by mass media advertising to out-of-state buyers.

Sale of Western land to people in congested urban areas is big business.

The basic question for Idaho is this: Are the local people and the state going to have some say in how development takes place? Will Idahoans adopt policies to help control the impact of such large-scale development on the local area?

If Idaho doesn't do anything, then what happens will be almost entirely determined by the developers — including some from out of state. Some of them may care very little about what happens to an Idaho community or an Idaho valley.

Salmon River land has been widely advertised in Southern California. What we are seeing is probably just the beginning of the land rush.

This is one reason that Idaho needs to adopt land use policies or "guidelines." And the problem is not one that is down the road. It's here today.

Many Idaho communities and counties are poorly equipped to deal with problems posed by large-scale developments. The state has no formal policies or directives.

The 1973 legislature was asked to do something about land use planning. It didn't adopt legislation, but it did authorize a study committee to work on the problem. That committee faces a serious challenge.

There is a prevailing feeling that any landowner should have free rein to do anything he wants with his land. Do Idahoans want to give that free rein to big out-of-state developers?

Shall we leave important decisions about the future shape and character of the state to them? Or will Idahoans recognize that they have a right to prescribe some rules for developments in Idaho?

The land use question is a thorny issue. No one really likes controls. But how many really want unregulated development?

Shouldn't we try to keep our agricultural lands in agriculture to protect the traditional farm economy, and keep taxes on farm land from reaching unbearable levels? (We badly need a tax policy that gives a break to land kept in agriculture, and penalizes the conversion to other uses.)

Shouldn't we try to preserve the scenic pastoral quality of some of our valleys — as we've already decided to do in the Sawtooth Valley?

There is big money in "deuces wild" development of Western lands. It can be sold sight unseen to big city people.

The character of some of our valleys can be changed virtually overnight, before the natives know what's happening. By the time they learn about it it may be too late to have much influence in the absence of land use policies and authority by state or local officials to enforce them.

We need land use policies before the land rush reaches the dimensions it has in other Western states.



puts it:

"No enlightened community should sit back and wait for the future to happen, or to wait for federal action or inaction to control its future."

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We're alive and well...

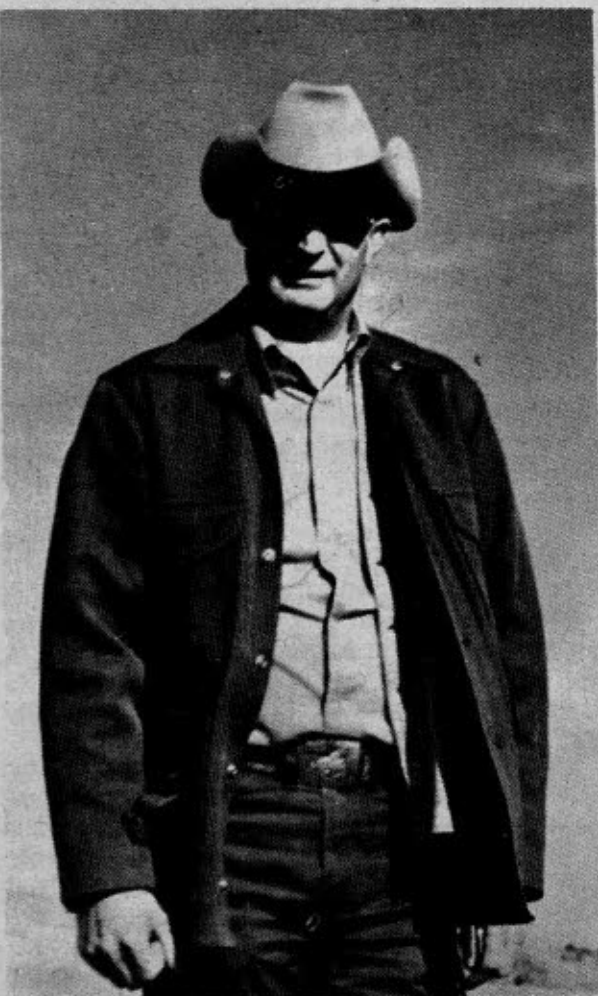
accrued interest will help us through the rough spots ahead.

I have estimated as closely as I can the anticipated revenue from June, 1973, to June, 1974. If our renewals and new subscriptions continue at a rate which we have maintained since last October, we should realize about \$31,000 in income. With the \$12,000, we have approximately \$43,000 to carry the paper.

Our operating expenses are projected to be about \$38,000. This includes about \$22,000 for salaries. As editor, I have set my salary at \$400 per month. The associate editor and field editor have agreed to start at \$300 per month. Each of the other staff members will receive about \$300 per month.

Operating expenses may go up considerably. Our printing expenses have about doubled in the last three months. It should be noted, however, that the printing company which does our paper has been very kind in giving us every break.

Newsprint is now being rationed. Most printers are being restricted to the same amount of newsprint they received last year. That means our circulation may be limited. However, we should be able to reach a planned goal of 3,500 paid subscribers.



Tom Bell
Editor

I am concerned with what may happen to anticipated revenues if the economy should go into a recession or bad depression. As I outlined in my March 2 column, both an energy crisis and the state of the economy do not bode well for a paper such as High Country News. As everyone knows, advocacy journals have a high attrition rate.

We will cross that bridge if we ever arrive at such a point. In the meantime, we intend to improve the paper in every way we can. I have already taken the first steps in hiring three capable young people who are willing to take home less pay in order to be involved in the environmental cause. (See inset on Joan Nice, Bruce Hamilton and Marta Adams.) By bringing them into the operation, we have doubled the staff — but we have also reduced our fears of what would happen if any one of our original three ever got sick or became disabled. We have never missed a deadline but there have been some squeakers.

As we get our schedules for future issues worked out, we should be able to provide more in-depth, definitive writing on the problems of the Rocky Mountain Region. We hope to be able to provide the kind of factual information on issues and problems that you need in order to understand the kind of world we are in, and what we are moving into.

We hope the paper can also fill another role — communications between environmental groups and concerned individuals within the region. But in this regard the paper can only be as effective as all of you help to make it.

In the final analysis, all of you out there — our readers, subscribers and contributors — are our stockholders. We hold no allegiance to advertisers or any others who might distract our viewpoint. What appears in this paper can be your determination as well as ours. Your voice adds to the value of your stock, and the more you participate the more valuable your own stock becomes. You can participate by writing us thoughtful, relevant letters or articles, and by getting others to buy a subscription (stock) in this common venture. If the paper is to remain alive, we are going to have to increase our circulation by about 1,000 by next year at this time. It will take concerted effort on your part as well as ours to accomplish that feat. But if each reader obtained one new reader in the year ahead, the future of High Country News would be assured.

Those of us here feel we are for a system which does not destroy our earth while providing us with the essentials of a good life. Those essentials do not necessarily constitute all of the material "things" which some people desire. And so we may consider and recommend changes in life style. Some of us have already taken some of the steps. We hope to lead the way through other steps.

In the issues ahead, we hope to not only

report the news as it is happening in this region, but also alternatives that are possible. For instance, we seriously question the need for so much electricity, and the accompanying need to tear up and pollute so much of the West to provide that energy.

There is much to question in society's headlong rush to "progress" and "develop." But much of our society does not question and so our task is to play the devil's advocate, and to educate.

I think it is truly remarkable that so many persons, from all walks of life, cared so much for such a little newspaper. If it had not been for so many of you, the paper would not be in existence now. For that we are deeply grateful. I have not yet had time to personally thank most of you who did so much. I hope to get to that in the weeks ahead. But for now, you have my deepest appreciation.

Should you come through Lander on a summer vacation, or for any other reason, stop and see us.



New Staff Members

Joan Nice

Joan Nice, associate editor, was editor of Climbing Magazine at Aspen, Colorado, before joining the staff at High Country News. She had been editor of the magazine since September, 1971.

She received her degree in English writing from Pomona College in 1970. While at Pomona, she served in various editorial capacities for college newspapers. She has written travel articles for the Boulder Camera (Colorado) and a column "Environmental Notes" for the Aspen Times.

Joan has attended the Thorne Ecological Foundation Seminar on Environmental Arts and Sciences, and a Mountain Geology and Conservation-Ecology Workshop in Rocky Mountain National Park. In October, 1972, she served as a consultant for the Bolton Institute, Washington, D.C. She co-authored with Bruce Hamilton a paper commissioned by the Institute, "A Guide for the Writers of Environmental Impact Statements."

She is a member of the Sierra Club, and served as chairman of the Roaring Fork Group, Colorado. Her interests are the energy resources of the U.S. and energy conservation, botany, bird study, climbing and hiking.

Bruce Hamilton

Bruce Hamilton, field editor and researcher, is a native of New York State. He attended State University of New York College at Old Westbury, and Colorado State University. His degree is from CSU in Natural Resources Administration.

His interests first led him into oceanography. He was a research assistant for the

Old Dominion Institute of Oceanography at Norfolk, Va., serving as a team member of the Smith Island Ecology Study. He served as a marine technician on the Aries Expedition of the Scripps Institute of Oceanography at La Jolla, Ca.

His studies in the West led him into various environmental consulting studies for Environmental Impact Analysts Inc. and the Rocky Mountain Center on Environment. In addition, he has done considerable volunteer work for the Colorado Open Space Council, particularly on oil shale. He was head of the Oil Shale Study Group of the Colorado State University Environmental Corps. He was an environmental columnist for the Rocky Mountain Collegian.

He is a proficient birder who belongs to the National Audubon Society. He is also a member of the Sierra Club and Friends of the Earth. His interests are in environmental impacts, and the studies and analysis of them.

Marta Adams

Marta Adams is a 1973 graduate of the University of Wyoming in English Literature (Phi Beta Kappa). She is a native of Cheyenne.

She has taken an active part in several political campaigns, both for her father and in other elections. While at the University, she actively participated in a women's discussion group.

Her interests are in writing — creative fiction and non-fiction, bicycling, cross-country skiing and travelling. She plans to study law in the future with particular emphasis on the environment and the women's movement.

Two Old Men

High Country News-5
Friday, July 6, 1973

by William K. Peck

Huddled together, we stood beneath a cluster of sodden trees next to a small lake in the mountains. Behind the lake rose a bright-green, rounded peak, splashed with snow patches from which meltwater trickled down the black talus. The sky was a dark grey and a frigid wind pushed wet clouds over the peak with dreary wisps drifting down toward the trees. The lake was ruffled and scattered rain drops pocked its surface.

We had been on the trail for seven days. Today, the outfitter was taking a pack string out for supplies. Yesterday had been a long, beautiful green-grey day. The trail crossed barren rocky passes and through desolate alpine meadows. A series of short, sharp, steep switchbacks had brought us from the peak above to this grove. The pack string with its tents had been late. It had rained all day and we had found shelter from the wind behind downed trees. The soggy tents and dry shoes had finally arrived.

Our outfitter rode over leading a saddled horse. One of our group — spare, elderly and erect — walked to him, took the reins and came back. He put out his hand, shook ours, smiled, said "Good-by" and mounted. He turned his horse and his back, settled into the saddle and rode down the trail. He was gone.

Hearing laughter, I turned. Across the camp site was the youthful leader of the group happily immersed in his map, compass, friends and plans for the day's excursion.

I thought of my virginal trip into the wilderness.

I was alone on that trip. We had loaded up on a ranch in Montana and followed a wooded canyon into a rugged range. Rider I was, wilderness camper I was not. I did not know how sleeping arrangements and other social, personal and sanitary amenities were worked out. Camp was in a grassy meadow at an old slide just below a pass. Tents and duffel bags were slung in a pile. I watched and wondered. An elderly gentleman with a quick, smiling, tanned face came over and said: "Would you be willing to take me as a room-mate?"

In relief, I mumbled my acceptance. Together, we chose and erected one of the tents. I made my first try at inflating an air mattress at high altitude — and it nearly finished me. My partner took his time and did just as well — or better.



That had been my first night with horses and mules. The grass was so lush that they stayed about the camp. It was a busy night. I came wide awake once because of hoarse, heavy breathing next to my ear. It happened once again with a "munch-munch-munch" of a hoofed grass eater just outside the thin canvas. The innate gaiety of the occasion seemed to demand a merry stampede through the tents or a loud, melodious colloquy among the mules. I was glad to see the dawn!

During the following days we got to know each other better and better. We sat evenings and read or talked together. I was deep in the Bible at the time and I found him knowledgeable, balanced and witty. He husbanded his strength. The leader of the group kept an eye on him, made sure that he had a quiet horse and tactfully made suggestions as to activity. No climbing, for example. He often rode with him, adjusted the gait, or saw to it that he was with an experienced trail rider.

This outfitter, as they all do, had an interesting custom. On steep UP grades, as well as down, he dismounted everyone and we walked. My friend found the answer. He simply went to the rear of his horse, grasped the tail, leaned back and let himself be pulled to the crest. Crude but effective.

He came out of the wilderness in great shape — with thirty more years to carry than I. He wrote me later of his plans for more trips. A widower, but far from lonely. From this experience I developed the idea that wilderness trips were great for the elderly and that age was no limiting factor.

This, the present trip had started with gaiety. But now the man leaving touched my heart because of his anticipation. Seven straight days of rain, cold wind and wet camps had shaken things down. He had had enough.

My wife and I were attracted to him because of erudite conversation and pleasant demeanor. He confided early in the trip that he did not think he could last it out. I began to watch him.

The wilderness trip leader was a young, intelligent, gifted and vigorous man; a teacher, interested in the out-of-doors, strong, healthy — but with little empathy for the aged and infirm. His friends had come with him.

Some of the tents leaked. The leader and his friends marked the non-leakers and by sheer aggressiveness pre-empted them for their own use. Custom on such trips usually is that no tent is personal unless actually owned by the camper.

Those who have a drink before dinner do so quietly in a tent. This group loudly and openly enjoyed their hors d'oeuvres and cocktails. By themselves!

The leader did not lead. He spoke much of wilderness philosophy but did not understand it. He was not the shepherd of his flock.

To me it made no difference. There had been many trips and camps since that first one. We were accustomed to the rigors, prepared for discomfort, and habituated to hours in the saddle. This was not true of most of the others. There were family groups with young children. They were there to taste the wilderness but it was bitter. Every wilderness trip I have made has brought out buried feelings in people. On this trip there was no spokesman or interpreter for the wild beauty about them. Discussions about geology, ecology, forest usage, wilderness concepts, federal policies and social environmental change could have brought the whole thing alive. There was none. Without a theme of interest, people bickered over silly things, the staff threatened to quit, morale began to slide. Even food was hoarded.

Our elderly friend had not been well mounted from the start. He had a strong mountain-trail horse, well accustomed to taking advantage of weak riders. He took his own gait. First he would dawdle, eat along the trail, hold up the line. Then, finding himself left behind, would pitch down hill in that peculiar fast, straight-legged, bone-breaking trot which only the really skilled trail horse can accomplish. On his back came his rider, bump-bump-bump, hanging on for dear life and to protect those skinned areas.

I talked about this to our leader.

His comment: "He'll learn to get by."

The third day out we stopped in late morning. Our friend came bouncing in, hands clasped on the saddle horn, vainly seeking comfort. The horse stopped. He slid stiffly out of the saddle, walked spraddle-legged to a clear area and folded backwards, spread-eagled, eyes to the sky. I watched awhile, then walked over. He turned his eyes to me. "I can't make it," he said.

"Let me try to help," I replied. "When we leave put your horse behind mine."

I told our leader my plan. I explained that he had an exhausted rider and that I would try to pace the horse.

"O.K.," he said indifferently.

When we pulled out I put the old man behind me and in front of my wife. I kept my horse at a good, swinging trail walk. Looking back, I saw his smile. We had no more insane jogging that day. It should be apparent that if the lead horse walks all day, no other horse need trot to arrive at the same place at the same time. It was a long ride but he made it in good shape. I had hoped that he would stay. I knew how much he wanted to complete this trip, not for scenery but for companionship and the sense of physical accomplishment in spite of age. I tried to get him a better horse. No luck. It could have been done.

I tried to keep things under control. It was impossible. If I manipulated him near the head of the line, a mass of riders, like subway passengers, pushed ahead. This was a group in physical discomfort who had been afforded an example of selfishness. They were unconcerned. If I moved him into line anywhere



else I brought down upon our heads the bad words of all the idiots behind who wanted to run their horses down hill.

At the end of each day, he had to find a tent, leaky because the dry ones had all been marked and taken, drag the heavy wet canvas out, set it up, then crawl inside to rest.

Some of us did help but he wanted to be his own man. No help from the leader. Each night a coterie gathered for cocktails. That trip had very few long fireside discussions. No one seemed to feel like talking.

Finally, after a week, we had reached this camp. He told the outfitter he wanted to go out. Another couple made the same decision. The rest of us elected to go on in spite of misgivings. We thought it couldn't rain another week. It did.

Shivering a little, we stood in the dripping trees and watched him ride away. We saw ourselves as we shall be. It was frightening. A gentle, hopeful and kindly man started the trip looking for a thrilling experience. Instead he got loneliness, failure and disappointment.

I still feel that wilderness trips are not necessarily for the young and physically gifted. I have seen those in their seventies do magnificently and seven-year old children have a great time. With kids the parents must assume interest and responsibility. A spoiled child is no fun in the wilderness.

Few people are privileged to go on these trips because of the limitations imposed by the actual concept of wilderness. There is no wilderness if the woods are full of people. Forage is scarce. Trails are perishable. Funds are limited. A canyon full of camp sites and all of the down timber used for firewood is no longer wilderness. This privilege should be open to those of mature years whose capacity to understand and appreciate may be greater.

Why did this trip fail? Not directly because of weather. The weather brought out a failure in leadership. Under such circumstances, shared discomfort could have brought people together. Cooperation should be mandatory. Instead, leadership gave an example of aloofness, juvenility, ignorance and particularly,

(Continued on page 10)

6-High Country News
Friday, July 6, 1973

Land Use Moves Ahead

Designed to "prod the states" into action, the National Land Use Planning and Assistance Act (S. 268) has passed the Senate. Despite its many strong points, the bill appears to be long on "assistance" and short on "prodding" power. The carrot offered is \$1.06 billion, most of it to be given to the states over the next eight years to encourage development of statewide land use plans. The stick that is missing is any punishment, in the form of sanctions, for states that don't meet their obligations.

Oregon Gov. Tom McCall, the only governor to favor federal sanctions, said at the National Audubon Society meeting in Denver on June 10, "I think we need the Federal sword of Damocles hanging over our heads. But apparently states' rights are too overpowering, so we'll be able to curl our fingers around the money without any fear of having our knuckles rapped."

An amendment offered by the bill's sponsor, Sen. Henry Jackson of Washington, which would have added sanctions to S. 268, lost by 8 votes. The sanctions asked for were a gradual reduction of Airport, Highway, and Land and Water Conservation Funds.

During the 2½ days of debate on the bill, 19 amendments were considered. One, offered by Sen. Clifford Hansen of Wyoming, would have removed the "areas of critical environmental concern" from special management consideration. These areas were deemed to be of "more than statewide significance" and included such areas as "fragile or historic lands," "significant wildlife habitat," and "natural hazard lands."

HANSEN AGAINST

Hansen argued that in some states every square foot of private and state land could fall within such a limitless definition. A fellow opponent of the bill, Sen. Paul Fannin of Arizona, said it would "destroy the American concept and practice of private ownership of

land."

Sen. Jackson argued that removal of the critical areas section would "gut the bill." The amendment was subsequently voted down 20-63.

The defeat of the sanctions amendment is considered a serious blow by environmentalists and professional land planners. Surprisingly, Sen. Edmund Muskie of Maine voted against the amendment. He later offered a successful amendment which would require that the question of sanctions be reconsidered in three years.

The attention now shifts to the House where pressures will be strong to include the sanctions provision. Proponents feel if the House measure includes sanctions, a final compromise bill will also include the "stick."

FEDERAL ROLE

In the west, state land use planning is considered to be ineffective without a parallel effort on the part of the Federal government. Gov. Tom McCall of Oregon claims, "The Federal government also has a role because it owns almost half of the west." To bring federal attention to this matter, five Western governors met with Interior Secretary Rogers Morton in Washington. The governors urged some priority in working with the states in developing an over-all public-private plan for land use.

THE WEST

Meanwhile, in the western states officials and legislators struggle against public opinion and vested special interests. Most governors now realize the critical importance of land use planning. Even Wyoming's Governor Stanley K. Hathaway, who is not noted for his environmental sympathies, has taken a strong stand for land use planning.

Oregon Governor Tom McCall told the National Audubon Convention in Denver that comprehensive land use planning is one of

the most pressing issues of the day. McCall talked about Oregon's law, saying his state had become the fifth state to adopt authority to oversee local plans. Of the act, he said, "Our law may be the best in the nation, and maybe not. The important fact is that only five states have leaped conclusively into the fight against the buffalo hunter mentality."

COLORADO'S PLAN

In the course of this legislative session, Colorado has transformed a tough state land use bill into a mild request for regional planning.

In its original version Senate Bill 377 created a full-time state commission with planning authority over areas of "statewide concern." These areas included hazard areas, the heavily populated Front Range development from Fort Collins to Pueblo, and whatever else the commission deemed to be within their jurisdiction. The commission was also given the power to require impact statements on projects whose effect upon the state might be significant.

As the bill passed out of the Senate early in June, it called only for local planning without state controls. It established 13 regional commissions to develop master plans by the summer of 1975.

LET DOWN

Originally a supporter, Sen. Ray Kogovsek, D-Pueblo, voted against the bill and said, "the legislature has let the people of the state down."

The powers of the state were increased somewhat in the House version of the bill, but the Senate Republicans have rejected these changes. Due to these disagreements the chances of passage of any land use bill — even a lightweight statement of policy — are seen as slim.

SLOPE SEPARATISM

The Colorado State Land Use Bill aroused feelings of separatism on the western slope of the Rockies where people are few and land is plentiful. Many Western Slopes feel they can handle their own land use decisions.

In Aspen, a resort community, county commissioners feared that the heavily populated Eastern Slope might make them a playground for the entire state. Other Western Slope people asked that the state be merely a backstop for local decision-making. Rather than laying down rules for the localities to enforce, the state should provide communities with the expertise they need to make their own decisions, they said.

"If 377 (in original form) goes through, we can close up county shops on planning," said Gunnison County Commissioner Chuck Ruland.

IDAHO'S PLAN

Idaho has also proposed land use legislation which would give the state authority to void local plans. The measure, which is in the legislative interim committee, suggests the process for making decisions but does not dictate land use policy.

"Surely none of us in this room is naive enough to believe we will pass this thing through this legislature with any teeth in it," Republican legislator Dean Summers said of the proposed law.

And so it goes with the debate raging hotter each legislative session and each passing month as more development of the West continues. It seems more than likely that tough federal legislation may be the only way to make states, counties, and local communities act in their own best interests.



A sign of the times on the western scene — a developer's sales shack and a row of bulldozers ready to go to work on the mountain landscape. Literally millions of acres of beautiful western lands are being remade in the mold of the developer's image. Without effective legislation, land planners and citizens alike are frustrated in their efforts to protect the land.

A Second Look at National Land Use

High Country News-7
Friday, July 6, 1973

by Bruce Hamilton

The idea of a land use policy act raises hope in the eyes of environmentalists weary of fighting brush fire battles. It also brings fear into the eyes of fly-by-night developers. Yet the title of a bill can sound far more powerful than the substance behind it. "Land use" is as overworked and misused as "ecology."

Senator Jackson's land use bill that just passed the Senate (S. 268) has a grandiose aim: "to establish a national land use policy." It falls hopelessly short of that aim and needs strong amending in a House version of the bill and in conference.

Jackson has tried to translate into law the concept of land use planning for three years. Last session he put together a bill that The New Republic called "a good nuts-and-bolts procedures bill for the states." The legislation he fathered this session is held together by the same nuts and bolts. But a procedural bill is not enough in a time when land misuse has reached crisis proportions.



Years ago the states gave away much of their land use authority to local governments. Today, there are tens of thousands of governments in this country which decide in a laissez faire fashion how land is to be used. Now the federal government insists that some of the states' authority be reasserted. This will bring conflict between state and local governments, but it will do nothing about the dollar value of land which is the root of the planning problem.

The New Republic writes, "Behind every local zoner is a local chamber of commerce, everyone in wasteful competition with his neighbor to import certain land uses to build up the tax base and export those uses (usually environmental and social) that might weaken it. "Adding a procedural requirement that the states review these dollar-based decisions will not change their inevitable outcome. What is lacking is substantive policy language, public involvement, and a big stick."

The National Land Use Policy Act, H.R. 6460, introduced by Rep. John Saylor of Pennsylvania goes a long way toward putting some teeth in federal land use legislation. There are major differences between the Saylor Bill and the Jackson Bill that need to be aired so that one is not duped by their similar titles. Some of these major differences are:

1) The Saylor bill adds the requirement that States develop explicit policies to control development in critical environmental areas and specifies federal substantive policies which must be considered in development of State standards.

2) The Saylor bill adds the requirement of analysis of carrying capacity of the land and resources for various population levels and types of development.

3) The Saylor bill adds the provision for citizens to petition State land use planning agencies and get a hearing on whether certain areas should be designated areas of critical environmental concern.

4) The Saylor bill requires a state permit system for substantial development in critical environmental areas.

5) The Saylor bill imposes sanctions through a phased reduction of Airport, Highway and Land and Water Conservation Fund grants to

states.

These provisions, among others, make the Saylor bill, H.R. 6460, a better land use bill than the Jackson bill, S. 268. The Saylor bill is still in subcommittee. Members of the House Interior and Insular Affairs Subcommittee on Environment (Chairman Morris Udall) should be urged to pass H.R. 6460 without weakening amendments. Hopefully this bill will pass through the House and be squared off against the Jackson bill in conference.

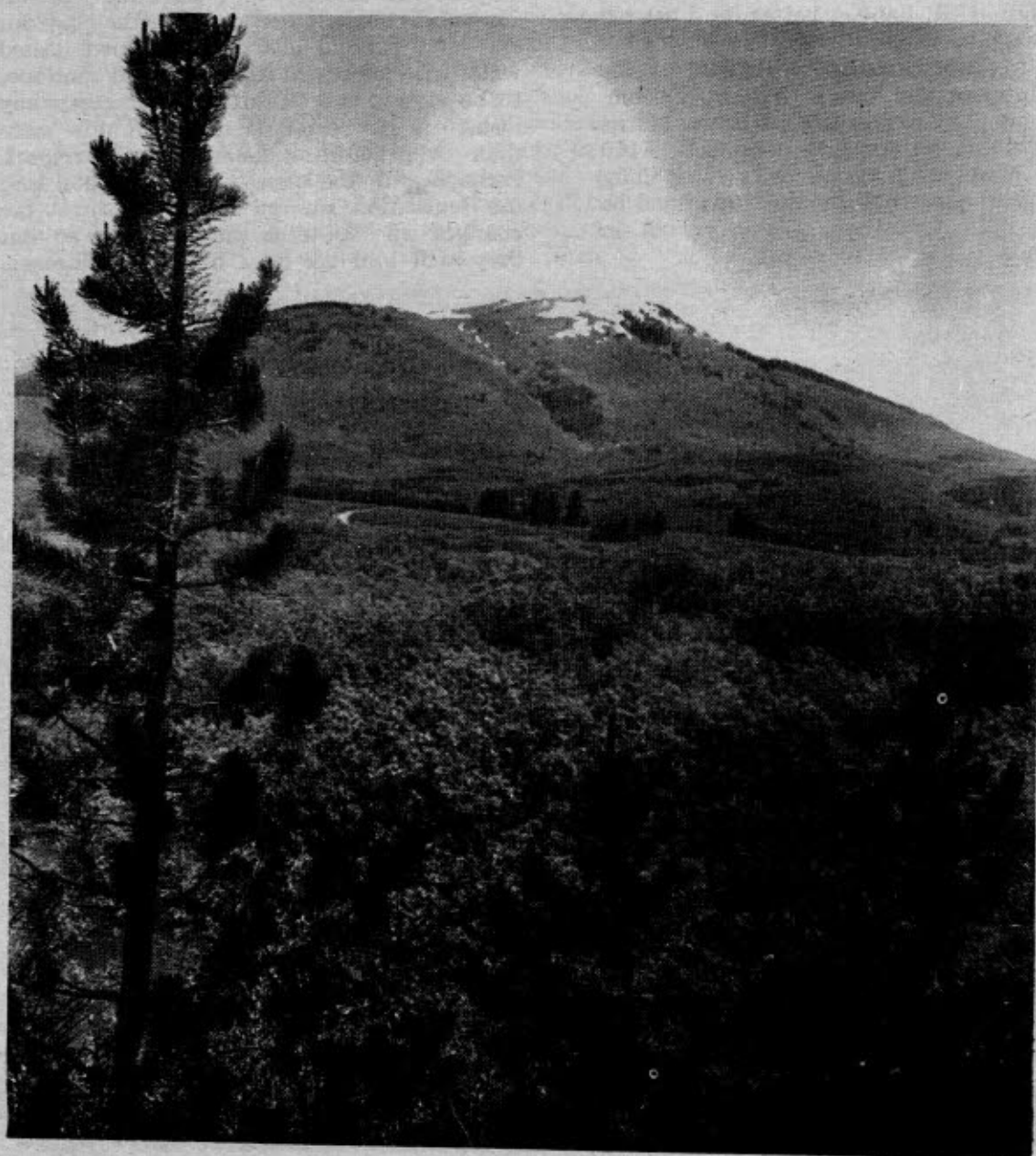
Land has been misused in every conceivable way in this country. We have filled wetlands for subdivisions, paved deer winter range for ski area parking lots, and dumped heated water into important fisheries. Land continues to be viewed as a servant that can accept any insult. It has served us well, but now more than ever before it deserves some respect. Perhaps with the passage of meaningful land use legislation we can begin to direct the changes we impose on the landscape so that they will bear the mark of our intelligence.



Above is a future homesite in the dreams of a developer. It happens to be in the Hahns Peak Basin, Routt County, Colorado. But it could be in any beautiful mountain setting in any of the Rocky Mountain states. Below shows the setting with the scalping done for access roads. Hundreds of homes, plus a golf course complete with club house, and a small ski area are planned for one small area in the northern Colorado Rockies. The Rocky Mountain Land Developers Association says more than 3 million acres of Colorado alone are being subdivided or otherwise developed. Most such developments are ahead of any effective legislation which could deal with the problems of suburban spread to the mountain meadows. Federal land use legislation is a must if the states are ever to get a handle on the problem. (For more on this particular development, see the centerspread, pages 8-9.)



8-High Country News
Friday, July 6, 1973

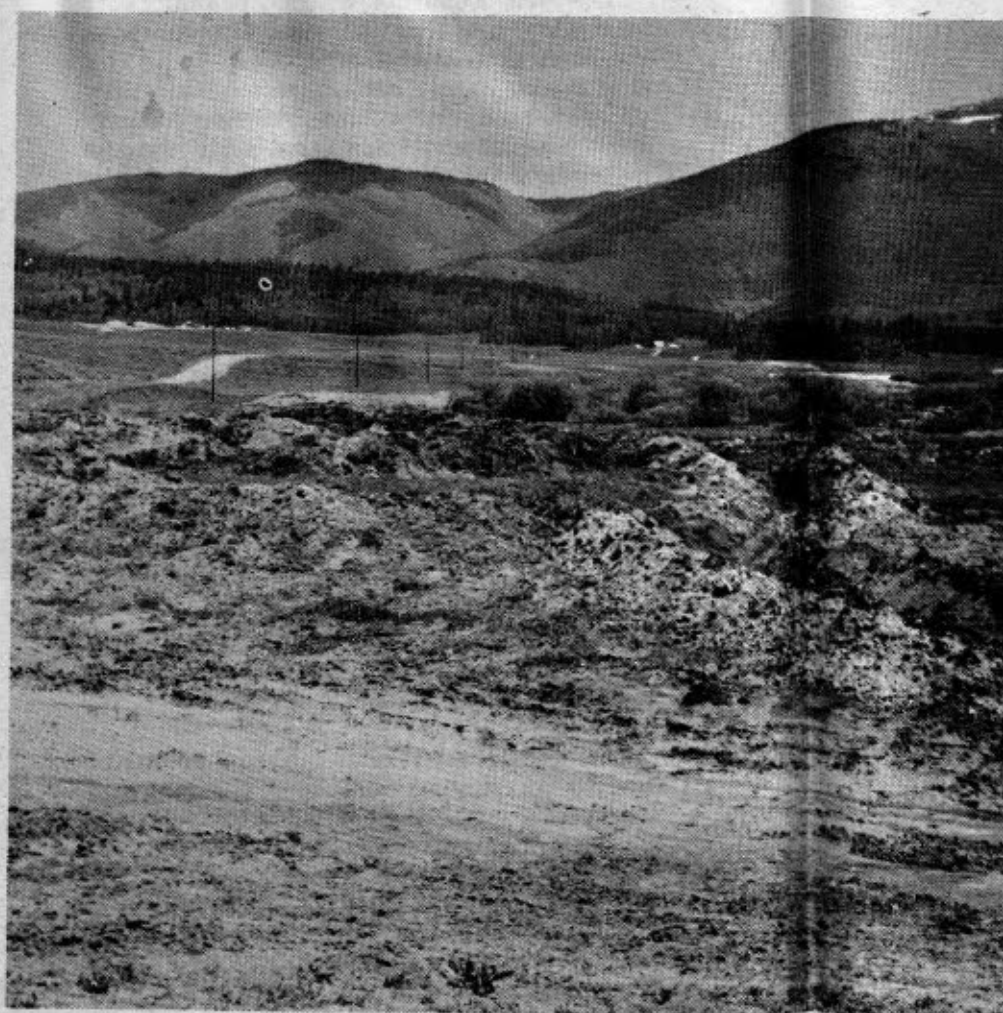


EDEN REZO

Hahns Peak Basin is a beautiful mountain area located 25-30 miles north of Fort Collins. The basin is comprised of national forest land, a state park, and private land. Much of the land is owned by Park Land & Cattle Co., a Denver-based operation. It is being "developed" for residential and commercial Development. The first phase of such development is to obtain a change of zoning from agriculture to commercial, residential, recreation, etc. Plans and arguments are being presented to the Routt County Planning Commission, which passes its recommendation on to the commissioners for decision.

These photos were taken along a 2-mile stretch of Beaver Creek. The photo shows a stream, where the decision to grant the zoning change has been tabled pending the results of a study of willows shelters deer, beaver, and in recent years, sandhill cranes. The study of the zoning change has been granted. Acres of willows have been uprooted to make way for a road. The stream is being rechanneled to provide suitable water hazards. Note Mt. Farwell in the background.

The buildings in the background (at lower right) are at the site of the future golf course. The photo just above it (upper right) was taken a few yards upstream, showing the same area. Golf timers in the Basin are wondering what will happen to the golf greens if herds of elk are allowed to fall migration route across the area.



Photos by Marge Higley

High Country News-9
Friday, July 6, 1973

ZONED!

25-30 miles north of Steamboat Springs, Colorado. It is private land. Much of the latter is now owned by Middle Fork, being "developed" by a subsidiary, Steamboat Lake. To obtain a change of zoning from (in this case) forestry to residential and arguments are first presented to the 9-member Planning Commission and then on to the 3-man Board of County Commissioners.

The photos at top show the upper part of the creek. The lower part has been tabled pending further study. The dense growth of willow and alder along the banks has been removed. The scenes below show an area where the stream has been uprooted to make way for a golf course. The stream flows through the Mt. Farwell in photos at left and bottom.

The site of the future clubhouse and swimming pool is shown in the middle photo, upstream, showing the stream in its natural state. Old golf greens if herds of elk follow their usual spring and



George Higley



10-High Country News
Friday, July 6, 1973

Teton Dam Challenged

With Teton Dam 32 percent completed, a suit asking for an injunction is at long last being heard. The suit was originally filed in 1971 by conservation organizations that claimed the environmental impact statement on the project was inadequate. The proposed dam would flood a 17-mile stretch of the Teton River in south eastern Idaho which is an excellent cutthroat fishery, critical big game winter range and a popular whitewater float trip.

The Sierra Club, the Idaho Environmental Council and Trout Unlimited claim the environmental impact statement is inadequate on several grounds. They hold that alternatives to the proposed project were only mentioned and no cost-benefit analysis was included on the alternatives. The environmental impact of Phase II (the construction of associated irrigation works) was not discussed, according to the plaintiffs. Furthermore, there was no evaluation of the effectiveness of the measures proposed to mitigate the fish and wildlife losses.

"I REALLY DON'T KNOW"

Sierra Club attorney Anthony Ruckel spent most of one day questioning Dr. John Peters, coordinator of the project's final environmental impact statement. Peters testified he spent one day in June, 1971, at the dam site, then came to Boise, spending three days there in preparation of the final statement.

Ruckel asked, "Is it fair to say the environmental impact statement is insufficient?"

"I really don't know," said Peters.

Could data have been attached to the statement? Ruckel asked.

"I suppose so," Peters said.

DAM WON'T HOLD WATER

Other startling testimony was provided by Shirley Pytlak, a former Bureau of Reclamation geologist. She studied the dam site during test drilling stages and from her results a report had been prepared. The drilling was conducted to determine if there were any cracks in the earth that would permit seepage. The results showed "a lot of them."

One test hole drained water at a rate of 300 gallons per minute. "It just soaked it up," she said. "If this much water can be absorbed by drill holes, how much would leak from a whole reservoir?"

WILDLIFE IMPACTED

In testimony before the U.S. District Court, Robert Sherwood, Fish and Game supervisor for the Upper Snake River Region, said that nearly half of the 1,100 deer inhabiting Teton Canyon will perish. He told the court that "threatened species such as the prairie falcon, osprey and the bald eagle will not survive the project either."

Dr. Frank Craighead, an author of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, testified in favor of preserving the river under the act. Craighead has developed a rating system for rivers, based on objective and subjective input. He said he rated the Teton excellent for fishing, excellent in boating. He went on to add that the Teton in its present state is unique for its natural cutthroat fishery. This is supported by an Idaho Fish and Game study which gave the highest departmental rating to the Teton River for its natural fishery.

Fish and Game officials revealed to the court that a parasitic nematode is present which plagues cutthroat. The nematode thrives in reservoirs and would endanger the cutthroat population if Teton Dam is filled.

MITIGATION QUESTIONED

The mitigation plan is now the subject of increased attention and controversy. The plan includes construction of spawning facilities,

hatchery ponds, fish screens at canal headings, wildlife protective fencing, range improvement and acquisition of wildlife habitat.

Much of the compensatory land is off-site. The Tex Creek area, about 30 miles from the project comprises 15,000 acres of land. It is in a different drainage and used by a different game herd but supposedly has "a much greater potential for range improvement and increased carrying capacity than do any lands in the project vicinity," according to officials. Plans also call for acquisition of 400 acres at Cartier Slough as wetland habitat, 960 acres around the periphery of Lower Teton Reservoir, and lands near Ririe Reservoir.

This mitigation plan was approved by the Secretary of the Interior, but its implementation is another story. An estimated \$500,000 is needed for the plan, but money was not included in the fiscal 1974 Bureau of Outdoor Recreation budget.

Although Lower Teton Reservoir will not begin filling until at least 1975 mitigation practices should begin soon, according to state officials. "It is pretty critical that work proceed now," says Bob Salter, assistant director of the Idaho Fish and Game Department.

Trout Unlimited has been critical of mitigation. Dr. Kenneth I. Cameron, president of the Northwest Steelheaders Council of TU said in 1972, "The Teton River is the finest native cutthroat trout stream in Idaho. A native fishery is not mitigated by hatcheries and stocking."

ANOTHER CHALLENGE

Teton Dam is also being challenged in the House Appropriations Committee in Washington. Conservation groups are attempting to halt funding of Teton Dam and 12 other water development projects. At these hearings the Idaho Environmental Council showed a benefit-cost ratio of 0.41 to 1 for Teton Dam. This conflicts with the Bureau of Reclamation ratio of 1.2 to 1.

Although construction is one-third done on the dam, the IEC doesn't feel we should

throw good money after bad. "Although some \$20 million has already been spent on the Teton project, it will require at least another \$50 million to complete Phase I and probably an additional \$30 million for Phase II," said James McFadden, chairman of the IEC Stream Protection Committee.



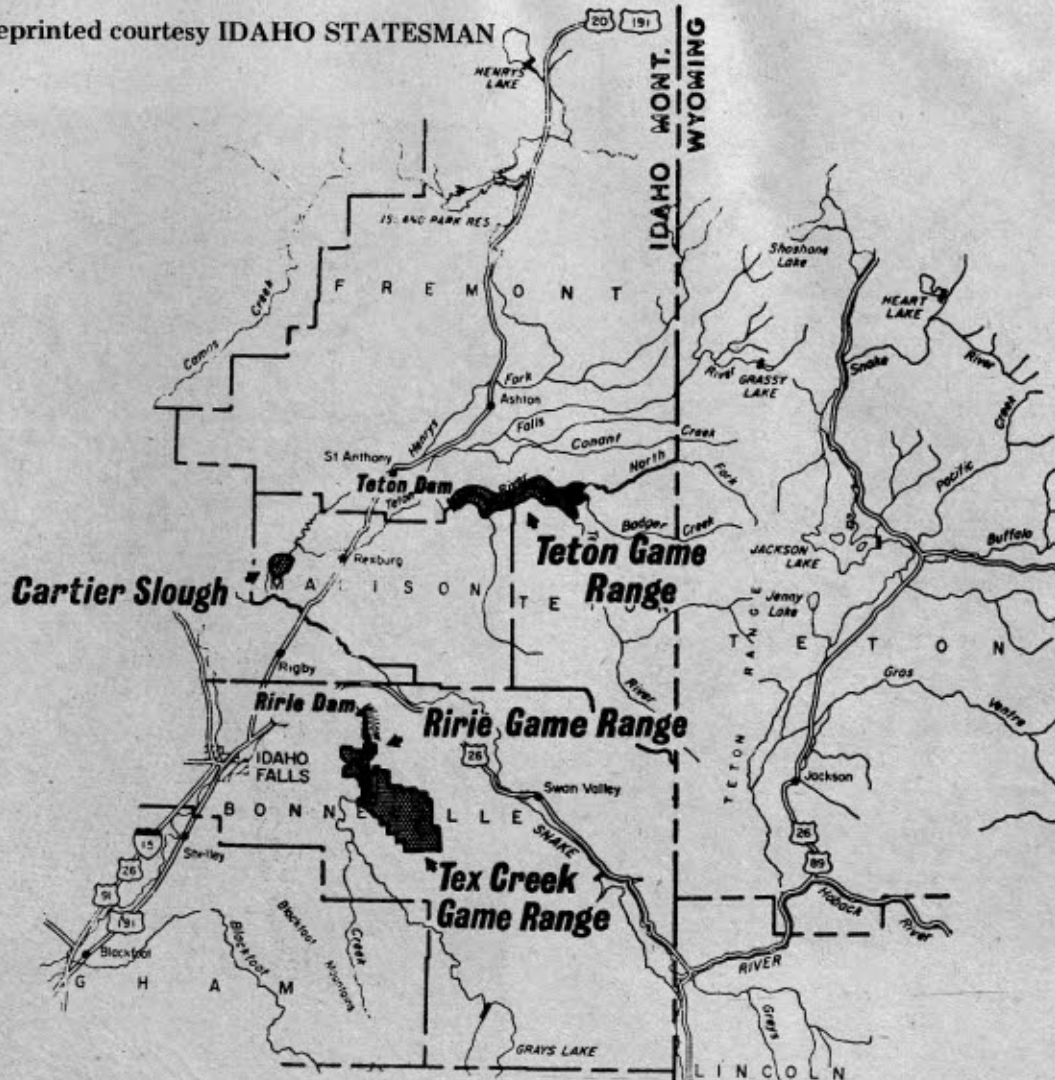
Two Old Men...

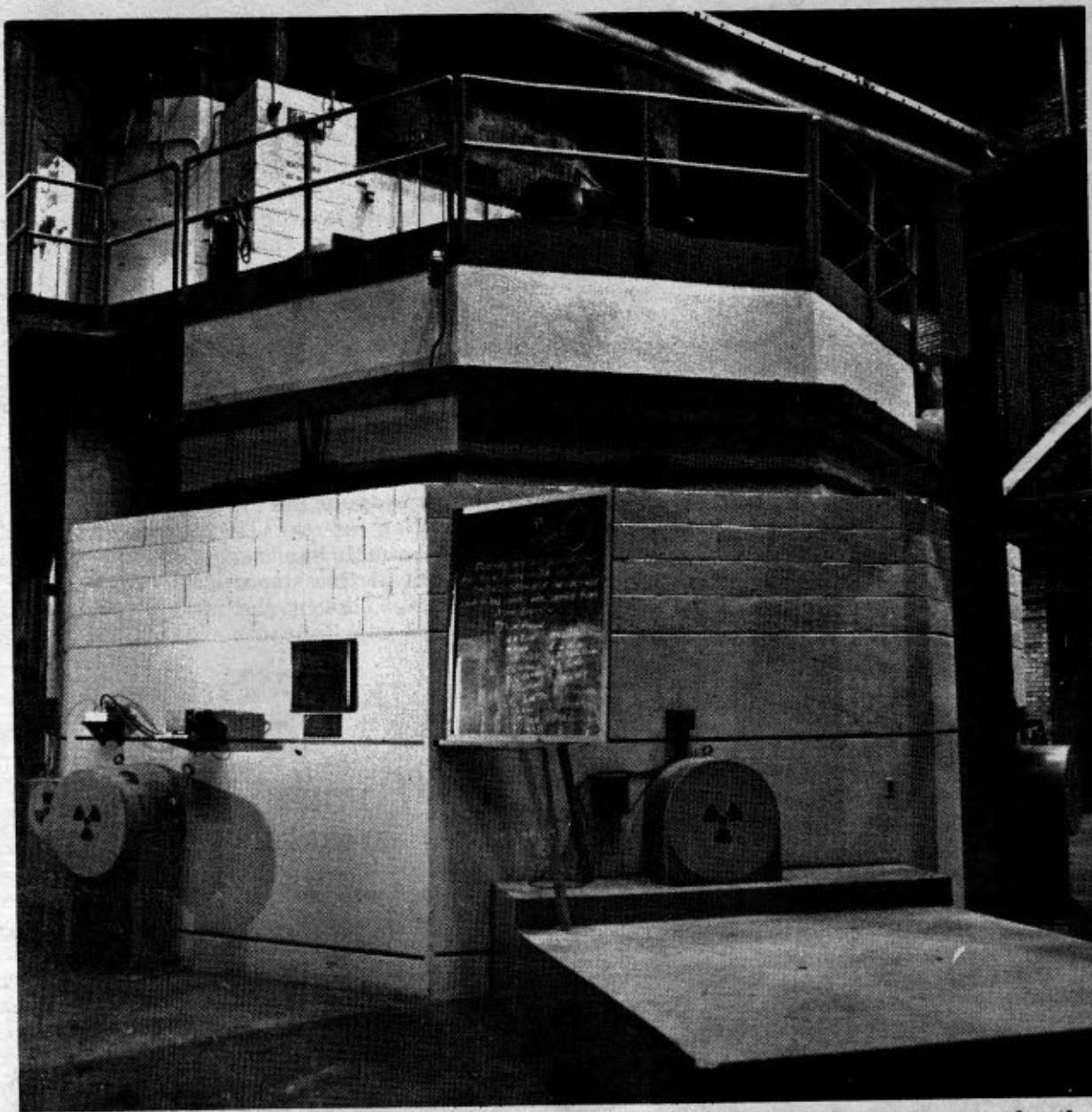
(Continued from page 5)

selfishness. The example was contagious, to those unaccustomed to outdoor living. No one really cared enough to save that man, so he left us — a selfish little group — to ourselves. He saw no hand turned to help him, no interest whether he stayed or went and, in fact, no love of brother. Wilderness is where this should be found.

Wilderness is not all sunshine and laughter. Wilderness often is uncomfortable and savage. This is part of it. We need to pit our strength and endurance against something. We learn to need each other. We need leadership when we are greenhorns — and more and more and more greenhorns there will be in the woods. A mature leader, gifted in human relations, would have saved the old man's amour propre. As more and more expeditions are mounted, thought must be given to the selection of the shepherd. Real men will be needed. People of maturity add to the total enjoyment of the outdoors. They have made a lifetime of contribution — social and financial — and are entitled to cash in the chips and have some fun.

Map reprinted courtesy IDAHO STATESMAN





The experimental Breeder Reactor (EBR-1) at Arco, Idaho, (above), set the stage for the liquid metal fast breeder reactor program. In 1970, President Nixon asked Congress to make a "commitment to complete the successful demonstration of the liquid-metal fast-breeder reactor (LMFBR) by 1980." That program has now suffered a setback from a recent court decision.

Court Requires Breeder Study

A Washington D. C. federal appeals court overruled a lower court decision and said that the Atomic Energy Commission needs to do an environmental impact statement on their proposed liquid metal fast breeder reactor (LMFBR) program.

The decision was another stunning victory for environmentalists and a setback for President Nixon's program to concentrate on the LMFBR.

The case was brought to court by the Natural Resources Defense Council on behalf of the Scientist's Institute for Public Information.

The AEC argued that the National Environmental Policy Act required only statements on the reactor's various components. NRDC attorney Gus Speth contended that problems of operational safety and disposal of nuclear wastes required an environmental overview.

The court ruled unanimously in favor of the environmentalists. The decision held that, "the anticipated effects of the IMFBR program are among the most significant, and most controversial, of all federal programs. . . . The Commission itself concedes it is expected that by the year 2000 some 600,000 cubic feet of high-level concentrated radioactive wastes will have been generated. The environmental problems attendant upon processing, transporting and storing these wastes, and other environmental issues raised by widespread deployment of IMFBR power plants, warrant the most searching scrutiny under NEPA."

Speth said the decision's long-range effects would be to force the government to tell the public what is involved in large research projects before they get past the point of no return. In this instance, he said, "we hope we can now focus public attention on whether

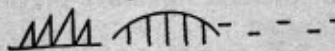
this reactor should be a top-priority federal program."

The AEC projects 450 breeders providing one-fourth of the total U.S. energy needs by the year 2000.

Roncalio Requests AEC Blast Fund Cuts

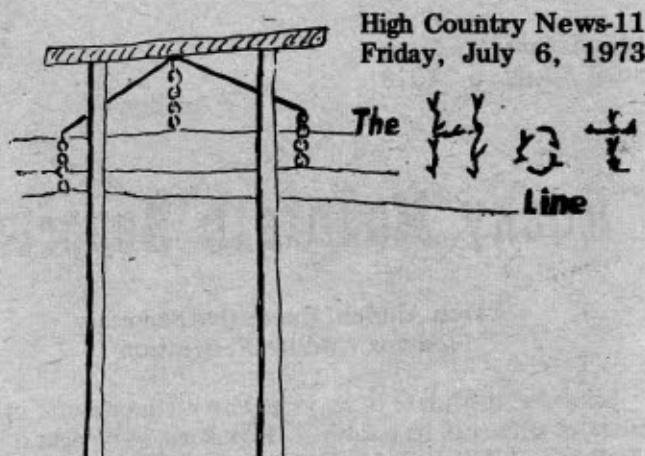
Wyoming Representative Teno Roncalio appeared before the House Appropriations Committee and urged that a \$3.8 million request for "applications of underground explosions" be stricken from the Atomic Energy Commission's appropriations.

Roncalio charged that the Rio Blanco shot in Colorado last month proved only the ability of technicians of the AEC but, "hasn't proved anything of value in solving the energy crisis." He criticized the entire Plowshare program which was designed to demonstrate the feasibility of producing gas by nuclear explosions. He said Rio Blanco "gave us another glazed underground chimney — like the earlier Rulison project — entrapping great quantities of natural gas full of radioactivity."



The same men who are so practical in economics are so utopian in ecology — they warn us that in economic matters "Nothing is free — everything has to be paid for," but in ecological matters they still act as if we can ceaselessly exploit the earth's resources without paying a heavy social cost.

The Deseret News
Editorial page
June 5, 1973.



High Country News-11
Friday, July 6, 1973

The *Keyhole*
Line

Basin Electric Co., a cooperative from North Dakota, is looking to Wyoming coal and water for another powerplant. The latest proposal is for a 2,600 or 3,400 megawatt steam generating plant in southeastern Wyoming. Water for such a plant would come from the Wheatland Irrigation District and deep wells. Earlier it had been rumored that Basin Electric was seeking water from Keyhole Reservoir near Moorcroft, Wyoming. The coal would come from the Powder River Basin.

* * *

Peabody Coal Co., accused of illegal exploration activities, told Montana officials that it wants to be "the leading environmental coal company in this state." A special counsel for the company met with State Land Commissioner Ted Schwinden and Attorney General Robert L. Woodahl. The company says the alleged violation was "one of inadvertence."

* * *

Dr. Ralph E. Lapp has joined a growing number of eminent scientists who warn not only of an energy crisis but shortages of critical materials. Dr. Lapp says in a new book, *The Logarithmic Century*, "A modern Malthus with an eye on energy resources rather than people would surely see 21st-century man in serious trouble as he attempts to prosper, to move about on the planet and to keep warm, in the life-style of today's advanced countries."

* * *

Rep. Charles A. Vanik (Ohio) has introduced a bill (H.R. 7531) which would put a tax on every new automobile, rated according to its fuel consumption. The tax would increase by consumption rate (in miles per gallon) from \$1.00 up to \$256 beginning July 1, 1976.

* * *

Utah's governor and most of the congressional delegation met with Interior Secretary Rogers Morton to plead the case for the huge Kaiparowits powerplant. Morton cancelled the plant several weeks ago for environmental reasons. Sen. Wallace Bennett, who did not attend the meeting, criticized Morton's decision. He said Kaiparowits was the "sacrificial lamb" handed to environmentalists because it was the "most vulnerable from a political standpoint." Southwest Power Company officials also met with Morton to ask for reconsideration of the \$1.3 billion project.

* * *

Two more coal gasification plants were predicted for Wyoming's Powder River Basin. The prediction was made by Governor Stanley K. Hathaway. He said the plants, employing 900 men, would be announced within the next 18 months. He did not identify the companies or say where the plants would be located.

* * *

The Senate Interior Committee has reported out a strip mining bill which includes only coal. An amendment by Sen. Alan Bible (Nev.) exempted all hard-rock and non-coal minerals.

12-High Country News
Friday, July 6, 1973

Rocky Mountain Report

by Don Aldrich, Executive Secretary
Montana Wildlife Federation

Like the birthdate of an idea, the birthdate of a movement is difficult to establish. For sure, the origin of the Montana Wildlife Federation came sometime after the loss of the buffalo as a free-roaming creature and sometime before the scientific management of wildlife.

The Laurel Rod and Gun Club, a Montana Wildlife Federation affiliate, will be celebrating its fiftieth anniversary this fall so we know the roots are at least that old and if the records were readily available, we would probably find the seed was sown even earlier than that.

Local clubs were organized throughout the state to achieve local objectives. The catalyst which held these units of destiny together range from visionary to environmental catastrophes, but in all cases they were well intended implementation of projected needs and the best information available. Exotic fish and animal species were introduced to fill what were thought to be environmental voids or to provide a new resident the type of outdoor recreation he had enjoyed before migrating to Montana.

Good or bad as determined by time, at least they were mistakes of commission and not omission. They were the inspiration, the bond that created organizational strength, and the catalyst that held a working group on the alert for new projects.

Just when these groups started coordinating their efforts to increase their influence in regional, state, and local is also vague. This spring the Montana Wildlife Federation conducted its 37th annual convention, so it has functioned as a statewide organization at least that long. In November 1951 the officers of the organization went through the legal process of incorporating.

Establishing the Montana Wildlife Federation News, a monthly publication, in January 1961 and creating the position of executive secretary in June 1968 were innovative steps that made it possible for the Federation to maintain a position of leadership in the state.

If we were not going to report legislative goals achieved through the political process, the history of the MWF would have little interest and the organization would have had little reason to exist. Like all state organizations we are called upon at regular intervals to protect the Fish and Game Department from the politician or an unscrupulous Commission, the Commission from an unscrupulous citizen, or the Commission and Department from an unscrupulous legislature. In the politics that structured and maintains the Montana Fish and Game Department's program, the MWF has played the role of the fulcrum, or perhaps, the third man on the teetertotter.

The Wildlife Extension program which originated in the University of Montana in 1949 was a major breakthrough in the field of scientific resource management. Dr. Joe Severy of the University of Montana conducted this program in addition to his teaching load through 1954.

During this period leaders in the MWF were working to obtain funding from the Montana Fish and Game Commission to continue the program. Earl Berthelson, G.M. Brandborg, Joe Halterman, and Tom Messelt are some of the leaders of this effort who are still active in the Montana environmental issues. Sometime prior to December 1954, Walt Staves, president of the Montana Wildlife Federation, persuaded the Commission to enter into a Cooperative Wildlife Extension program with the University of Montana. Les Pengelly was hired to fill the post and in March 1955, Eldon Smith was employed at Montana State University in the same capacity.

The evolution from strictly shooting, fishing, and hunting clubs to full scope environmental organizations originated with this action.

Major achievements since this reorientation included the abandonment of buck laws, dividing the state into two flyways for the determination of hunting waterfowl dates, a stream preservation law, water and air pollution standards, a plant siting law and the nation's best mined land reclamation law.

Confrontations that have had regional and national importance were with the Forest Service over the use of

No One Wants Poison Gas

A campaign is underway to get rid of four to six million pounds of Sarin-GB nerve gas presently stored at Rocky Mountain Arsenal northeast of Denver. Gov. John Love of Colorado said, "If there needs to be a nerve-gas deterrent — and I have my doubts — there surely doesn't have to be one at the edge of the metropolitan area."

Love said he "certainly wouldn't stand in the way of any attempt to move any of this," but that he favored detoxification of the gas in the facility to avoid a transportation accident.

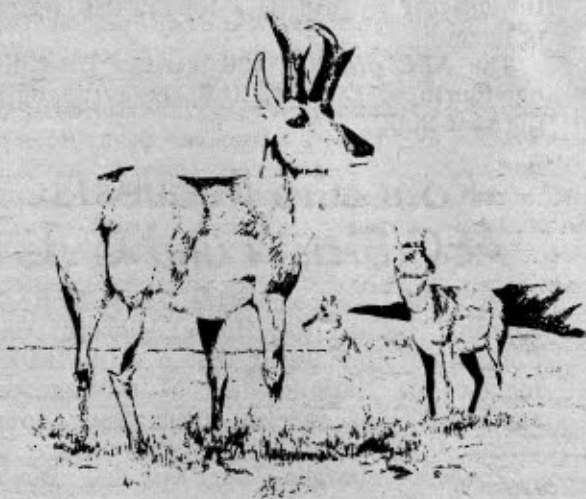
John Green, regional administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, said it is better to leave the nerve gas than to move it. He classified removal of the gas as "ultra-hazardous."

Rep. William Armstrong of Colorado wants

Pipeline Rapped

Dr. Robert Curry, an Associate Professor of Environmental Geology at the University of Montana, has severely criticized the Department of the Interior's Trans-Alaska Pipeline routing in testimony before the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee. Curry has visited and conducted field work on approximately 95% of the proposed Trans-Alaska pipeline route from Prudhoe Bay to Valdez. He has also investigated representative portions of both the Alaskan and Canadian portions of several alternative MacKenzie Valley pipeline routes.

He testified in opposition to Secretary of Interior Morton's letter to Congress of April 4, 1973, saying "it is not at all true that there is more unstable permafrost, more chances of slope failure, equal seismic risk, or equal hydrologic risk" by the Trans-Canada route. Morton's letter caused Curry to "seriously doubt that he has the ability to grasp these technical matters sufficiently to assure his capability to attach adequate environmental and technical stipulations to any arctic pipeline permit, no matter where constructed."



Report . . .

DDT to spray spruce bud worm, excessive timber harvesting that led to the Bolle Report, and clear cutting.

Enactment of legislation which created the approximately 250,000 acre Scapegoat Wilderness was precedent setting in that it was the first area to be added to the Wilderness System that did not have previous protective classification.

In concluding this horn blowing, it is important to establish that these objectives were accomplished by broad coalitions of concerned people. MWF has not been a glory-seeking organization. We have been grateful for the opportunity to assist in coordinating citizen action, and to be a part of the movement.

Our membership fluctuates according to the number and importance of issues. In recent years we have had as many as 52 affiliate clubs and 10,000 on our mailing list. The organization is open to all who wish to be a part of our efforts.

the gas out of his home state and recommended removal to Tooele Army Depot, Utah. The Utah delegation was quick to reject Armstrong's suggestion pointing out that Tooele is within 50 miles of the Salt Lake City-Provo area where three-fourths of the state's population resides.

Remembering the incident at Dugway Proving Grounds, Utah where several thousand sheep were killed by a misfired nerve-gas shell, Rep. Wayne Owens said, "The people of that part of Utah would be as much up in arms as I understand the people of Denver are now."

President Nixon renounced the "first use" of such weapons in 1970 and called for Senate ratification of the 1952 Geneva protocols which would ban nerve-gas altogether. In the light of this stance many officials in the two states doubt the need to maintain a nerve-gas stockpile.



"Family" Gathers

Some 2,000 members of the Rainbow Family of Living Light are expected to gather on the Shoshone National Forest south of Lander, Wyo. for a religious celebration this week. Recalling last summer's Rainbow Family festival at Strawberry Lake near Granby, Colo. which drew some 15,000 persons, local officials have raised questions of possible environmental problems.

A U.S. Forest Service officer is at the Rainbow Family's camp full time, along with state Game and Fish personnel. Officials from the State Department of Health are in the area testing the water each day.

Whether or not serious problems result, this situation focuses attention on Forest Service policy regarding large groups. There are presently no regulations concerning the maximum size of a group allowed to use the national forests.

New Bulbs Save Watts

Duro-Test Corp. has introduced a line of light bulbs that consume as much as 10 per cent less electrical energy while providing the same amount of light as bulbs of comparable wattage and the same life. These "wattsaver" bulbs use krypton gas. For home use they come in 55-watt, 92-watt and 138-watt sizes which correspond to 60, 100, and 150-watt conventional bulbs. They cost more than standard bulbs, but should save the user money in the long run, Duro-Test said.

"..Noted & Quoted.."

Presently, land development is an aggregate of thousands of unrelated decisions made by single-purpose agencies, local governments, and private landowners without regard for each other or for regional, statewide, and national concerns.

Yearbook of Agriculture
1972

* * *

States are finding today that they have, in fact, delegated too much responsibility to local governments which have neither the expertise nor the perspective to make large scale decisions or to solve problems which cut across local boundaries.

The Legal Control of
Population and Distribution
in a Quality Environment:
The Land Use Alternatives.
Richard D. Lamm & Steven Davison

Western.....Roundup

Streams Go Unprotected

The Idaho League of Women Voters may soon initiate a public referendum to protect minimum stream flows in the state. "How can you have firm water quality standards and a permit system while people have a right to appropriate water until the last drop is used?" asked Doli Obee, spokeswoman for the League.

She singled out minimum flows on Idaho streams as one of the "most drastic legislative needs." Legislation has been proposed in past years but never has gotten anywhere, she noted.

A similar approach was tried in Colorado by the Eagle-Piney Water Protection Association in the spring of 1972. Although the Eagle-Piney petition drive did not gather enough signatures to put the initiative on the ballot, it did bring the issue to the state legislature's attention. The session following the petition drive saw the passage of a bill which gave the state power to appropriate water for minimum stream flows to protect the natural environment.

Wyoming, like Idaho, still has no way to prevent complete drying up of important streams. The subject has even greater relevance now that there are serious plans to divert large amounts of water for industrial development of coal.

Gold Miners Stake Claims

Soaring gold prices have put the Cripple Creek-Victor Mining District in Colorado back in business. The major interest in the area, the Golden Cycle Corporation, will spend six million and employ 100 men to restart production. The free market price of an ounce of gold has risen from \$35 to \$125 in the last three years.

Similar interest in gold is burgeoning in other western states. The historic gold mining towns of Bannack, Virginia City, and Dillon in Montana are being eyed by prospectors and big companies alike. Anaconda Co. has staked and drilled a number of claims in the historic South Pass gold mining district of Wyoming. Idaho's richest areas are also stirring to life.

The key to more development seems to lie in the stability of the gold market. Should the price apparently stabilize at around \$125 an ounce, the West could be in for more gold rushes.

Wyoming Sierra Club Grows

Interest in the Sierra Club is rising in Wyoming. Two groups have recently organized in the normally conservative Big Horn Basin. The North Absaroka Group in Park County, has membership drawn from Powell, Cody, Wapiti and surrounding areas. The Big Horn Group is drawn from the Worland-Basin-Greybull area of Washakie and Big Horn Counties.

The Absaroka Group has already asked for a meeting with Park County Commissioners to discuss a planned land development in the Wapiti Valley. The Big Horn Group has expressed an interest in the Cloud Peak Wilderness and the impact on water resources of the Big Horn River from coal development.

No Funds for Ouray Dam

The Dallas Project dam and reservoir in Ouray County, Colorado, has been dropped from consideration for another fiscal year. The Bureau of Reclamation project was first intended to be for irrigation, but was later discovered to also be for heavy industry. Kemmerer Coal Co. had asked for an option on 24,000 acre feet of water for use in either coal gasification or steam-electric generation. Defeat of the project is a victory for Joyce Jorgensen, courageous editor of the Ouray County Plaindealer. Mrs. Jorgensen led the opposition to the project which resulted in a serious boycott of her newspaper. Her factual reporting led to increased opposition throughout the area.

New Face in Reclamation

A native of Colorado, Gilbert G. Stamm, was sworn in as new Commissioner of the Bureau of Reclamation last week. He promised to meet the "challenges ahead of us and to advance the reclamation program." The Bureau recently announced its orientation was away from irrigation and toward development of water for people and industry. At the swearing in ceremony, Interior Secretary Rogers Morton said, "the whole question of water resource development is going to be under scrutiny for the next few years."

Scott Named NW Representative

Douglas Scott, a native of Portland, Oregon, is the new Northwest Representative of the Sierra Club and the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs at Seattle. He succeeds Roger Mellem who has been acting representative since Brock Evans left to head up the Sierra Club's Washington office.

Scott, 29, has been with The Wilderness Society for the past three and a half years. He leaves the post of Assistant Director of Wilderness Reviews and news editor of The Living Wilderness. He has a degree in forestry from the University of Michigan and did graduate work on the legislative history of the Wilderness Act.



Wild horse herds in Montana and Wyoming's Pryor Mountains may be controlled by mustanging. That is one of the recommendations proposed in "Land Use Recommendations for the Pryor Mountains." The report was recently released by the Bureau of Land Management and the U.S. Forest Service. Faced with an overpopulation on deteriorating ranges, the agencies must somehow remove 30-40 animals. The alternatives are to kill a number of horses, or conduct a federal roundup as was done two years ago. They propose a permit system where persons could rope and take a horse. They say, "The cowboy and the mustang are part of the history of the West. The cowboy has served as the primary predator on the horse population for years. It seems inconsistent to completely eliminate this means of population control and in turn shift the economic burden to the taxpayer for harvest of excess horses."

"Furthermore, someone who puts out work and effort to catch a wild horse can be expected to be more devoted to the animal and consequently give it better care and treatment as compared to someone who receives the animal as a gift without having to work for it."

"A permit system would perpetuate the traditional sport of mustanging and provide an additional recreational use of the horse. Except for supervision, the expense of harvesting and transfer of ownership of the animals would not be shifted to the taxpayers."

Briefly Noted...

Wyoming conservationists and two outfitters have filed an appeal on a federal court decision to allow logging on the Teton National Forest. The Wyoming Outdoor Council, the Wyoming Wildlife Federation, the Wyoming Division of the Izaak Walton League, and two outfitters, D'Orr Merritt and Dave Addy, contended that an environmental impact statement was required. The U.S. Forest Service has maintained that an impact statement was not needed. Judge Ewing T. Kerr ruled in favor of the government. The appeal now goes to the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals in Denver.

* * *

The Northern Cheyenne Tribal Council has asked the Department of Interior to cancel all prospecting permits and mining leases for the Indians' coal. The tribe has also hired a law firm that specializes in Indian land law. The outcome of the Indians' request could be an indicator of how the Administration intends to deal with Indian self determination. It also should indicate how seriously the Administration views the protection of the natural environment in the face of an energy crisis.

* * *

Speaking to the Wyoming Mining Association last week, Assistant Secretary of the Interior Jack Horton said, "The Powder River Basin alone is estimated to have about 85 percent of the nation's supply of low sulfur coal." He estimated the coal to be worth \$53 billion. Horton told the miners that the price of economic growth "mustn't include environmental deterioration."

* * *

A proposal to obtain federal funds for a Provo-Jordan River Parkway in Utah recently got an assist from the assistant director for state programs in the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation. Dr. Heaton Underhill said the proposal to build two small reservoirs and provide a 520-acre park between them was the type of project qualified for federal help.

* * *

Utah auto dealers are reporting land office sales of small, compact cars. Many dealers report their stocks depleted from recent sales. Meanwhile, the Save A Gallon Week sponsored by the Deseret News was having an unknown effect. Results won't be known until gasoline tax receipts are in at the end of June.

14-High Country News
Friday, July 6, 1973

Thoughts from the Distaff Corner

by Marge Higley

My conscience kept nagging at me, "Slow down 10 mph to save gas," but my heart was urging "Hurry up! The faster you drive, the sooner you'll get there!"

I compromised. I slowed down about five mph and my heart and I promised my conscience that on the return trip I would drive very slowly. The urgency was because my destination was our own personal Shangri-La.

My sisters and I own a cabin high in the mountains of northwestern Colorado. Built more than 40 years ago, it has been used and enjoyed by our parents, our grandparents, and our children. We are hoping that our grandchildren and, eventually, our great grandchildren will come to love that small portion of the world as we do.

But we're worried. The boom in mountain land development has hit Routt County, and it's coming ever closer to our Shangri-La. We are protected somewhat by national forest and a state park, but the land adjacent to our vulnerable side is owned by a big development company which, naturally, wants to develop.

The first three hours of my trip were on paved highways, and as I drove I mulled over the change that would come about if the plans for development were carried out. At Baggs, near the Wyoming-Colorado line, I turned east to follow the Little Snake River up to its headwaters, and then beyond, in a southeasterly direction.

Perhaps it was the sight of those snow-capped peaks and the smell of aspen and spruce growing along the roadside — at any rate, my mind quit fretting about what the future might bring, and went back (quite a few years!) to the past.

Beautiful, carefree summers. Six little girls, of assorted sizes and shapes, riding horseback (I should say "nag-back") across the mountain meadows, or eating a picnic lunch by one of the nearby creeks. Mother would have been horrified had she known that we occasionally skinny-dipped in a muddy beaver dam — but there was no one around for miles and miles, so our secret was safe. We roamed through the woods back of the house watching for tree squirrels and chipmunks, and listening for the low-pitched sound of hoot owls. In the willows along the creek we thrilled to the sight of deer and beavers, and the sound of red-winged blackbirds.

Mother loved to fish, and as the years went by most of us shared her enthusiasm for the sport. A purist fly-fisherman would shudder at her unorthodox method. (Well, I consider it rather unorthodox to stab half a worm on the barb of a Royal Coachman and toss it sort of under hand into the water!) But even after we were grown, and she had switched to spinners, she could always bring home the most and the biggest fish.

As I turned the car into the little side road to traverse the last two miles to the cabin, my pleasant memories were jolted by the sight of piles of uprooted willows and dirt, stretching for a mile up the creek. (The site of a future golf course, with club house and swimming pool to be located just across the road.) I grimaced, and drove on to the cabin. In spite of our uneasiness about the future, it was a great visit with other members of the family. So far, the devastation is out of sight of the cabin and we tried not to look in that direction very often.

Driving home a few days later, I kept my promise and drove slowly all the way. It gave me plenty of time to think. I asked myself, are we selfish in not wanting hundreds of families to move to within a half mile of our cabin? Do we want to deprive other children of wonderful summers like we had? Shouldn't every child have a chance to learn to love nature, and to be awed by it? With that thought, came the answer.

The way it used to be (and the way our little corner still is), nature was dominant, and man insignificant by comparison. But line up rows of houses on each side of the creek, or build a ski area complete with clubhouse and condominiums at the edge of the forest, and nature becomes subservient to man.

When that happens, Shangri-Las vanish, to become just another part of the rat-race.



And those thin clouds above, in flakes and bars,
That give away their motion to the stars.

COLERIDGE: Dejection

Breathing Can Be Hazardous

Breathing city air — inside or out — can be hazardous to your health.

City people who feel protected against pollution by their air-conditioned apartments

Float for Credit

Two weeks in the mountains of Grand Teton National Park, a four day pack trip, and a float trip sound too good to be true as a college credit course? It's true — another educational institution is here and growing in Wyoming.

Following the trend in so many colleges and universities today, the University of California is expanding its offerings off-campus by making a course available through the facilities of the Teton Science School of Jackson. This is good news to teachers and college students looking to expand their knowledge as well as gain six quarter hours credit on the college undergraduate or graduate level.

Field Ecology of Jackson Hole will be taught by Dr. Jack Major professor of ecology at the University of California, Davis and Joe Shellenberger, former Park naturalist during the first two weeks in August.

Further information may be obtained from Ted Major, Director Teton Science School, Box 111, Jackson, Wyoming 83001.

and office buildings may be jarred by a recent study from the government's Environmental Protection Agency. In a study of pollution levels in selected New York buildings, the agency discovered that hydrocarbon pollution — one of the byproducts of the combustion of coal, gas, and oil — was even higher inside the buildings than outside.

Of the two sites studied, one is a new apartment complex which straddles the approach to one of the major bridges. Nearly 150,000 vehicles pass under the complex every day. But the complex is high above the roadways and openly exposed to winds which help dissipate the fumes from below. Nevertheless, carbon monoxide levels inside the complex exceeded federal standards on all floors during the entire year.

At another site — a midtown 20-story office building where car fumes are trapped in city canyons — hydrocarbon levels were also higher inside than out. Carbon monoxide levels were even more excessive than for the apartment complex.

The findings, which distress city dwellers, also have dire implications for future urban design, particularly for "air space" buildings. These buildings straddle congested roadways in an effort to use the air space above streets which, the EPA estimates, takes up 60 to 70 percent of downtown land areas.

Environmental Eavesdropper

LOONEY LIMERICKS

by Zane E. Cology

Some people just don't understand
Why land-use must be well planned.
If it doesn't make money
They think that it's funny
To consider it "wise use of land."

* * *

The chemical, hexachlorbenzene (HCB), has been found in high concentrations in Louisiana cattle, and in lesser concentrations in Texas, California and Arizona sheep and lambs. The chemical causes an affliction known as "wolf man" syndrome or "monkey face." It afflicted thousands of Turkish children in the 1950's when they ate flour made from wheat treated with HCB. The Louisiana cattle fed on pastures contaminated by air pollution from nearby petrochemical plants. Some 15,000 head of cattle are currently quarantined. A U.S. Department of Agriculture spokesman said, "It is the ecological scare story to end them all." The affliction is horribly disfiguring to humans.

* * *

Vinyl shoe soles are the secondary victims of the energy crisis. Vinyl is a petrochemical product made from petroleum. A shortage has led to prices 30 percent above those of last year.

* * *

Tobacco smoking would be banned in all public places under a proposal made by a Finnish government committee. Violators would be subject to fines and up to six months in prison. The committee also proposes bans or restrictions on all advertising of tobacco products.

* * *

High concentrations of asbestos fibers have been discovered in the drinking water supply of Duluth and several other communities along Lake Superior. The Environmental Protection Agency says the source of the asbestos is believed to be from taconite tailings from Reserve Mining Co. at Silver Bay, Minnesota.

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Carroll R. Noble Dies

High Country News-15
Friday, July 6, 1973

Carroll R. Noble, one of the grand old men of Wyoming conservation, passed away on June 17. He was 70.

He was a remarkable man in many respects. He was the son of pioneer homesteaders in the Green River Valley of Wyoming. There he made his home and raised his own family, all of them also cattle ranchers. He was one of a unique breed of pioneer who could see far beyond his own generation.

His perspective was global rather than provincial. His devotion to the land, the wilderness, and the wild creatures brought him to some national eminence as a director of the National Wildlife Federation. He was one of ten national winners of the American Motors Conservation Award in 1971.



Carroll R. Noble
1902-1973

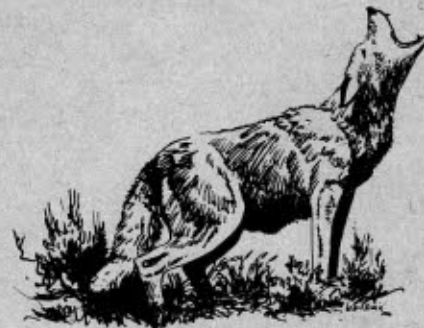
He served for a number of years as president of the Wyoming Wildlife Federation. Through those years he battled his fellow ranchers, bureaucrats, and politicians alike for what he thought was right for our natural resources. He was almost a pariah in his own community and state because of his outspoken

stands and dedication to the land and all it meant to him. He only half-jokingly alluded to the fact his fellow cattle ranchers had "bull-cotted" him. They would not buy his top-quality bulls even though other ranchers from other states would come to buy them.

He was an originator and initial director of the Wyoming Outdoor Council, an umbrella organization of conservation groups. He served for many years on the Board of St. John's Hospital in Jackson (the nearest hospital to Pinedale). He served on the Pinedale District Bureau of Land Management Advisory Board, the State BLM Board, and the National BLM Advisory Board. He also served as a member of the Bridger National Forest Advisory Council.

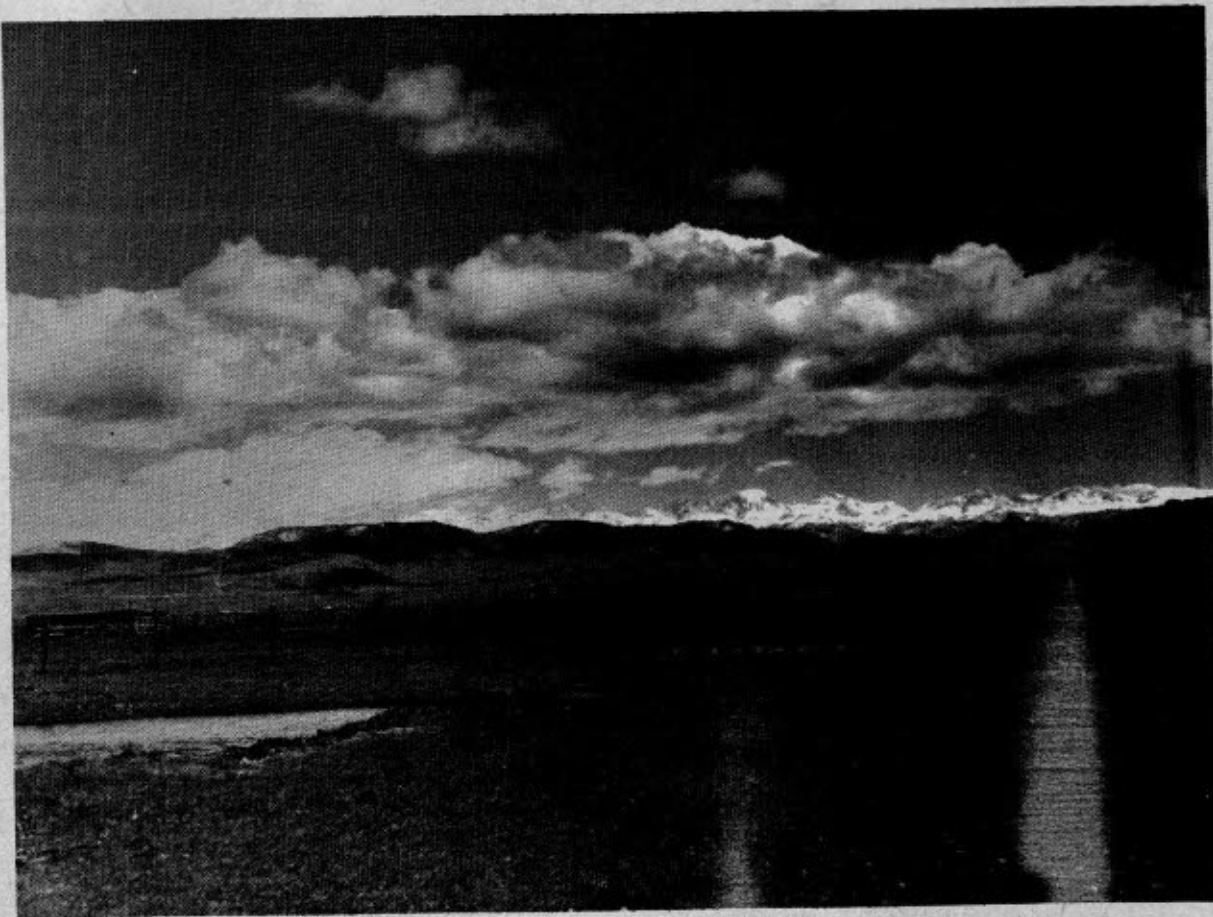
He was at home in the fastnesses of the Bridger Wilderness Area. There he camped and talked with Olaus Murie and Justice William O. Douglas. They were kindred souls in the forefront of a movement which has enveloped America. Now only Justice Douglas remains.

The Noble family has requested that anyone wishing to make memorials should do so to the Wyoming Wildlife Federation, or to High Country News.



In Memoriam

Memorials to Carroll R. Noble have been made to High Country News by Mr. and Mrs. L.W. Bill Isaacs of Pinedale, Wyoming, and Mr. and Mrs. Neil Gose of Lander, Wyoming.



Carroll Noble was a Wyoming rancher as big in mind and spirit as the great outdoors for which he was such an ardent spokesman. Here is the view from his ranch home — a view which could inspire any man, but especially a man of his insight. It is of the rugged Wind River Mountains and the Bridger Wilderness.

16-High Country News
Friday, July 6, 1973

Schools in Powderhorn

With the cooperation of the public schools, the Army, Colorado Air National Guard and the Bureau of Land Management, 20 boys and girls from Denver high schools will spend the summer improving the Powderhorn area in southwestern Colorado while they learn about the environment.

The students, selected by their teachers and counselors for the work study program directed by the Bureau of Land Management, left Denver for an eight week Youth Conservation Corps summer project. Kenneth Mills, 1973 YCC camp director, and five other Denver public school instructors accompanied the young people. Students will receive free board and room, up to 10 hours of high school credits and a \$5.50 per day payment for their work on the 40,000-acre Powderhorn tract. The area is currently under study for designation as a primitive area.

Richard Huff, YCC program manager for the Colorado State BLM office, said the 1973 summer program of environmental work and education will include three days of survival instruction at the Recondo School on the Ft. Carson military reservation south of Colorado Springs.

The survival and land navigation training will include such items as the identification and preparation of edible animals and plants native to Colorado wilderness, finding shelter, seasonal outdoor hazards, and maintaining personal hygiene away from the usual conveniences. The students will also be taught land navigation, or how to combine the use of maps with the association of prominent features of the terrain.

Huff said the first part of the camp session will be spent in the Powderhorn area. The boys and girls will work on improvement of wildlife habitat, maintenance of trails and fences, construction and improvement of recreation sites and clearing of stream beds. The session will move to the Recondo School the second week in July and then back to the Powderhorn for the remainder of camp.



Audubon Offers Youth Magazine

The Audubon Society is offering a national magazine for young people.

It is "The Curious Naturalist," a lively little nine-times-a-year publication that was founded by the Massachusetts Audubon Society more than a decade ago and has become well respected in youth education circles throughout New England. Now the National Audubon Society has joined its Massachusetts affiliate as co-sponsor, and is making the magazine available nationally as part of a new classroom educational package as well as by ordinary subscription.

Content and geographical frame of reference is being broadened to suit the interests of a national readership. "The Curious Naturalist" is geared primarily to the upper elementary and junior high school level, but proclaims itself to be a "magazine for beginning naturalists of all ages." Each 16-page issue covers some specific subject, such as plants in winter, turtles, the movement of continents, or the robin, and the nine issues cover the September-to-June school year.

The new classroom package, for \$59.80 a year, comprises ten subscriptions to "The Curious Naturalist"; one subscription to National Audubon's handsome, full-color general membership magazine, "Audubon," and various wall charts, natural science informational materials and other supplementary classroom aids published by National Audubon. For further information write: Audubon



Sixth-graders of the Pikes Peak elementary school in Colorado Springs refused to let heavy snows and record spring rains cancel their third annual outdoor education camp. This year it was held at Elephant Rocks, a Salvation Army camp near the Air Force Academy. Bureau of Land Management natural resource specialists were the faculty for one day. Expense of the camp is paid entirely by the children who raise the money from a series of bake sales, auction and special events that start almost with the opening of school in the fall. George W. Nelson, range management specialist from the Canon City district BLM office, shows the youngsters how to identify some of the plants that grow in the area of Elephant Rocks.

Environmental Service, Walker & Co., 720 Fifth Ave., New York, N.Y. 10019.

Individual subscriptions to "The Curious Naturalist" cost \$3 a year and are still being handled through the Massachusetts Audubon Society, South Great Road, Lincoln, Mass., 01773.

Gas Mileage Tips

Going 70 or 80 miles per hour on the highway is great fun, says a Washington-based conservation group, but it's the equivalent to running through the Taj Mahal scattering bubble gum wrappers. That's because the average car driven at those speeds uses almost twice as much fuel as the same car going 50 miles per hour.

The group — called Concern — offers these tips on how to get better gas mileage and cut down on air pollution at the same time: On the road, accelerate smoothly and ease into stops — Never race the car's engine — Instead of idling the engine to warm it up, drive slowly for the first quarter mile — And never leave the engine idling for more than two or three minutes.

Concern also reminds people that larger cars with more powerful engines use more gas than smaller ones. In fact, a car weighing 5,000 pounds uses over twice the amount of fuel as one weighing 2,000 pounds.

: : EARTH NEWS

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