

The Environmental Bi-Weekly

High Country News

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Lander, Wyoming

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Rugged Blacktooth (13,014 ft) and Cloud Peak (13,165 ft, right) dominate the proposed Cloud Peak Wilderness Area in Wyoming's Bighorn Mountains. Lake Helen, foreground, is just inside the southwestern boundary of the present primi-

Photo by Ed Schunk
tive area. Conservationists propose inclusion of all the area shown in the lower foreground. A hearing on the proposed wilderness is to be heard Nov. 8 in Sheridan.

Black Clouds Gather

Far across Wyoming's Powder River Basin to the West stands a shining example of "The Shining Mountains" so often depicted in western lore. These are the Big Horn Mountains.

On a clear day, you can see them from far out in the Basin. But the black clouds of doom are already gathering over this great land. From the very base of the Big Horns, vast deposits of coal are located. And as America's energy crisis deepens, the coal deposits will be exploited. Huge amounts will undoubtedly be used for power generation, coal gasification and coal liquefaction. The clean, clear skies may someday disappear.

As the energy industries burgeon, thousands of people will make their way into the region. And like people from other industrialized areas who seek the unspoiled and untrammelled wilderness, so will these people. They will find the need to escape from the pressures of the industrial, urban environments they will have created on the plains.

They will be fortunate for the tops of the Big Horn Mountains are already a haven. In 1932, the Cloud Peak Primitive Area was set aside. Now, the time has come to decide if the primitive area should be classified as wilderness, and protected under The Wilderness Act.

A public hearing is set for November 8 at



Sheridan, Wyoming, on the future of the area. The Forest Service has identified four alternatives, but it gives the nod to the alternative which includes the present primitive area plus the addition of about 13,500 acres. This, it says,

"places the greater emphasis on a mix of the key values." It is the smallest unit of the alternatives for any kind of wilderness, and it does not include any additional life zones or a greater variety of wilderness experience. Over 90% of the Forest Service's favored alternative is above timberline.

Citizen-Conservationists do not agree with the Forest Service proposal. After years of study, they propose a 282,000-acre Cloud Peak Wilderness. It would include diverse forested areas at lower elevations which are now used for wilderness recreation. The proposal would provide a richer variety of life zones and greater protection for watersheds, fish and wildlife. The much larger area would provide increased opportunities for greater dispersal of visitors.

As the Forest Service hearing notice points out, "Nearly a million people live within a 300 mile radius of the review area. The closest towns are Sheridan, Buffalo, Worland, Basin,

(Continued on page 4)

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HIGH COUNTRY

By Tom Bell

From the ridiculous to the sublime was all I could think of the first two night's experience on the Yellowstone "Way To The Wilderness" trip. As trip leader for The Wilderness Society, I had gone to Jackson to the Wort Hotel to meet the wilderness wayfarers as they came in. After an evening get-together dinner, we retired to our respective rooms. To my dismay, I found I was situated directly over the rock music entertainment going on in the bar downstairs. I was not alone in my misery. Bob Leuba, executive assistant to the Governor of Connecticut, had the room next to mine. What a night!

And what a refreshing change the next night. There, deep inside the wilderness of southwestern Yellowstone National Park, the murmur of Mountain Ash Creek sifted through the walls of our three-man tent.

It was to be almost two weeks of near Heavenly bliss. I had not been on a horse pack trip for about ten years, and I had never been in that section of Yellowstone. Besides, it was the first real vacation I had had in about three years.

The "Way To The Wilderness" trips are sponsored by The Wilderness Society. They are non-profit excursions into America's last remaining wilderness areas. The Wilderness Society arranges with qualified outfitters to provide horses, packstock, equipment and supplies for each trip. Not all trips are horseback trips. For those who prefer to walk, both walking-pack and backpack trips are arranged. On a walking-pack trip, the people walk but their food, sleeping bags and gear are packed by horse or mule.

No matter how the way, the trips are provided for the enjoyment of those who want to savor the beauty, the solitude, and the rich experience of wilderness. For those who love horses and the joy of long trail rides in superb settings, the trips are well worth the cost.

The Wilderness Society arranges for a trip leader to represent the Society, answer questions, help the outfitter, be helpful to all the participants in enjoying wilderness, and generally help to make the trip smooth and enjoyable. It was my pleasure to serve in that capacity for the first time while on the trip in July.

George Clover of Jackson is one of those present-day characters out of the old West. He is as much at home on horseback as he is in telling stories around the evening campfire, or cracking jokes on a frosty morning. Needless, to say an outfitter of the temperament and manner of George is an invaluable asset in assuring a pleasant and enjoyable trip. And with him, he had a group of likable, efficient young wranglers who had a tough job. Among them was his son, Tom. Last but not least was a capable and efficient cook, a young lady who had gone on one of the wilderness trips and liked it so well she spends her summers cooking in cold, rain, heat, or smoke. Altogether, a capable crew.

So off we set on a 110-mile trip, with 19 guests and a trip doctor, also provided by The Wilderness Society. Those who came to see the wilderness were almost a cross-section of middle-class America. There was the doctor's wife, who is a nurse, and his son. There were two lawyers from the East Coast; two school teachers from the West Coast. There were two Kansas wheat farmers, and the wife of one of them. There was a Catholic father from Notre Dame and a dietician from the University of California. There was a retired Navy captain and his wife and a friend. There were two young people from the cities of the East, a part of the swinging singles set. A young woman chemist from Kansas City was entranced by the wilderness, and a groundskeeper and his wife from New Jersey were so impressed with a trip into the Teton Wilderness the year before that they had returned.

Yellowstone has to be one of the great American experiences. Its size, its diversity and its natural wonders are unmatched anywhere in the world. But it is when you travel the wilderness trails through those places of beauty and wonder that you come to a full realization of how great it is. Thank God, there were men of vision and foresight who were selfless enough to leave us this heritage.



A favored memento of any wilderness trip has to be a photo. Here, Natalie (Mrs. John G.) Lewis catches fellow campers, and fellow Californians, Marilyn Robison and Pat Freimuth as they get their duffel to the packers. These three were only a few of the hundreds who experienced America's great wilderness areas last summer.

Letters

Editor:

There is a small group of Newcomers in the Casper area that are interested in starting a recycling collection center here, if we can find places preferably within the state that will take our recyclable items.

Do you know of anyone or any firm that will accept clear glass, colored glass; steel cans; newspapers, or magazines?

First, we need to know who will accept various discards, then hopefully, we will find transportation. I do not know anything about Wyoming other than there are only a handful of people like ourselves that care about the future of our country's land, water, air. I find Wyoming very frustrating but we are trying, again, to stir up some interest.

We, in the Newcomers Community Service group, are hoping and praying that you or your staff can give us some directions as to whom we may write regarding "where to recycle."

Sincerely,
Mrs. C. Bruce Snow
Casper, WY

Editor's note: Mrs. Snow's request is only one of a number which we have received concerning recycling of paper, glass and metals. Our answer here will necessarily be short, but we are now planning one or more issues of the paper (tentatively Dec. 7 and Dec. 21) on recycling. There, we will try to treat the subject in-depth and give more detailed information. For now, we would like to report only on the Denver area and the companies that will accept or buy recyclable materials.

Friedman & Son, 2345 Walnut, Denver 80205, will pay \$12 per ton for newspapers and \$16 for corrugated cardboard. They will also accept telephone books for the first time this year but would like to have them kept separate

if possible.

Thixon, a new company just getting organized at 1400 Teller, Lakewood, Colorado 80215, hopes to soon be in the position to buy glass. A product developed through the Colorado School of Mines called Thixite is a combination of crushed glass and building rubble. A picnic pavillion in Denver's Washington Park built of the material has turned out so beautifully that there appears to be great promise for it.

National Iron & Metal, 100 So. Santa Fe, Denver 80223 (ph 744-7011) will take large amounts of tin cans ("large" not explained, nor price). The same for Barter Metals, 701 West Bayand, Denver 80223 (ph 733-4636).

The staff here would appreciate knowing of any other outlets in the northern Rocky Mountain region; ie, Boulder, Fort Collins, Denver, Grand Junction, Salt Lake City, Logan, Pocatello, Twin Falls, Boise, Moscow, Butte, Great Falls, Missoula, Bozeman, Billings, Casper and Cheyenne. Also any kind of information that would be useful to other concerned people wanting to get into recycling.

* * *

Dear Mr. Bell:

Thank you for the copy of your letter to the President protesting budgetary restrictions on the Forest Service.

I wish you success in getting the President's attention. He has so far ignored the wishes of a majority of the Congress on this subject, and will undoubtedly continue to pursue an independent course.

Those who feel the President is not aware of the consequences of his actions are naive. With the watchdogs removed from the forests, only the timber interests can benefit. It is thus no accident that the Forest Service is required to meet today's expanded pressures on its lands with 1962 personnel levels.



Editorials

Congress Defines Wilderness

Congress is looking at what they call Eastern Wilderness legislation. Westerners should take a look, too. At long last Congress is attempting to define just exactly what a Wilderness should be.

Under the Forest Service's interpretation of the 1964 Wilderness Act, no areas in the Eastern U.S. can qualify for protection because they have been roaded, logged, or otherwise affected by man. Henry Jackson's S.316, which is still in the Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, would dictate a more liberal interpretation of the act for both the East and the West.

As the bill now stands, an area would be qualified for wilderness designation which "(A) though man's works may have been present in the past, has been or may be so restored by natural influences as to generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, (B) may encompass within its boundaries greater or lesser areas of private or other non-Federal lands and waters, or interests therein, and (C) may, upon designation as wilderness, contain certain pre-

existing nonconforming uses, improvements, structures, or installations. . ."

The Jackson bill would not only bring at least 18 Eastern areas into the Wilderness Preservation System — it would give many important Western areas a chance to gain protection. No longer would the presence of a sagging log cabin, an outhouse, a sawed-off stump, or a grassy road rut be grounds for disqualification.

We urge you to support S. 316. It will help make the 1964 Wilderness Act a clear and workable piece of land use legislation.

—JN

Gov't Giveaway

President Nixon's Energy Crisis is having a dramatic effect on our lives. We are asked to tolerate strip mines, breathe dirty air, dry up streams, risk oil spills in the arctic and fill in canyon lands with oil shale wastes. But now the Administration has unveiled Phase II. Now we are going to be asked to subsidize environmental disaster.

This was the "possibility" posed by John

Whitaker, Assistant Interior Secretary, when he spoke in Denver Oct. 20th. He suggested that a subsidy would encourage industry to invest the \$300 million needed for one prototype oil shale operation in the Piceance Basin of Colorado. Is this an example of the "free enterprise system" that the oil companies cherish when talk of a government-run, TVA-type, oil shale industry is raised? It seems that Adam Smith's "invisible hand" is busy behind the scenes padding a few pockets that are already bursting at the seams.

First the public was confronted by an Interior leasing program for oil shale which glossed over hidden subsidies. We were told we must practically give away our country's richest oil shale reserves for about 50 cents an acre, provide cheap water from existing and future public reclamation projects, sacrifice valuable wild lands used for public recreation, risk social disruption and support private boom town facilities with public funds, and pay a shale oil depletion allowance. Now, to top off this list of hidden handouts, we might be asked to hand money over the table as well.

The Nixon Administration and its bedfellow, the oil cartel, have gone far enough. Can we honestly believe they are acting in our interest? You can fill a lot of canyons with oil shale tailings, but it will take more than that to fill this bottomless credibility gap.

—BH



I appreciate hearing from you. I hope you will continue to tell your readers what is going on in OMB and the forests.

Very truly yours,
Lee Metcalf

* * *

Dear Mr. Bell:

It was good to see Arkansas' Cache River suit mentioned in 12 October edition of **High Country News**. The Eavesdropper columnist erred a bit in identifying the parties involved in the suit against the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to stop this disastrous project.

The plaintiffs are the Environmental Defense Fund, the Arkansas Ecology Center, the Arkansas Wildlife Federation and two individuals, joined by the Arkansas State Game and Fish Commission shortly after the suit was filed.

Within the last few months, five states — Minnesota, Illinois, Iowa, Ohio and Kentucky have entered the case as friends of the court. These states are in the Mississippi Flyway and are concerned about the destruction of habitat for wintering waterfowl in the Cache River Basin.

You will find the enclosed clippings from the Arkansas Gazette of interest. Three state agencies are giving Arkansas Power and Light Company a hard time over their enormous White Bluff coal plant. Two AP & L nuclear plants will be in production soon which will supply adequate power for the state for the next ten or fifteen years. We do not need this coal plant. The industrial development establishment plans to entice industry to locate along the Arkansas River with the promise of cheap power. Same old story.

Sincerely yours,
Mrs. Howard S. Stern
Pine Bluff, ARK

Guest Editorial Cloud Peak Symbolic

by Bart Koehler

On November 8 of this year, a public hearing will be held in Sheridan, Wyoming, to decide the fate of the Cloud Peak Primitive Area. The Forest Service, in its typical short-sighted manner, has proposed the smallest possible wilderness for Cloud Peak. A citizens' proposal spearheaded by ranchers in the Sheridan region, and supported by many conservation groups, would create a viable and expanded wilderness in northcentral Wyoming.

A black cloud hangs over Cloud Peak today — for a battle is brewing over this symbol of a wild and free Wyoming. The Cloud Peak hearing will not be just another boundary dispute. In a greater context, it will be an initial decision for the future direction of the state.

Stand atop Cloud Peak and gaze to the east. This region may all too soon be altered beyond recognition. Coal mining, coal-burning power plants, population booms, sub-divisions running from Buffalo to Sheridan and beyond, new water developments needed for this "progress" draining the Tongue and Powder Rivers, the high lakes of the Bighorns, and diverting water from distant rivers up and over the range — all these will scar the face of an area that we once thought would always stay the "way it is." Look at the Front Range of Colorado; this terrible future is not that far away. With Governor Hathaway leading the cheering section, Sheridan could be another Denver in twenty years.

The Forest Service recommendation is another example of a government agency telling the people of Wyoming what is "best" for them. It will help open the door to uncontrolled development in the region. On the other hand, the citizens' proposal will protect more free-flowing waters and open space. These are the cornerstones of the Wyoming way of life. Will Cloud Peak be intact in twenty years? In ten?

In five?

We love this land called Wyoming. When we speak of a land ethic in this state we cannot separate quality ranchlands and open spaces from wilderness. They are all crucial segments of a healthy land base which makes Wyoming such a beautiful place in which to live. It is part of a history that we cannot afford to lose.

We fallaciously think that things will stay the same in this state. Without our help, this will never be. The natural environment of Wyoming will remain as it is only if the people of Wyoming work to make it that way. If the citizen voice retains its usual silence, it will mark the beginning of the end for the Wyoming way of life. It is a case of environmental sanity versus uncontrolled growth.

Go to the hearing in Sheridan on November 8. This is the chance to say "no" to uncontrolled development. It is the chance to say "yes" to citizen decision-making in land use planning. It is the chance to say "yes" to the Wyoming way of life in a voice that will be heard in the State House in Cheyenne and carry all the way to the Nation's Capitol. Support the Wyoming citizens' proposal for a magnificent 282,000-acre Cloud Peak Wilderness. Cloud Peak can then stand firmly as a symbol of Wyoming's quality environment for all time.

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Black Clouds . . .

(Continued from page 1)

Greybull, and Lovell, Wyoming, with a combined population of 34,700. . . "What the Forest Service does not point out is that because of energy imperatives and the coal deposits of Montana and Wyoming, population within a 300 mile radius could double or nearly triple in the next 25 years, to a total that could approach three million.

The pressures for development of more water impoundments in the mountains, more timber, and more roads for more access can only grow greater in the years just ahead. As an example, the Wyoming Snowmobile Association, at a recent meeting, went on record in favor of leaving the present primitive area as it is. The mining industry has already applied for more reservoir sites, and the Forest Service plans to timber large areas that are now roadless.

Wyoming people are becoming fearful of what is going to happen to the rich, western heritage of the state. A stand in favor of more wilderness now will favor the next generation, and the next. They can decide if what was protected now was too much. Once developed that option is lost to future generations.

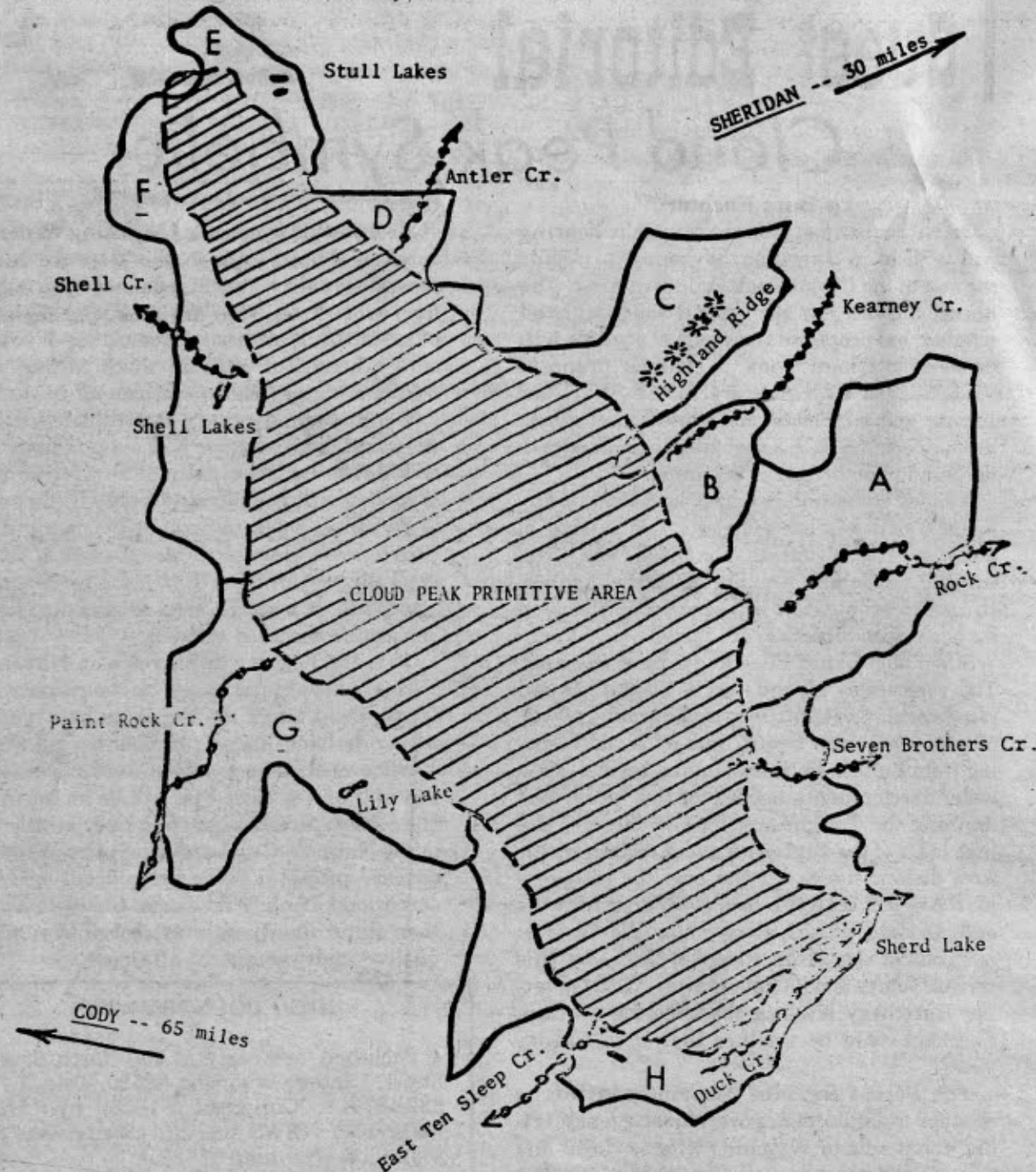
Wyoming has a tradition of political conservatism. That conservatism can be put to good use in protecting wild lands. The changes that are coming on the plains are swiftly approaching. They cannot be stopped.

The Cloud Peak Wilderness can be symbolic

of an awakening of Wyoming people to the horrors of uncontrolled growth. By speaking out on a larger wilderness, they can have a say



The black clouds of doom are gathering over this vast land. Huge deposits of coal are found almost up to the eastern base of Wyoming's Big Horn Mountains. Shown here is the north end of Lake DeSmet where known deposits of coal reach a thickness of 225 ft.



The map (above) of the Cloud Peak Wilderness Area shows the additions proposed by citizen-conservationists. Area A, Rock Creek, includes 26,922 acres; Area B, Penrose Ridge, 7,137 acres; Area C, Highland Ridge, 14,901 acres; Area D, Upper Lighter and Antler Creeks, 4,383 acres; Area E, Stull Lakes, 2,880 acres; Area F, Shell area, 44,076 acres; Area G, Paint Rock, 24,793 acres, and Area H, Southern Extension, 24,042 acres.

in the destiny of at least some lands.

Those who cannot attend the wilderness hearing on the Cloud Peak Area in Sheridan on November 8 can write a letter. A short letter expressing your views can be addressed to: Regional Forester, U.S. Forest Service, Building 85, Denver Federal Center, Denver, CO 80225. In order to be included in the hearing record, the letter must reach the Regional Forester no later than Dec. 10, 1973.

Please express your views on this one. It could be symbolic of how Wyoming people and the nation look upon our future. —TB

Another Pipeline

Very quietly, plans for a second Alaska pipeline are moving forward. This time the proposed line would move natural gas across wilderness areas in the Arctic National Wildlife Range in northeastern Alaska. The area is the largest single candidate for the national wilderness preservation system. A permit to start test-hole drilling in the area has been issued without public hearings or review.

On Aug. 8 Interior Secretary Rogers C.B. Morton issued permits to the Alaskan Arctic Gas Study Company to make explorations from Aug. 15 to Dec. 31 along the northern part of the range. Twenty-foot-deep test holes will be drilled to obtain data on solid and permafrost conditions. The company, which is a consortium of 26 U.S., Canadian, and British firms, proposes to tap natural gas fields in the Prudhoe Bay area in Alaska and the Mackenzie River delta in Canada and transport the gas to Canadian and U.S. markets. The proposed \$5 billion pipeline would be about 2,600 miles long, most of it in Canada.

"This is further evidence of the oil and gas industry's domination of the U.S. Department of the Interior," said Stewart Brandborg, executive director of The Wilderness Society. Disturbance of a candidate area for national wilderness preservation, made without public hearings and review, "represents a violation of the Wilderness Act," he said.

Enviro-Obscenities

"In our sensitivity to obscenity, we're also going to have to say that the scarring of a mountain is an obscene act which shouldn't be allowed to happen," said James W. Jeans in a speech prepared for a conference of Colorado county and district court judges early in October. Jeans, professor at the University of Missouri School of Law, urged that the courts begin acting on the environmental crisis because "no one else is doing anything. . . . Judges have enough legal tools to take such action if they want to," Jeans said.

Comments Asked

In accordance with President Nixon's June 29 Energy Statement a Federal Energy Regulation Study has been established to look at ways to organize all energy-related regulatory activities of the government. William Doub, a Commissioner of the Atomic Energy Commission, is heading the study and has appealed to the public for their input.

Doub has invited "comments, criticisms, and suggestions concerning (1) inadequacies of existing organization of Federal energy-related regulatory activities; (2) current or foreseeable energy problems that stem from this regulatory organization; and, (3) ways in which these problems could be alleviated or resolved by changes in such organization."

Questions and written statements should be addressed to: Herbert Brown, Director, Federal Energy Regulation Study, New Executive Office Building, Washington, D.C., 20503. Statements should be in by Nov. 9, 1973.

New Areas Announced

The Final Environmental Statement on Roadless and Undeveloped Areas was released to the public by the U.S. Forest Service on October 15. But according to Rocky Mountain Regional Forester William Lucas, the list may not be so final. At a Denver briefing, Lucas pointed out that the inventoried roadless and undeveloped tracts not selected for study will receive further consideration of their wilderness potential, as well as other values and resource capabilities. This will be done through the Forest Service's unit planning process, and may result in other areas being added to the study list.

Last January, the Forest Service issued a Draft Environmental Statement identifying 235 areas which appeared to have the highest wilderness potential. All were located within the 56 million acres of roadless and undeveloped national forest lands. These areas were singled out as those most likely candidates for wilderness selection and were to be given further intensive study.

Wilderness advocates were disappointed in the original selection. They felt many deserving areas were left out and they questioned the Forest Service selection process. Chief of the Forest Service John McGuire received over 8,000 written comments on the original selections. On the basis of those comments, an additional 39 areas were added. Nationally, the Forest Service list now includes 274 study areas grossing over 12 million acres in 15 states and Puerto Rico.

Ted Whitesell, director of the Colorado Open Space Council's Wilderness Workshop, praised the revision, but also sounded a word of caution. "A lot of people on both sides of the fence are going to misinterpret this. The anti-wilderness people are going to be upset about more land being 'locked up' and the pro-wilderness people are going to feel the government has done its job and relax a little bit. The real picture in the long haul is getting money enough to manage the areas and protect their values."

Ray Karr, Chief of the Forest Service's Northern Region Division of Information and Education, cautioned that, "In reviewing this Environmental Statement, readers should keep in mind this is not final action. The Statement does not recommend additions to the National Wilderness Preservation System, nor does it propose development of any roadless areas."

The Forest Service says the areas included on the study list will be managed to protect their wilderness characteristics until studies can be completed. Those studies will determine what areas or portions of them will be recommended to Congress as additions to the wilderness system.

Stewart M. Brandborg, executive director of The Wilderness Society, says he sees the beginning of a 10-year period of studies and reviews of the roadless area inventory.

Total acreage to be studied in six states of the Rocky Mountain Region are as follows: Colorado—1,768,165; Idaho—1,632,569; Montana—1,551,589; Nevada—184,511; Utah—355,965, and Wyoming—1,092,961.

Those we commonly call the "educated" have freed themselves from the fetters of ignorance and superstition -- only to handcuff themselves to the dogmas of science and "progress."

Photo by Lynne Bama



New Wilderness Study Areas recently announced by the U.S. Forest Service include a number of smaller fringe areas adjacent to existing wilderness and primitive areas. Typical of such areas in the Rocky Mountain Region are the two areas shown here. Wapiti Valley South (above) along Clocktower Creek on Wyoming's Shoshone National forest is adjacent to the Washakie Wilderness. The view is of Ptarmigan Mountain in the background. Below is Mt. Ethel in Colorado's Mt. Zirkel Wilderness. The Forest Service proposes the addition of some 175,000 acres around the Mt. Zirkel Wilderness.

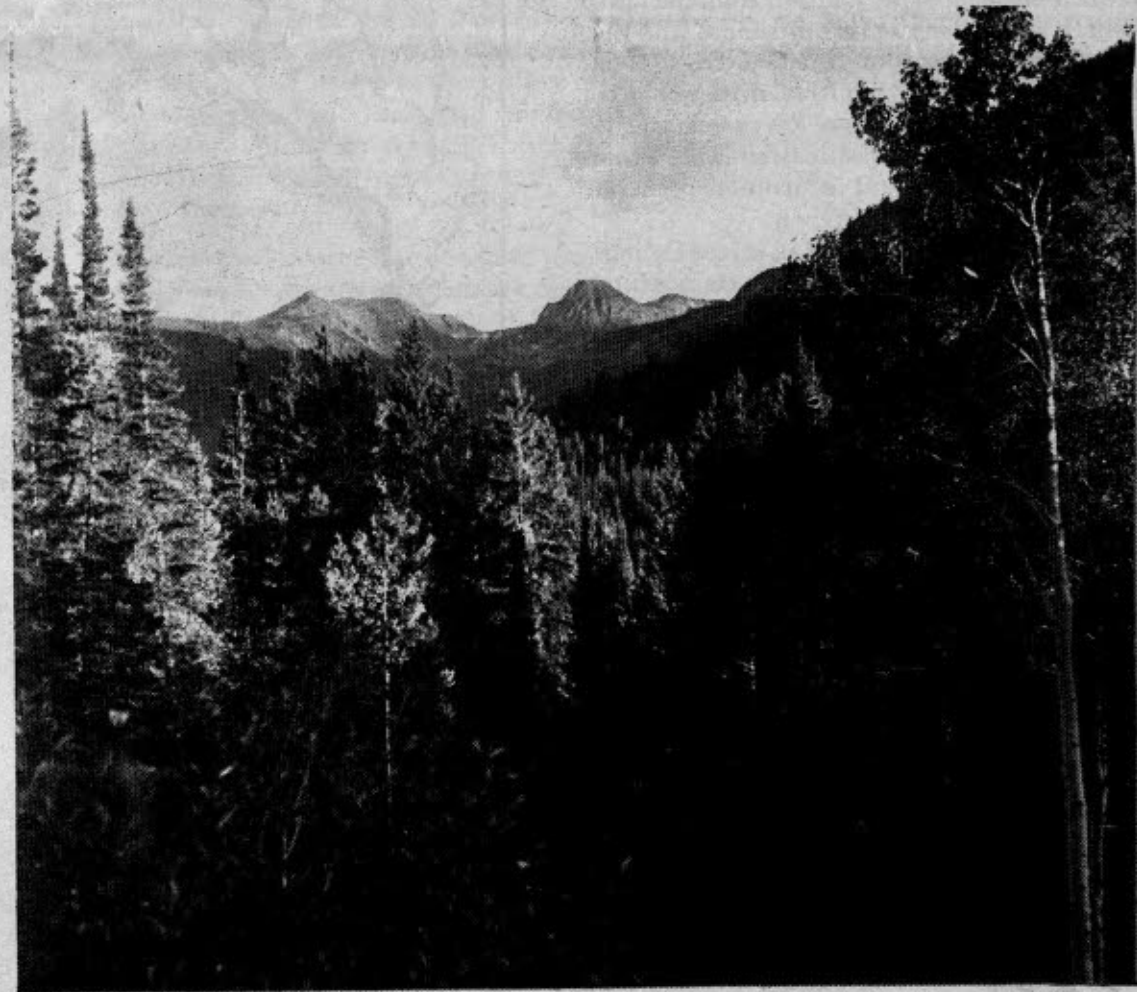


Photo by Marge Higley

Wyoming's League of Women Voters, along with three legislators, are sponsoring an initiative for a public official disclosure act. As has been the experience in other states, not too many officials are enthusiastic about such an act. The League wants to obtain some 23,000 signatures by a Dec. 1 deadline. Any Wyoming citizen interested in obtaining and circulating a petition may write to Rep. Dick Sadler, 2626 Bonnie Brae, Casper 82601.

The executive director of the Task Force on Land Use and Urban Growth Policy, William K. Reilly, has been chosen to head up The Conservation Foundation. Reilly, 33 has a degree in history, a masters degree in urban planning from Columbia University and a Harvard law degree. Before serving with the Task Force, he had been a senior staff member with the Council on Environmental Quality.

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Superb Wilderness Considered

The Salmon River in central Idaho and the Forest Service primitive areas that border on it encompass some of the most spectacular wilderness in the lower 48 states. This superb area includes vast expanses of rugged peaks and deep canyons. The gorge formed by the main Salmon River is the second deepest gorge on the continent, surpassed only by the Seven Devils Canyon on the Snake River. The entire region offers exceptional recreational opportunities including river running, backpacking, hunting, and sightseeing.

The area is also one of the largest potential wilderness areas in the lower 48. Next month, the U.S. Forest Service will hold public hearings on management proposals for the region. The Forest Service has recommended the establishment of two wilderness areas bisected by a wild and scenic river.

The wilderness proposal includes 1,147,794 acres of the 1,224,189-acre Idaho Primitive Area and 131,856 acres of contiguous lands south of the Salmon. It also includes 199,218 acres of the 216,870-acre Salmon River Breaks Primitive Area and 53,008 acres of contiguous lands north of the Salmon.

The river proposal asks for 79 miles of Wild River, 53 miles of Scenic River, and 105 miles of Recreational River — thereby protecting the 237-mile segment of the Salmon from the town of North Fork, Idaho, to its confluence with the Snake River. A total of 15,765 acres of land which are presently primitive area would be reclassified as the Salmon River corridor to accompany the river classification. This would establish a ¼-mile band of protected federal lands on either side of the river.

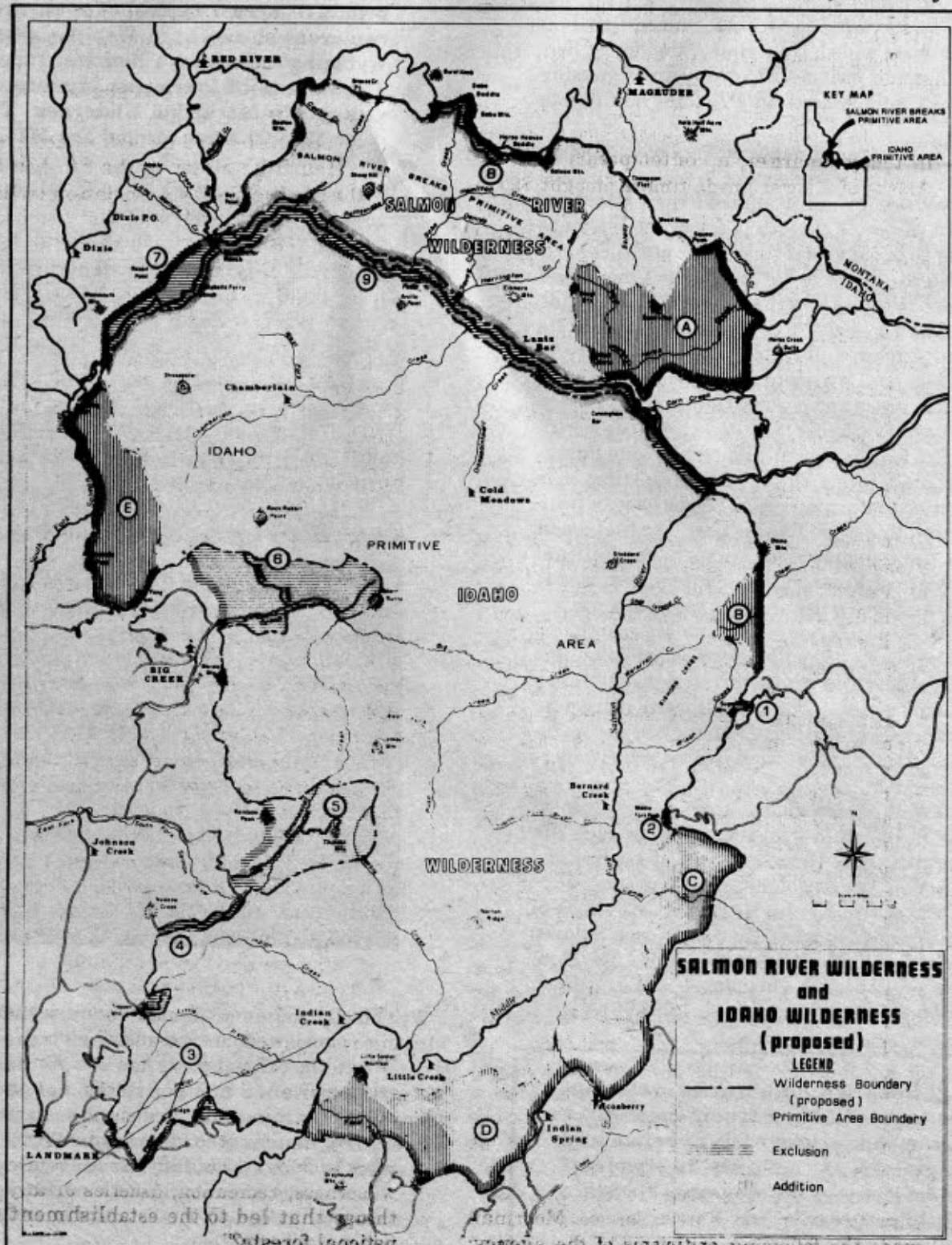
Idaho's Gov. Cecil Andrus has mixed feelings about the Forest Service proposals. He is behind the river classification since the proposal was made jointly by his office and the USFS. On the wilderness proposals the Governor's office is pleased except for two major exclusions: Thunder Mountain, a 32,767-acre region where open pit mining for gold is a possibility, and Big Creek, a 29,309-acre region with some roads and mining activity. Both areas are watersheds for major tributaries of the Middle Fork of the Salmon. A spokesman for Andrus said, "If we hope to protect the water quality of the Middle Fork, we must protect the small creeks that flow into the Middle Fork." Andrus' proposal called for total inclusion of the Middle Fork in the wilderness.

Idaho government and industry sentiment does not stand unanimously behind its governor on the issue. The last state legislature sent a unanimous memorial to Congress asking for no more wilderness in Idaho. The main conflict is over marketable timber in the proposed wilderness.

Joint hearings on all three proposals are scheduled for 9 a.m. on Nov. 26 in the Rodeway Inn in Boise; 9 a.m. on Nov. 28 in the Ponderosa-Lewis and Clark Motor Inn in Lewiston; and 9 a.m. on Nov. 30 in the Holiday Inn in Pocatello. More information may be obtained from the Forest Supervisor, Boise National Forest, 1075 Park Boulevard, Boise, Idaho, 83706. Written statements must be sent before Jan. 7, 1974 to the Regional Forester, Northern Region, USDA Forest Service, Federal Building, Missoula, Mont., 59801.



Impassable Canyon, along the Lower Middle Fork of the Salmon River in Idaho, is within the rugged section proposed for wild river status. The proposal calls for a 79-mile wild river section on the Salmon, a 53-mile scenic river section, and a 105-mile recreational river section. (See map below.) Photo by Ernie Day



Destruction Revealed

James Moorman described "the largest single act of wilderness destruction ever indulged in by the Forest Service," in his speech at the Sierra Club Wilderness Conference in Boulder, Colo. this month.

The destruction will take place on about a million acres of land in the Tongass National Forest in Alaska, Moorman said. Here, the U.S. Forest Service has sold 8.75 billion board feet of timber to the Champion International Corporation. The Sierra Club believes that the terms of this sale are in violation of the Multiple Use and Sustained Yield Act. The sale is the largest ever made by the Forest Service.

The club brought suit in February, 1970, in the U.S. District Court in Alaska. The case is now pending, on appeal, in the U.S. Circuit Court in San Francisco.

Moorman, executive director for the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund, said that his experience in this case and in others involving the USFS have shown him that "the Service is simply determined to do things its own way and that it is not really open to change or responsive to suggestions, regardless of merit."

"Do we need a federal agency to liquidate our country's forests?" he asked.

Moorman said that the Tongass timber would be clear-cut over 50 years, but that it would take 120 years for the timber to grow back.

"The purchase price was \$6.54 per thousand board feet for sitka spruce and \$5.10 per thousand board feet for hemlock," Moorman said. "To put this price in perspective at prices in today's market, a contemporary sale in Alaska of a lower grade timber brought \$27."

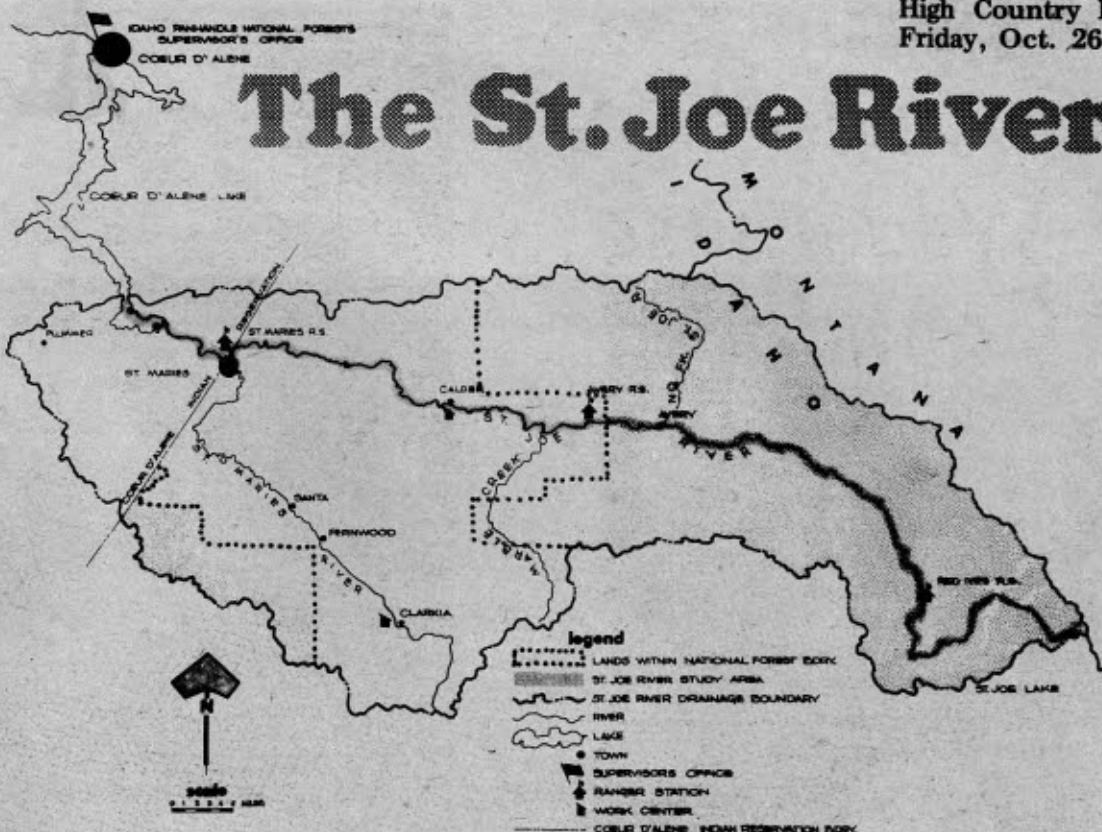
Timber cut during the first 15 years of the contract has been resold by Champion to the Kansaki Paper Company in Japan, Moorman added.

A report made by wildlife consultants hired by Champion supported the Sierra Club case. The consultants, A. Starker Leopold and Reginald Barrett, concluded that clear-cutting such a large area would devastate the wildlife there for our lifetime.

In their report Leopold and Barrett said, "The 1968 timber sale contract between the USFS and U.S. Plywood-Champion Paper seems to us to imply a level of timber removal that is unrealistic by present day standards of ecological acceptability. To achieve the timber harvest implied in this contract would require the clear-cutting of perhaps 95% of the presently acceptable commercial timber. It is our recommendation that the contract be re-negotiated to provide for a program of deferred cutting in which no more than one-third of the timber in any given locality be cut at any one point, with some considerable areas to be permanently reserved from cutting to protect scenic and ecologic sites, shoreline timber, key deer winter range, estuaries, eagle nests and other subsidiary values. These recommendations will increase costs, but will also increase the total human benefit received from the land."

"I had never fully realized until this instant how little the Forest Service cared," Moorman said. "The posture taken by the USFS officials in affidavits submitted to the courts is that Drs. Leopold and Barrett have submitted a report based on blunder and error. So far as I know the Forest Service has taken not one step to ameliorate the harmful effects of the sale as revealed by the timber company's own experts."

Based on his experience in this and other suits involving the Forest Service, Moorman made the following criticisms of the agency:



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Friday, Oct. 26, 1973

The Forest Service has tentatively recommended that all of the St. Joe River in northern Idaho be included in the National Wild and Scenic River System. They recommend that the 26.7 mile segment between St. Joe Lake and Spruce Tree Campground (Red Ives Ranger Station on the map above) be classified as a Wild River and the 105.4 miles downstream from Spruce Tree Campground be classified as a Recreational River. According to a Forest Service Study no stretch below Spruce Tree Campground was suitable for Wild River classification. Three sections were suitable for the more restrictive Scenic River classification, but this was not recommended, presumably because of the logging interests in the area and the private land holdings adjacent to the river. Scenic Rivers remain "largely primitive and undeveloped" along the shorelines. Recreational Rivers "may have some development along their shorelines."

Public hearings on the Forest Service proposal brought mixed reactions. In Boise, the Forest Service proposal was heartily endorsed by the public. Boiseans looked to the Forest Service because, as one participant said, "Local control can usually be characterized as lack of control."

Hearings closer to the St. Joe favored local control. Dolly Hartman, president of the St. Joe Valley Association (which is spearheading the campaign against the Forest Service proposal) said that the valley residents have kept the river clean and natural for a century and can continue to do so.

Ernie Day, a Boise environmentalist, took issue with the provincial view represented by local residents. "Proximity to a river does not convey title," he said. "We all have an interest."

"1. The Forest Service seems to consider the laws which govern it as mere guidelines and gives itself wide discretion at all points. The laws involved are the Wilderness Act, the Multiple Use Act, the Organic Act and the National Environmental Policy Act. . . .

"2. The Forest Service seems to avoid any accountability for the exercise of this discretion. . . .

"3. When involved in legal disputes with citizens the Service withholds information that rightly belongs to all citizens.

"4. When involved in a suit or a conflict that may lead to a suit, the Forest Service, with rare exception, refuses to engage in meaningful discussion that would lead to settlement out of court. They characterize such settlements as 'deals' which are beneath them despite the fact that the law is the settlement."

"5. Upon losing a law suit to a citizen group the Forest Service resists the court order by indirection and half-hearted compliance."

Moorman called men like Bernard Edward Fernow, Gifford Pinchot and Carl Schurz the inspiration behind our national forests.

"The question which is in my mind today is where in the Forest Service today is the spirit of Pinchot, Fernow and Schurz?" Moorman said. "What kind of testimony to their efforts is the sale for clear-cutting of 8.75 billion board feet and a million acres of wilderness forest and turning that forest over to one company for 50 years with no concern for the values of wildlife, wilderness, recreation, fisheries or any of the things that led to the establishment of the national forests?"

Moorman called on Forest Service Chief John McGuire "to revive the land ethic which guided the Service in its earlier years."

"I call on Chief McGuire to not let the Forest Service lead our national forests to their Dachau," Moorman said. "Mr. McGuire, you are the chief. From you we need moral leadership. Don't withhold it."



Sierra Club Accused

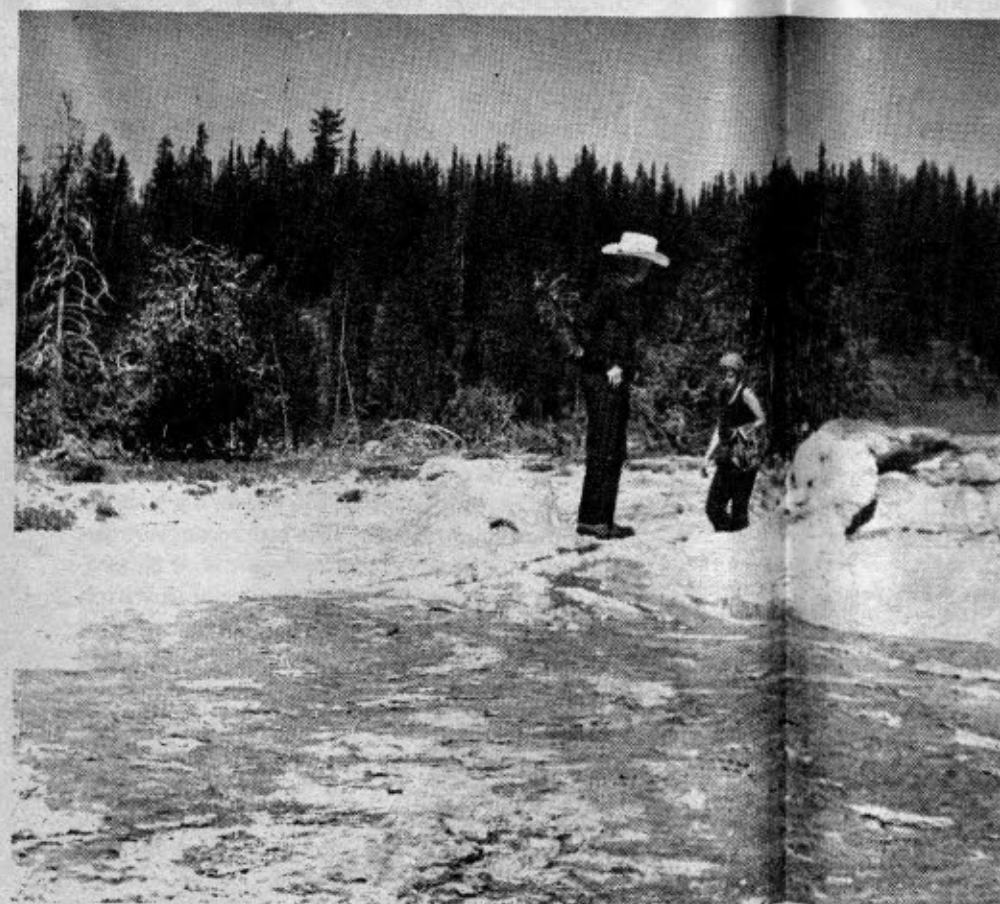
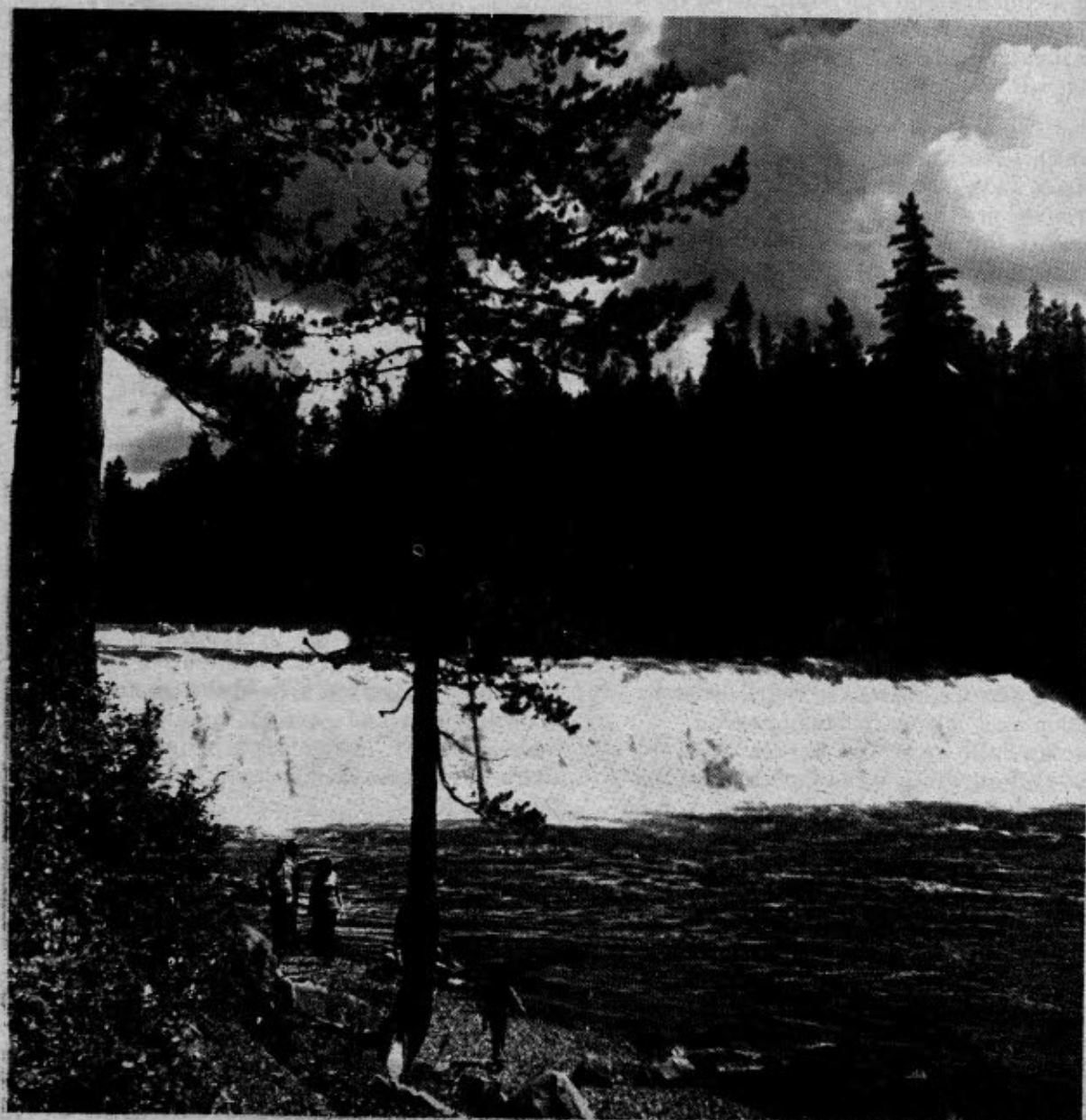
Social psychologist Jim Swan from the University of Oregon accused the Sierra Club of "using fear and guilt and omnipotence as tools of power." Swan was a panelist at the club's Wilderness Conference in Boulder, Colo. this month.

"You are not representative of the average American citizen. You are going to turn people off," Swan told an audience of about 300 club members. "The best thing you can do is to become those people that you aren't — to find out what it's like to live that way."

"We must find ways to introduce concepts of pleasure and sensory experience," Swan said. "Most American's lives are not fulfilling. So when they get out in the woods they want to raise hell."

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Friday, Oct. 26, 1973

A WILDERNESS EX



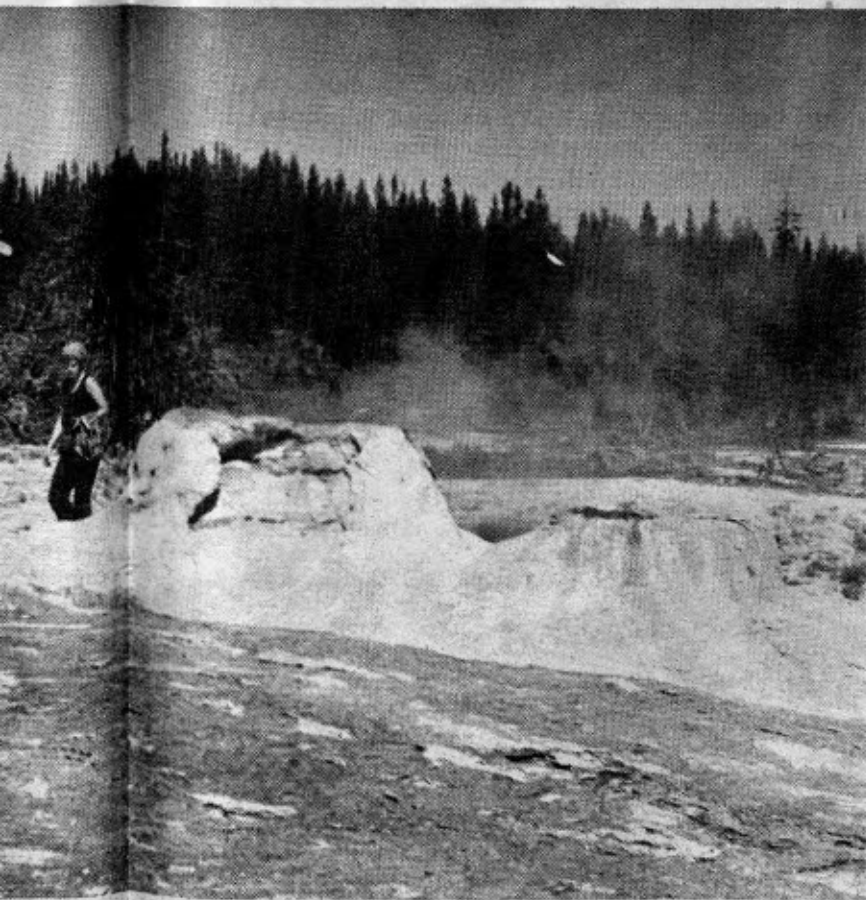
Yellowstone National Park has to be one of the great American back country wildernesses. In company with other Americans is doubly pleasant and rewarding. Our trip was in the undeveloped southwestern and southern parts of the Park, even away from the roads. We view Cave Falls, one of the beautiful Bechler Meadows, upper left; camp at Heart Lake in the background, top, above; supervise the wranglers packing fish geyser-fed Shoshone Creek, at right, and inspect the geyser Basin, above. (For more on the trip, see High Country, page

ESS EXPERIENCE

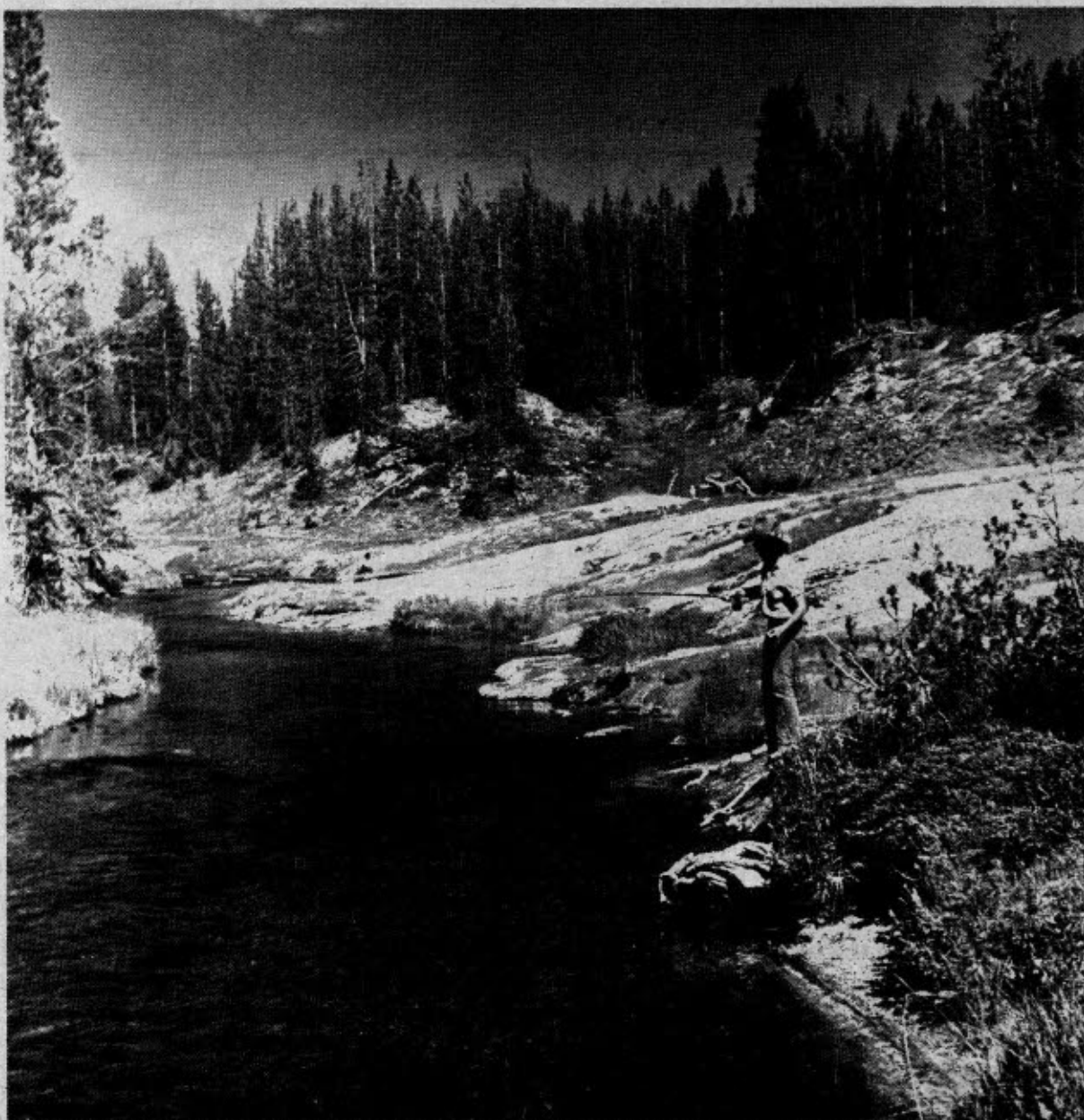
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Friday, Oct. 26, 1973



Photos by Tom Bell



to be one of the great American experiences. Seeing Yellowstone in company with appreciative fellow and rewarding. Our trip was by horseback through and southern parts of the Park. The wonders are all We view Cave Falls, one of many, at left; ride across upper left; camp at Heart Lake, with Mt. Sheridan supervise the wranglers packing duffel, upper right; at right, and inspect the geysers in Shoshone Geyser p, see High Country, page 2.)



10-High Country News

Reckoning from Washington

by Lee Catterall

His fist in the air and voice pitched, Senate Majority leader Mike Mansfield pleaded last week on behalf of "the last of the rugged individualists in this country."

"I refer to the ranchers, the cattlemen, the wheat growers and others who homesteaded land in eastern Montana, the Dakotas and Wyoming, who were there before the railroads, with the railroads and after the railroads, who have raised families for many decades on this land, and who have an investment" in it, he said. These people, he added, are "a minority which usually votes Republican," and is much put upon.

So it was only appropriate, for supreme irony, that one of those to rise in opposition to Mansfield's plea should be Sen. Clifford Hansen — Republican, son of settlers, cattleman, investment-holder, rugged individualist.

At issue was Mansfield's amendment to the strip-mining bill. It would prohibit, for at least awhile, strip-mining on privately-owned lands atop coal reserves belonging to the federal government.

The strip-mining bill that came to the Senate floor provided only that the miner get the surface owner's consent, or post bond for land damage in order to strip. Environmentalists said that was too weak.

However, some people concluded that allowing the rancher the right to deny access to minerals the company owned would be unconstitutional. And to allow the rancher such veto power over federal minerals leased by companies would result, according to Sen. Lee Metcalf (D-Mont.), in "a sort of blackmail."

So, in a surprise move, Mansfield went even further. He proposed that such federal coal be held "in reserve," or be deep-mined. It could not be obtained through stripping, even with the landowners' consent.

Hansen soon was on his feet on behalf of "many surface owners with a substantial amount of acreage who would like to see the minerals owned by the federal government developed." Much of Wyoming's strippable coal lies in seams as thick as 200 feet, beneath only a few feet of soil. Underground mines can't be used there because "the roof is going to collapse" after the coal is taken out, Hansen said.

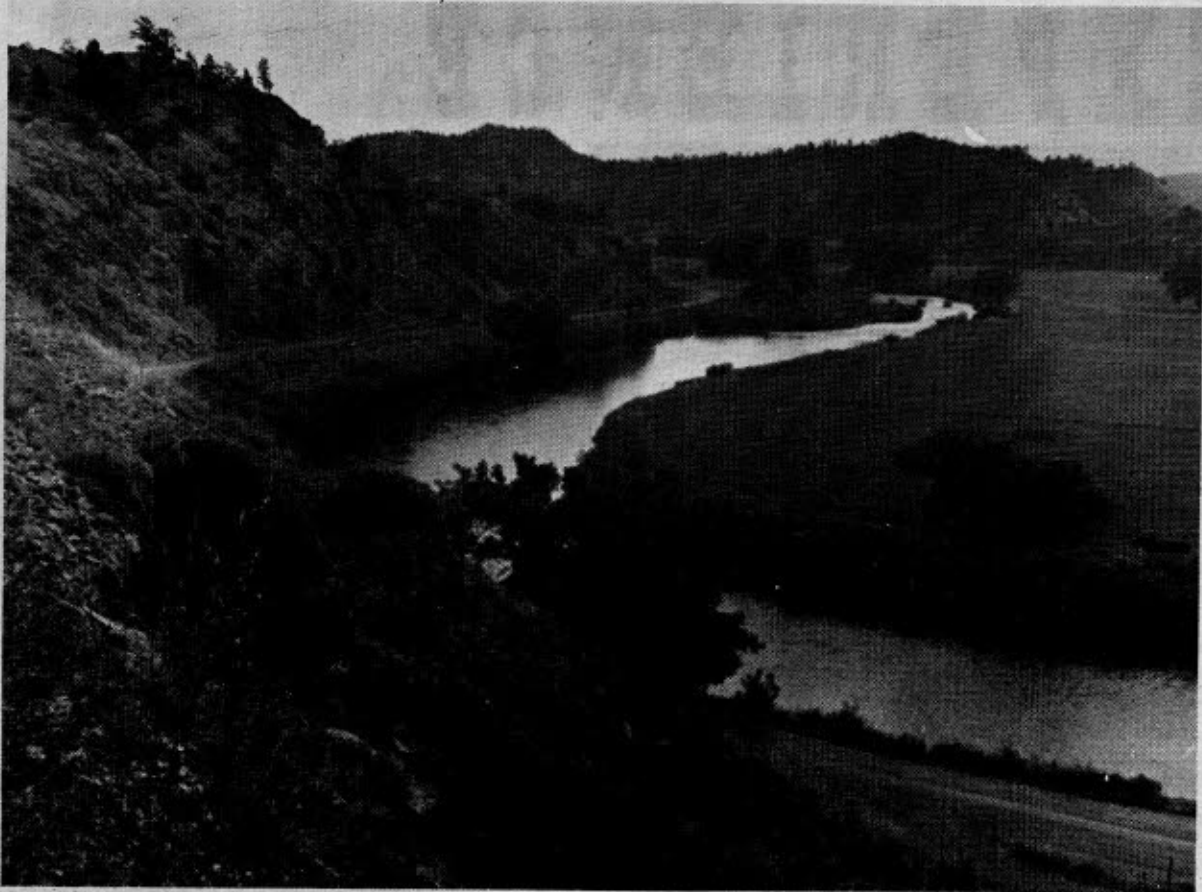
Onetime mining engineer Mansfield said he knew quite a lot about the subject, and Hansen, in Senate cordiality, acknowledged that Mansfield "knows far more" about it than himself. Mansfield said he would "not be so modest" as to disagree with that comparison.

Hansen and others complained that Mansfield's proposal could cut off large supplies of energy resources from the country, a problem that has been made worse by the Mideast conflict. The Interior Department released figures asserting the Mansfield amendment would "affect" 43 million acres, 11.8 million in Wyoming. But that refers to all privately-owned land underlain by federally-owned coal. In Wyoming, only 151,000 acres are considered strippable, according to the Wyoming Geological Survey. Since Mansfield's amendment permits deep-mining, it actually would affect only the strippable acreage that is privately-owned and where the federal government owns mineral rights. No figures were available on that.

Confused by "conflicting data," Sen. Gale McGee, who took no part in the strip-mining debate, voted for the amendment, considering it "better to err on the side of over-protection of our resources than to enact weak legislation which becomes impossible to improve upon with the passing of time."

The amendment passed, 53 to 33. Hansen voted against it but for the entire bill, hoping the amendment gets modified later.

Rep. Teno Roncalio said he would oppose any provision like the Mansfield amendment that should arise in the House.



The Tongue River (above, near Birney, Montana) runs out of Wyoming's Bighorn Mountains into Montana. About five miles upstream from Montana, Big Horn Coal Co. (owned by Peter Kiewit and Sons) has diverted about one-quarter mile of the river to get at coal beds for its stripmining operation. Disturbed at possible sedimentation in the interstate waters, Montana Lt. Gov. Bill Christiansen sent Montana Fish and Game officials on an unannounced inspection of the site. This caused Wyoming State Engineer Floyd Bishop to comment that he couldn't understand Montana's interest in the diversion. And a spokesman for Wyoming Gov. Stanley K. Hathaway said he thought the Montana lieutenant governor was "trying to make a mountain out of a molehill." Montana has requested satellite photos of the area from the U.S. Geological Survey.

Key Water Suit Filed

A suit to stop energy companies from tying up Northern Plains water for coal development was filed Oct. 16 in U.S. District Court in Billings, Mont. The suit charges that the Bureau of Reclamation and the Army Corps of Engineers have "secretly planned the sale and diversion of local irrigation water to outside industries since 1967," according to the primary plaintiff, the Environmental Defense Fund (EDF).

The suit, filed by EDF lawyer Jim Goetz, lists the plaintiffs as EDF, the Montana Wildlife Federation, the Natural Resources Defense Council, the Northern Plains Resource Council, several local irrigation districts, a livestock company and three operators of irrigated farms.

According to EDF, the Bureau of Reclamation, under pressure from oil and mining companies, began an Industrial Marketing Program in 1967 for selling water from Boysen and Yellowtail Reservoirs in Wyoming and Montana.

Industry applications have since been received for waters from Fort Peck Reservoir in Montana, and Hart Butte and Garrison Reservoirs in North Dakota.

"Most of this water was earmarked for irrigation purposes by Congress," writes EDF, "but industrial contracts pose a major conflict."

The Complaint notes: "None of the industrial firms... intends to use any of the water covered by their option contracts for irrigation purposes, but instead for industrial purposes, specifically for coal gasification and electrical generation cooling purposes."

Moreover, Bureau plans for new dams and diversion projects in the region will diminish stream flows and further reduce available water for irrigation, fish and wildlife and other beneficial uses. Energy companies have already asked for water from two reservoirs not yet built. These include the proposed Tongue River

and Power River (Moorhead) dams, planned for construction along the Montana-Wyoming border.

The plaintiffs are asking for a court order "restraining industrial contract options and additional water projects until an adequate environmental impact review is made."

The plaintiffs allege that the National Environmental Policy Act has been violated because no environmental impact statement was prepared and no citizen input has been sought. The suit also claims that Montana laws which protect the rights of water users have been violated and that the Yellowstone River Compact of 1951, a protective agreement between Montana, Wyoming and the Dakotas, has been ignored in federal dealings.

EDF says, "The lawsuit will protect local irrigation needs and defend the public's right to review agency programs."



School Proposed

How do you train an auto mechanic skilled in tuning up hot rods to direct his efforts toward the control of air pollution? Colorado is now faced with this problem after passing a bill which provided for the establishment of a motor vehicle emissions control program. To solve the problem, the state has proposed a joint federal-state funded classroom program. Through Colorado State University, a 32-hour intensive course would be offered for vocational school and junior college instructors, who would return to their communities and make the course a part of their own auto mechanics training program. Colorado is also developing a pilot program to teach inspectors how to inspect and repair emission control equipment.



Emphasis ENERGY



Idaho Gov. Cecil Andrus has created a special Office of Energy in the Idaho Public Utilities Commission. In establishing the office, Andrus called it the "beginning of an era of voluntary and mandatory energy restrictions." In another move, Andrus directed that state vehicles observe a 60 mile per hour speed limit, irrespective of posted speeds.

Colorado Gov. John Vanderhoof says he wants the 1974 Colorado Legislature to lower the maximum speed limit on state highways to 60 miles per hour. Vanderhoof says he thinks it is only a matter of time until the federal government forces speed limits down on interstate highways. Western governors were in accord on lowering speed limits, with the exception of Wyoming and Nevada, at the recent governor's conference in Albuquerque.

Oregon Gov. Tom McCall has asked all elementary and secondary schools to close from Dec. 14 to Jan. 14 to conserve about seven million kilowatt hours of electricity and 135 million cubic feet of natural gas. The school year will be lengthened in the spring when the weather is warm and the days last longer. Earlier, McCall ordered every other light turned off on state highways, hot water handles removed from sinks in state office buildings, and banned outdoor decorative and advertising lighting.

The Northern Cheyenne Indian Tribe has charged the Bureau of Indian Affairs with surrendering the rights of the Indians to coal companies. The Indians are now trying to legally block strip mining leases which affect about 60% of the 415,000-acre reservation in southern Montana. The Cheyennes say proposed strip mining "would wreak cultural, social, and ecological havoc." They control what is considered to be one of the largest strippable coal beds in the world. Four large companies are involved — Peabody Coal Co., Consolidated Coal Co., American Metal Climax, and Chevron Oil.

Colorado Rep. Pat Schroeder has joined in sponsoring a bill to spur federal research and development of solar energy. Mrs. Schroeder says estimates indicate that at least 10% of new buildings could be equipped with solar heating and cooling by 1985. The figure could go to 50% by the year 2000. She co-sponsored the bill with Rep. Charles Vanik of Ohio who is also sponsoring a bill to tax automobiles according to their gasoline consumption.

"Most experts would agree that the United States cannot achieve energy self-sufficiency merely by working to satisfy energy demand. Until we start questioning the legitimacy of the demand, until we start challenging the reckless waste of energy resources, we cannot expect to satisfy our basic energy requirements in economically and environmentally acceptable ways."

Senator Henry M. Jackson



Photo by Terry Moore

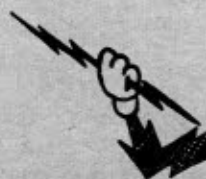
Pacific Power and Light Co's Dave Johnston powerplant near Glenrock, Wyoming, has been having problems. Unit No. 4 (shown at right above) is equipped with a "wet scrubber," which is supposed to remove particulate matter. When it does not remove the small particles, you get the effect shown above — a contribution to massive air pollution. When operating efficiently, the wet scrubber is supposed to remove 99.7 per cent of the particles. But PP&L has had the \$60 million, 330-megawatt unit shut down about one-third of the time because the scrubber isn't working right. Only a year ago, Wyoming PP&L division manager Bob Moench announced that Unit No. 4 wet scrubber was not only one of the largest in the world but that it was working so well that the decision had been made to install wet scrubbers on the other three units. As a result of the problems with Unit No. 4, the CASPER STAR-TRIBUNE reported (Sept. 20, 1973) that PP&L had been drawing power from the Pacific Northwest to serve its customers in Wyoming. (The Northwest is already a power-short area.) Moench confirmed that power had been imported into Wyoming and further that Unit No. 3 was also having mechanical difficulties. Unit No. 3 has a 220-megawatt capacity. Units No. 1 & 2 have a combined generating capacity of 200-megawatts. The STAR-TRIBUNE reported that detailed emergency plans for power shut-offs in Wyoming were being drawn.



According to a study made by United Air Lines, a very slight reduction in air-lines flight speed could save a tremendous amount of fuel. For instance, if planes slowed down from the speed of mach point-eight-two (0.82) — which is just over eight-tenths the speed of sound — to just mach point-eight (0.80) on a flight from Chicago to Los Angeles, the savings in fuel would amount to 1,100 pounds. The difference in flight time would be only about four minutes, according to the report. That's four minutes in exchange for 1,100 pounds of valuable fuel.

EARTH NEWS

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Friday, Oct. 26, 1973



The Hot Line

"Christmas City," Bethlehem, Pa., will dim its lights in deference to the energy crisis, the city's Chamber of Commerce announced. The electric consumption of the more than 584,000 lamps that burn for a month during the Christmas season will be cut by 80%. The chamber says the reduction will save 52 million watt-hours.

A special Senate subcommittee formed by Henry Jackson (D-Wash.) and chaired by Floyd Haskell (D-Colo.) will examine the operations of integrated oil companies. The subcommittee was formed to take testimony on Haskell's bill, S. 2260, which would make it illegal for oil companies to own new oil pipelines and provides that they must divest themselves of existing oil pipelines after five years. "I believe it is the prevailing opinion in this country — it is certainly mine — that economically all of us are best served by an industry regulated by the forces of free competition," Haskell said. "The weight of the evidence I have been able to unearth regarding integrated pipeline ownership suggests this is, indeed, anticompetitive."

Mankind will require more energy in the next 30 years than it has used in all of recorded history up to 1970, according to Jack Bridges, technical director for the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy in Congress. Bridges also told the Federation of Rocky Mountain States meeting in Albuquerque that energy-wise the United States was facing a "national disaster." He said national leaders have been aware of the problem for years. They, and the public, ignored the problem because "it has been beyond comprehension."

Three major airlines — United, American and Transworld — have worked out a tentative agreement to suspend 22 daily flights. The flights between major American cities could save as much as 75 million gallons of jet fuel a year.

The AEC says recent developments in thermonuclear research may make fusion power possible by 1995. The announcement of the virtually pollution-free energy source moves the target date ahead by at least five years.

Architectural Forum magazine says designers and builders must re-learn some of the truths of primitive people if there is to be any solution to global energy problems. A panel of experts, including the magazine editor, says buildings are overheated and overcooled, that they are overlighted, and that enormous amounts of energy is wasted in ventilating and building them. One expert says Western people are tragically mistaken in trying to solve the energy crisis by just looking for more oil or more nuclear power. Richard Stein says the solution is to use less energy, and that architects must lead the way in forcing this solution.

An innovative new building, scheduled for construction next year, will combine solar power for heating and cooling with conventional power for heating and lighting. The two-story laboratory and administration building planned by the New York Botanical Gardens at Millbrook may save up to one-third on heating bills.

Almost 3,000 mining claims in the oil shale-rich Piceance Basin of Colorado were declared null and void by the Department of the Interior. The claims, all located by Merle Zweifel, were "not located in accordance with the mining laws" according to the government. The contested claims were for dawsonite, a possible source of alumina. Zweifel laid claims on thousands of acres including both of the proposed oil shale leasing sites.

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Friday, Oct. 26, 1973

Rocky Mountain Report

by Don Milner, President
Montana Wilderness Association

The Montana Wilderness Association is an independent grass-roots conservation organization with some 800 members. This year we celebrate our 15th birthday. The first annual meeting was held Dec. 5th, 1958, in Bozeman with 60 persons from all over the state in attendance. That meeting was made most memorable by the presence of Olaus and Mardy Murie.

I was tempted to begin this tale with Kipling's words: "Back when the world was new and all. . ." but the world wasn't new, just the problem of saving some bits and pieces of the wilderness that is our heritage. In the conservation world, back in the late 50's, preservation of wilderness must certainly have been the primary topic of the day. The idea was not new, of course. Consideration of preservation of certain areas in their natural state had been in people's minds for a long, long time. But, there was little or no organization of pro-wilderness forces on the home front.

The battle over wilderness legislation was picking up steam in D.C. and back home grass-rooters were choosing up sides. Those who traditionally had made their living from the use of public land and public resources (such as the national forests) were bound to take a dim view of any legislation which would curtail previous freedoms. There were also those who could see the wisdom of preserving some part of our wilderness as part of our cultural picture.

It was this latter group which felt the stirring of unease, realizing that public support for wilderness was not widespread. If there was to be legislation preserving wilderness, support must come from the grass-roots of Montana where a large part of the wilderness reservoir was located.

Ken Baldwin of Bozeman was one of this worried group. Long an advocate of wilderness preservation, he was convinced that once the people understood the need for, the meaning of, and the philosophy behind wilderness preservation, they would support legislation.

At the time, there were many different sportsmens clubs and organizations. But that is essentially what they were — clubs supporting hunting and fishing legislation, but not with any noticeable thrust toward the support of wilderness. Baldwin realized that there had to be a concerted effort made which was directed solely toward wilderness preservation and that it had to be state wide.

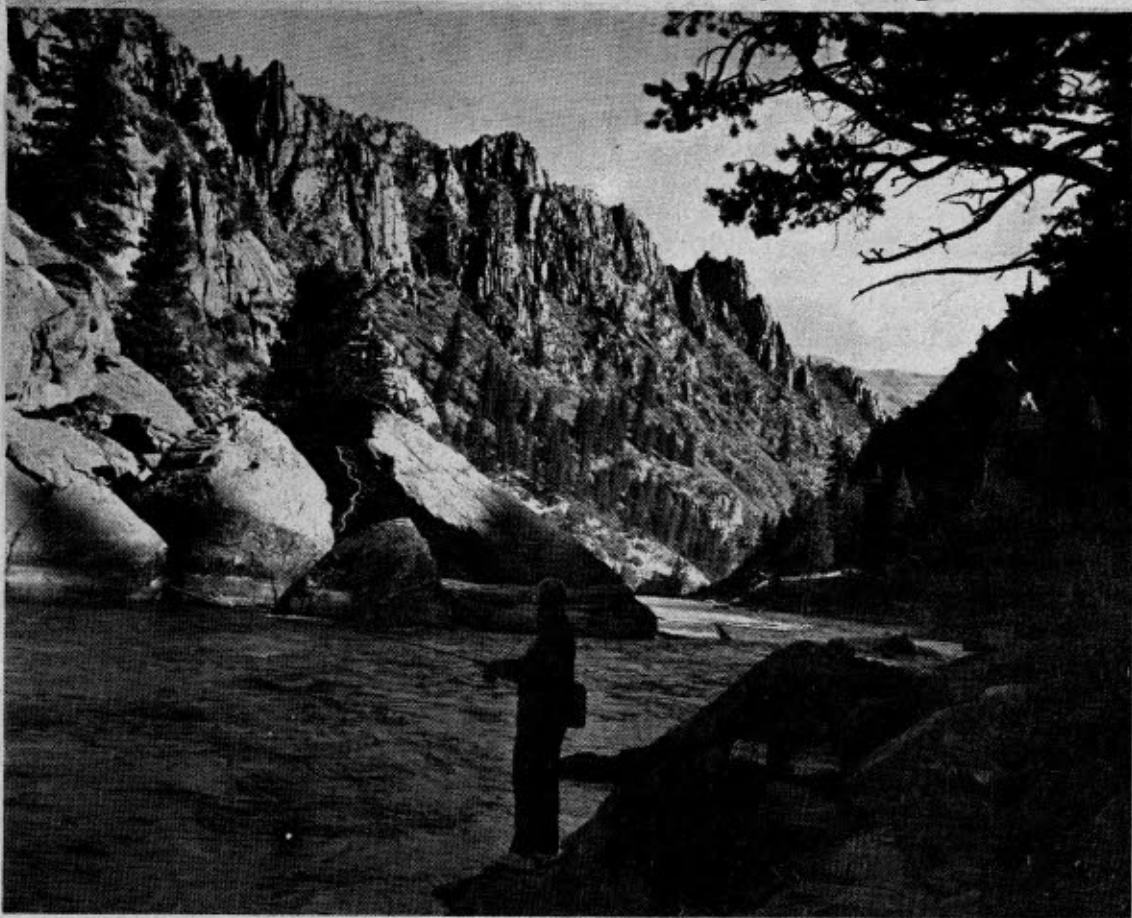
In 1957, the president of the Gallatin Sportsmens Association set up a wilderness committee and appointed Ken as chairman. At that moment, I think it is safe to say, the Montana Wilderness Association had its beginning. For a grass-roots movement to be successful, there are two absolute "musts." One, there must be a determined, dedicated leader who knows what is needed, and second, the time must be right. At this point both requirements seem to have been met. A dedicated leader was on hand and the air was alive with the controversy about wilderness.

I asked Dr. John Montagne, a charter member of the MWA, about those early days and how the word was spread. He told me: "Ken and Florence Baldwin begged, influenced, cajoled, wheeled-and-dealed all over the state that first year and our membership, just through their efforts, reached several hundred."

Needless to say, it takes more than one or two to make a movement successful. But the list is too long for me to include here. (I hope to do that in a more detailed report at the annual meeting.)

A committee meeting was set up in the spring of 1958 in Bozeman with the intent of hammering out a form for a state organization. There were 21 people on hand. Not very many, but it doesn't take many determined grass-rooters to get things on the road! The committee, calling itself the Montana Wilderness Committee drew up a tentative constitution, elected officers, chose a governing council and gave the state organization the name Montana Wilderness Association.

Photo courtesy Bureau of Land Management



The Bear Trap Canyon Primitive Area 30 miles west of Bozeman, Montana was one of the first areas in the Northern Rocky Mountain Region to receive primitive area status from the Bureau of Land Management. The Madison River has carved nine miles of gorge through this 2,861 acre primitive area forming cliffs that tower 1500 feet above the canyon floor. BLM has no authority to set aside wilderness areas. A BLM Organic Act now being considered by Congress would give such authority, subject to final congressional action pursuant to the Wilderness Act.

Dr. Charles Bradley of Bozeman wrote a preamble for the constitution which says so well what we are all about. I would like to quote it here:

Under the impact of a rapidly expanding industrial culture, wilderness and wild areas in the United States have dwindled to less than two percent of our national area. Tracts of wild lands have certain cherishable values — scientific, conservation, historic and recreational. It would appear unwise from both a cultural and economic standpoint to allow wilderness to disappear entirely from the face of the land. Montana contains a large portion of the remaining wilderness areas of the United States within her borders. It is an attempt to preserve and hold this Montana resource in trust that the Montana Wilderness Association is formed.

Who will ever know the number of trips made through rough weather, the number of meetings held, the number of confrontations, or the long periods of uncertainty about the public support! However, progress was made, understanding grew, and with it support for wilderness preservation. The Act was passed and then it became the task of the MWA to busy itself with the reclassification of the primitive areas and the study and recommendation of roadless areas.

Over a period of time, it became clear that preservation of wilderness is not merely the passing of an act and the setting up of boundaries, it is also the preservation of environmental quality outside wilderness boundaries. Clean air, clean water, and wise management of the forests outside the boundary are of paramount importance to the preservation of quality wilderness! So, we raised our eyes to wider horizons and now our list of committees is legion. The MWA is a loose organization. We are a mosaic of many grass-roots committees gathered together and bound together under one umbrella by the common cause of environmental concern.

Somewhere along the way during those 15

years the idea of sponsoring wilderness walks came into being. Here, too, the Baldwins have been the prime-movers of an idea, and literally thousands of people have been initiated into the joys of being in wild undeveloped areas. No small portion of Montana wilderness support has been the direct outgrowth of these walks. (Schedules for the annual walks are usually available in mid-spring from Florence Baldwin, Sec. of MWA, Box 548, Bozeman, MT 59715.)

Our annual meeting will be in Bozeman this year on Dec. 7-8-9 at the Baxter Hotel. More details later, but we welcome you all to come join in the exchange of ideas, the anguish of our defeats, and the joys of our wins.



Questions Rise

The controversial Eagles Nest Wilderness in Colorado gained approval from the Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee recently. But the proposed 125,000-acre wilderness drew fire from conservative senators and *The Denver Post*. The latter criticized both Sen. Peter Dominick and Sen. Floyd Haskell for including areas which jeopardize the Denver water supply.

Sen. James McClure of Idaho and Sen. Clifford P. Hansen of Wyoming both are taking the line that wilderness areas may be luxuries the nation cannot afford. McClure says, "We are a resources-poor country right now. We are utterly dependent on importing many resources and are caught in a balance-of-payments squeeze. What happens when the emerging nations put us on notice and our present resources dry up? Are the values that we are considering in making wilderness areas the ones we should be considering for the national interest?"

Western.....Roundup

Montana Cloud-Seeding Debated

A Draft Environmental Impact Statement for a proposed cloud seeding project on the South Fork of the Flathead River has been prepared by the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation. The cloud seeding is proposed by the Bonneville Power Administration. It is planned for Nov. 15, 1973, through April 30, 1974. The public hearing is to be held Oct. 30 and comments on the proposal will be accepted until Nov. 1.

The Montana Wilderness Association and The Wilderness Society have objected to the proposal. They say the program would violate the Wilderness Act because it would alter the natural ecosystem of the Bob Marshall Wilderness. The snowfall increase on critical wintering areas would have an "extremely adverse effect" on elk and other wildlife species, according to a Wilderness Society spokesman. Studies by the Montana Fish and Game Department indicate that there could be serious effects on both elk, through loss of winter range, and on fisheries.

Any Montana citizens wanting to testify may appear at the public hearing at Kalispell on Oct. 30. It will be held in the Jr. High School gymnasium at 8 PM. Written comments may be sent to Lawrence M. Jakub, Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, Mitchell Building, Helena, MT 59601.

Bolton Ranch Will Stand Trial

The Bolton Ranch, charged in a federal indictment with the killing of 363 golden eagles, three bald eagles and seven Canadian geese, is to stand trial in Casper, Wyoming, on Oct. 29. The ranch had sought to have charges against it dismissed after the owner, Herman Werner, was killed in an auto accident in August. Werner and Bolton Ranch, Inc. were both charged in a 374-count federal information for shooting the federally protected birds from a helicopter in the skies over the ranch in 1971 and 1972. Meanwhile, the ranch has been sold by Werner's widow. A Colorado buyer reportedly paid \$4 million. The ranch is to change hands Nov. 1.

Briefly noted . . .

The Denver-based Rocky Mountain Center on Environment has received a grant from the Environmental Protection Agency for a Land Use Decision-Making Project. ROMCOE says the ultimate goal of the new program is to design a model decision-making system for use by state and local governments in determining environmentally sound land use policy and practices. Heading up the project is Kirk Wickersham, former project environmentalist and staff attorney for the Colorado Land Use Commission.

* * *

Idaho's Blaine County Commissioners unanimously agreed to write a letter to the State Land Board opposing a land grant. The proposed grant of 33,000 acres would give the State of Idaho public lands between Sun Valley and Lake Creek. The lands are now managed by the Bureau of Land Management. They were chosen for development value so the state can sell them for support of schools. One of the commissioners is reported to have said, "Ketchum can't even handle its sewage disposal problem now." The consensus of opinion was that no more development is needed now.

* * *

The Utah Legislature's Deseret Livestock Purchase Committee has unanimously voted to recommend legislation for purchase of a 201,000-acre ranch. (See High Country News, Western Roundup, Sept. 14, 1973.) The asking price of \$8.5 million is estimated to be at least \$1 million less than the actual value of the property. The ranch would continue to be used for stock grazing but would also be opened to public hunting, fishing and recreation.

* * *

A Wyoming Stream Preservation Feasibility Study Committee has called a public meeting for Nov. 19 in Casper. The committee was authorized by the 1973 Legislature. Following a visit to several Wyoming streams and rivers during the summer, the committee says it now wants to hear from the public on the philosophy of protecting some streams. For Wyoming citizens interested in testifying, the hearing is to be at the Ramada Inn from 2-4 and from 7-9 PM.

* * *

A new air quality regulation will control about 25% of all the industrial hydrocarbon vapors in the Denver metropolitan area. That is the estimate of the Colorado Air Pollution Control Commission. The regulation is to become effective Nov. 1.



Wyoming's Green River was recently reduced to a low flow of 300 cubic feet per second. (See story below.) The photo above shows the river as it had started to rise once again, and as it appeared in the City of Green River. Purpose of the test was to determine effects on fish life and other uses of the water subsequent to the sale of water to the State of Wyoming. The sales contract with the Department of the Interior will only require a guaranteed minimal flow of 320 cfs to Interstate 80 on the outskirts of Green River City. The State of Wyoming had objected to any required minimal flow. Wyoming state law does not require any minimum flow to be maintained for fish, wildlife or recreational uses.

Experimenters Slow Green Flow

by Larry Edwards and Greg Jones

For a period of several days in September the Bureau of Reclamation, with scanty notice to the public, reduced the flow of the Green River from 1600 cubic feet per second (cfs) to 300 cfs, an 81% cut. The river was affected between Fontenelle dam and Flaming Gorge Reservoir, a distance of some 50 miles. The purpose of the cut was to conduct a study related to the sale of 60,000 additional acre feet of water per year from Fontenelle Reservoir. The sale is being made by the Department of the Interior to the State of Wyoming. The reduced flow was done in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Sport Fisheries & Wildlife (BSFW) and the Wyoming Game & Fish Department. Rodger Banks, a biologist for BSFW in Salt Lake City, said the object of the study was to determine the effects of low flow rates on the fishery.

No public hearings were held and the public was not notified until a few days before the flow reduction. No environmental impact statement was prepared, and in fact, no environmental assessment was done to determine whether or not an EIS would be necessary.

But the reduction has aroused much local dissent. The Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce, State Senator Robert Johnson, and the Wyoming Sierra Club Group have each sent letters of protest to Interior Secretary Rogers C.B. Morton. The Chamber letter said the river had been reduced to a "small stream . . . jeopardize(ing) the quality of drinking water of the people of Rock Springs and other communities. . ." According to Senator Johnson, at least one resident who holds valid water rights was unable to obtain needed irrigation water because the drop in water level left his intake pipe high and dry.

According to Banks, BSFW personnel observed no fish kills. However, while on a ten mile tour in response to complaints from residents along the river, Sen. Johnson reported several kills. Fishing along the Green is usually quite good, but fishermen have reported poor fishing since the test.

Normal flow in summer is 1500-1600 cfs, and normal winter flow is 900 cfs. The recorded natural low flow was 350 cfs during a serious drought in 1935.

Wyoming Gov. Stanley K. Hathaway called the 320 cfs minimum flow guaranteed in the contract between BuRec and the state unreasonable because there would not be as much water in storage for sale. After observing the recent flow reduction, Banks said that he would be concerned if the flow remained below 800 cfs for any length of time. He also said if the proposed Plains Reservoir should be built upstream, the continuous year round flow would be only 300-500 cfs.

At a speaking engagement in Rock Springs Oct. 9, State Attorney General C. A. Brimmer said it was hoped the Fontenelle water could be used for development in the Powder River Basin. A week later he retracted that statement, and said he expects the water to be used in the Green River Basin.

The Bureau of Reclamation will soon release a draft EIS on the water sale contract. BSFW will release the results of its flow reduction study in early January.

* * *

Somehow along the way during these 15

Wilderness Association

Thoughts from the Distaff Corner

by Marge Higley

Saturday turned out to be that kind of day! When I finally went to bed, I was almost sorry I had bothered to get up. It didn't start out that way at all. It was a bright sunny morning with the crisp feel of Indian summer. And I didn't really have much that I had to do -- just run a load of clothes through the washer, and pack up a box of stuff that I wanted to get in the mail. I looked toward the mountains where I could see patches of red and gold against the brown foothills. Maybe, if I hurried with my chores, I could take a sandwich...

I plugged in the coffee, put an egg on to boil, grabbed my armload of clothes and hurried to the basement. I found a box just right for my mailing job, and put it on the floor near the washer while I put clothes and soap in the machine, turned on the water, and pressed the button. Nothing happened except a 3-drop trickle of water. The screen in the hose connection needed cleaning out again! (Lander's water problem!!!) Pliers in hand, I balanced over the washer, head pressed against the wall in order to see down into the narrow space. It took only a quick easy twist to disconnect. So quick, in fact, that I was drenched with squirting water before I realized that I hadn't turned off the faucet! The pliers flew from my hand, to land irretrievably behind the washer. So after I had cleaned and replaced the screens I tightened the connection by hand managing to scrape three knuckles on the cement wall, in the process.

With the washing finally started, I hurried upstairs to eat breakfast. Apparently my egg had cracked early in the game and had been boiling, unheeded, all this time! Thick, sticky white foam pulsated with steady rhythm over the edge of the pan, oozing down the outside, and dripping off, to be forever fused to the burner. Hastily I lifted the pan over to the sink, slopping some of the viscous fluid onto the clean floor, and raising a blister across the palm of my hand. After my late, eggless breakfast, I cleaned up the mess and by early afternoon was ready to pack the box for mailing. I hurried downstairs for the box, and found it, soggy and useless, in a spreading pool of water which had seeped out from under the washer! After I cleaned up that mess, I hurried downtown to try to find another box for my package. On about the fifth try I was successful, but by then it was of course too late for Saturday's mail. Since it was also too late for the mountains, I decided I might as well get it packed and ready for Monday's mail. By five thirty, it sat on the dining table, neatly taped, tied and addressed, at last!

I started dinner and turned on the news. With a sickening sense of shock I heard it -- Nixon... Cox...

Richardson... Ruckelshaus... the FBI. Late that night, when the last newscast was finished, I pushed the TV button, set the alarm, and went to bed, confused and apprehensive.

Sunday started out badly, too. I had set the alarm but forgot to pull the knob, so I overslept. Irritated with myself, I suddenly remembered last night's ominous news, and the radio confirmed the fact that it was not just a bad dream. In the dining room, I stared in disbelief at a green coat draped over the back of a chair. That coat was supposed to be in the box I had packed! It was, in fact, the main purpose for the package! For a moment, I contemplated just going back to bed to wait for another day to happen but instead, I filled the thermos, made a sandwich, and headed for the hills.

Hours later, as I ate my lunch sitting on a sun-warmed rock at the edge of the river, I could laugh at myself. I had climbed a hillside and looked down across a valley riotous with the glorious colors of autumn. The music of rushing white water had erased the little irritations. Somehow, a day spent observing the ever-changing yet ever-constant forces of nature had helped me put things into their proper perspective. The really big worries are still there, of course, and should be of deep concern to every American. But they needn't be all mixed up with blisters, skinned knuckles, and soggy boxes!

Relaxed, I started back to the car. As I passed a flaming red bush, I impulsively reached out and pulled off a small twig to take home as a reminder. It didn't even matter at all that I snagged my finger on a thorn in the process!



DEAD TREE

It stands alone,
No leafy arms outstretched
Inviting birds to nest
Or weary man to seek its shade—
and rest.

A gnarled old tree
Not marked for woodman's ax;
Nor can it fall and lie,
But stands there sharply etched
against the sky.
A destiny it must fulfill —
Stark beauty spared to grace a hill.

— Faun M. Sigler

Anthology Available

H. D. Alexander, a professional photographer and poetry lover at Lander, has published a small, 45-page anthology entitled, *So You Don't Like Poetry*. Illustrated with Alexander's photos of the West as it was and is, this anthology of the West features such poems as the one above by Faun M. Sigler, and by Gene Lindberg, S. Omar Barker, Mae Urbanek, T.J. Mahoney and others. It can be obtained from Mr. Alexander by direct mail at Fort Washakie Rte., Box 100, Lander, WY 82520. Price is \$4.50.



Future Employment

While most new college grads are having to scramble for jobs in fields unrelated to their areas of study, at least one field seems to be pretty promising in terms of future employment demands. That's the area of environmental technology, and at least one college — Temple University in Philadelphia — is even developing a two-year associate degree program in the field.

Temple's engineering school recently released a survey that showed that over the next three years engineering firms in the city of Philadelphia will hire about 500 environmental experts in the areas of sewage, water, and solid waste disposal. The survey was conducted to help the school develop its planned two-year degree program. : : EARTH NEWS

IUDs Go Unregulated

Intra-uterine devices -- or IUDs -- which are used by three million U.S. women, remain almost completely outside government regulation. According to the *National Observer*, the U.S. Food and Agriculture Administration has no authority to preview manufacturers' claims before an IUD is offered for sale.

An FDA official says, "Anyone -- it doesn't have to be a doctor -- can go down to his basement, get a few hairpins, stick them together, and call it an IUD. There's nothing we can do about it until someone is injured or dies."

Finally, only one of the three most popular kinds of IUDs -- the Lippes Loop -- actually meets the unofficial standards established by the widely respected Population Council. : : EARTH NEWS

Book Review

Snake Wilderness

by Boyd Norton

Sierra Club Books, 597 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10017
160 pages. Color illustrations.

Review by Verne Huser

Boyd Norton has lived the Snake Wilderness. He has hiked its trails and climbed its snow-clad peaks, has floated the mighty river that starts in the high country of the Teton Wilderness and flows through Hells Canyon to the Columbia. He has fought the battles of the Snake Wilderness, first as a concerned citizen, later as a staff member of The Wilderness Society, and more recently as a freelance photographer and writer. In short, he knows the Snake Wilderness, perhaps as comprehensively as any man living; few could have done a better job of presenting the background for the current battles raging over the Snake Wilderness.

The map of Snake River Wilderness covers an area that includes most of Idaho and large parts of Montana, Wyoming, Oregon and Washington. It includes not only the Snake itself but its major tributaries, "An interconnected complex of streams and rivers, a system whose roots extend deeply into the wilderness heartland of northwestern America," as Norton puts it in his opening chapter.

Snake Wilderness, Norton points out, encompasses an area "equal to the total acreage of the National Wilderness Preservation System when the Wilderness Act was passed in 1964." But he adds, "No one should forget... that it is also equal to less than a third of what we have put under pavement in this nation."

"What's needed," suggests Norton, "is not more cataloging, but more understanding — understanding of the delicate relationship that exists between the life and the land defined by that fragile web."

Norton takes on the dam builders, the timber cutters, and the mining interests that exploit the Snake Wilderness. He also scrutinizes the "hordes of motorized, aluminized tourists (that) flock to Yellowstone-Teton country in increasing numbers, fleeing city pollution, ugliness, and crowding."

He asks, in his opening chapter: "Should we become a homogeneous smear of people and industry and cities from coast to coast, so that each place will be just like every other?" In Jackson Hole near the head of the Snake River, failure to zone has led to the threat of a population of 300,000 people in Teton County by the turn of the century. The book anticipates many of the current problems and future battles to save the Snake Wilderness and touches on land use planning, the energy crisis, our national goals and the future of mankind.

But basically it deals with three specific issues that typify the problems of the Snake Wilderness: 1) The Last Dam ("A dam does violence to a river system") using Hells Canyon to illustrate the nonsense and nefarious nignogery of building dams; 2) The White Clouds molybdenum mining project proposed by ASARCO that led to the ousting of a Governor and in part to the creation of the Sawtooth National Recreation Area; and 3) The Magruder Corridor where timber interest pressures have led to the mismanagement of National Forest lands.

Norton says, "To alter, to manipulate, to develop requires only the flimsiest of excuses — economics. And once gone, wilderness is irretrievably lost. To do nothing to land, however, requires incredible justification, years of studies and reviews and hearings, plus the efforts and eternal vigilance of concerned citizens."

The last chapter of the book turns philosophical on a river trip down the main Salmon. "River time is freedom," says Norton, "Idaho's unique resource is unspoiled wild country.... The more developments, the greater the impact on the wild beauty." And further, "Dreams. This is the kind of country that spawns such dreams, for the mind is free to match the wildness and expansiveness of the land. Perhaps the decline of a great civilization begins when it destroys the last of its wilderness."

Norton has written a book that is must reading for anyone who would continue the fight to save American wilderness, especially in the Northern Rockies. And the battles are just around the corner. The River Of No Return Wilderness Council (Box 844, Boise, Idaho 83701) has already sent out the alarm: "The timber, mining, and dam building interests have decided to exploit our central Idaho wilderness," says the Council. It speaks of Snake Wilderness. Norton's book provides the background if you want to enter the fray (and the Council is asking for your involvement).



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We need to expand our circulation to become financially stable. So we've concocted the Sell-The-High-Country-News-For-Christmas Plan.

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If you don't feel ready to embark on a club selling campaign, would you mention High Country News in your newsletter or at a meeting? We'd appreciate whatever you can do to help. We need your support to continue to provide information for activists in the Rocky Mountain region.

High Country News-15
Friday, Oct. 26, 1973

Eavesdropper

LOONEY LIMERICKS

by Zane E. Cology

If Wilderness status you seek
For areas such as Cloud Peak,
Then remember you'd better
Write them a letter —
'Cause how can they know, 'til you speak?

Dr. Bertram Dinman, medical director for Aluminum Co. of America, says new research indicates a direct link between carbon monoxide in the air and coronary heart disease. Carbon monoxide is found at much higher than normal levels in many urban environments. Dinman says the public has a choice between cleaning up air pollution or letting thousands of people suffer health consequences.

Mining activities going back some 75 years have resulted in erosion and a massive landslide into a tributary of the Salmon River in Idaho. Dump Creek flows into the Salmon just downstream from where a proposed recreational river section would begin.

Denver's public school system has recorded a four percent drop — 4,000 students — below last year. Authorities attribute the decline to the effects of The Pill and to increasing racial tensions within the city.

The investigative arm of Congress, the General Accounting Office, says logging companies waste enough timber from the national forests to build 5,700 new homes every year. The GAO says the waste results because the companies are not required to make use of all the trees cut and knocked over in clearcutting operations.

Photos from Skylab II space mission have been interpreted as showing Egypt's Aswan Dam as "an ecological disaster." The photos reveal changes in the Mediterranean Sea which are affecting people thousands of miles away. They also show that some 1,500 square miles of the rich Nile Delta are dried up.

DDT is blamed for the death of hundreds of prematurely born California sea lions. A Navy scientist, William G. Gilmartin, says high levels of the pesticide were found in the tissues of the pups and their mothers.

The Chinese government has formed a Birth Planning Group to cope with a population growth rate of 15 million a year. The government may use such extreme measures as denying food and clothing allotments for any more than two children in a family. Young Chinese are urged to remain single until age 25, and young marrieds are asked to wait until they are 30 before having the first baby.

Pesticides are blamed for the death of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl in one of Europe's most important refuges. The area, southwest of Seville, Spain, is near rice plantations where pesticides are liberally used.

A CONSERVATION PORTRAIT: Orrin Bonney, Mountaineer



Orrin H. Bonney is one of Wyoming's twentieth century mountain men. His love of Wyoming's high country has led to an intimate knowledge of the mountains few modern men can match.

Born in Idaho Springs, Colo., he spent his early years climbing around the Indian Peaks and Longs Peak areas. "We didn't know in those days all the various aspects of mountaineering," he admits. "In those days we all used side-nailed boots. We didn't use rubber-cleated soles until after World War II." Some folks used manila rope but Bonney preferred the cowboy's lariat rope. "Lariat rope was hard to handle, but twice as strong as the other rope."

Bonney graduated from the University of Colorado at Boulder with a law degree in 1926. He was driven to Texas in search of employment. He has lived in Texas ever since. But this didn't dampen his love for the high country, it only enhanced it. "Since that time I've come out to Wyoming for 30 years or longer," he said. "I climbed practically all the mountains and wrote the guidebooks, along with my wife Lor-

raine." Together the Bonneys have authored *The Wind River Range Field Book, Guide to Wyoming Mountains and Wilderness Areas, Bonney's Guide to Grand Teton National Park and Jackson's Hole, Absaroka Range and Yellowstone Park Field Book, Teton Range Field Book, and Battle Drums and Geysers* — Lt. Doane.

Bonney is most familiar with the Tetons and Wind Rivers. "I climbed all the principle Teton Peaks and I did early exploration in the Wind Rivers. I explored much of the Wind River Country when some of it was not even mapped. I did early first ascents, named peaks . . . that sort of thing."

"I climbed the Grand Teton for the first time in 1933," he recalls. "And I led a party up the Grand Teton when I was 60 years old in 1963."

Bonney joined the Sierra Club in the early 1960's. "I originally joined the club for the outing program. In Texas there was nobody at that time interested in the out-of-doors and I thought I'd bring the Sierra Club into Texas and give myself a chance to go on outings."

He was "part of the original group in Texas" and today he is a regional vice-president of the club.

The National Wilderness Act of 1964 stimulated Bonney's involvement in conservation. "I thought the Wyoming people didn't know anything about the Act . . . didn't have any realization that there was such an act or that it was important. And so I began stirring up the national organizations to come in and back the Wilderness Act in Wyoming . . . particularly in the Glacier and the Popo Agie primitive areas."

Bonney's knowledge of Wyoming wilderness has been an invaluable aid in preparing wilderness proposals. One of his efforts has been directed at the Cloud Peak area of the Big Horn Mountains. In 1969, he led a two-week wilderness survey of the Cloud Peak area. A group, which numbered up to 15 at times, completely encircled the primitive area. Participants included Bonney's wife, Lorraine; Dr. Walter Sheppe, an ecologist from the University of Akron in Ohio; Dr. Ted Niehaus, a botanist from the University of San Francisco, and Tom Bell (then executive director of the Wyoming

Outdoor Coordinating Council) among others.

Bonney recalls, "We went in there. Tom spent a week with us there. We made a complete circle trip around Solitude Trail and then we took side trips off of it. Then Lorraine and I circled it by car. We went in every road around the Big Horns. It took another week. Then we wrote it up in several drafts . . . a complete study. It was sent to conservation organizations and the Forest Service."

When asked about the future of Wyoming and its wilderness Bonney had mixed feelings. "Of course the big problem for Wyoming is off on the horizon. Off in Northeastern Wyoming. The stripmining of coal fields and that sort of thing. We'll have a minimum of benefit from all that."

He was disturbed about the great numbers of people eager for a wilderness experience. "Wilderness should be there for people to enjoy, but there'll have to be some restrictions. Someone suggested a permit system. That's probably going to be necessary. Then they can tell who's coming in, if they're equipped, if they know enough about the area and if they know how to take care of the land."

"I know Wyomingites don't want people from outside telling them what to do in Wyoming," said Bonney. "But it's not just Wyoming's land. It belongs to the nation. There's practically no public land in Texas. We look to our public lands in the mountainous West." —BH

As we steadily bring our pollution problems under control, more effective and sensible use of our land is rapidly emerging as among the highest of our priorities.

President Richard M. Nixon
Report on the State of Our
Natural Resources
February 19, 1973



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