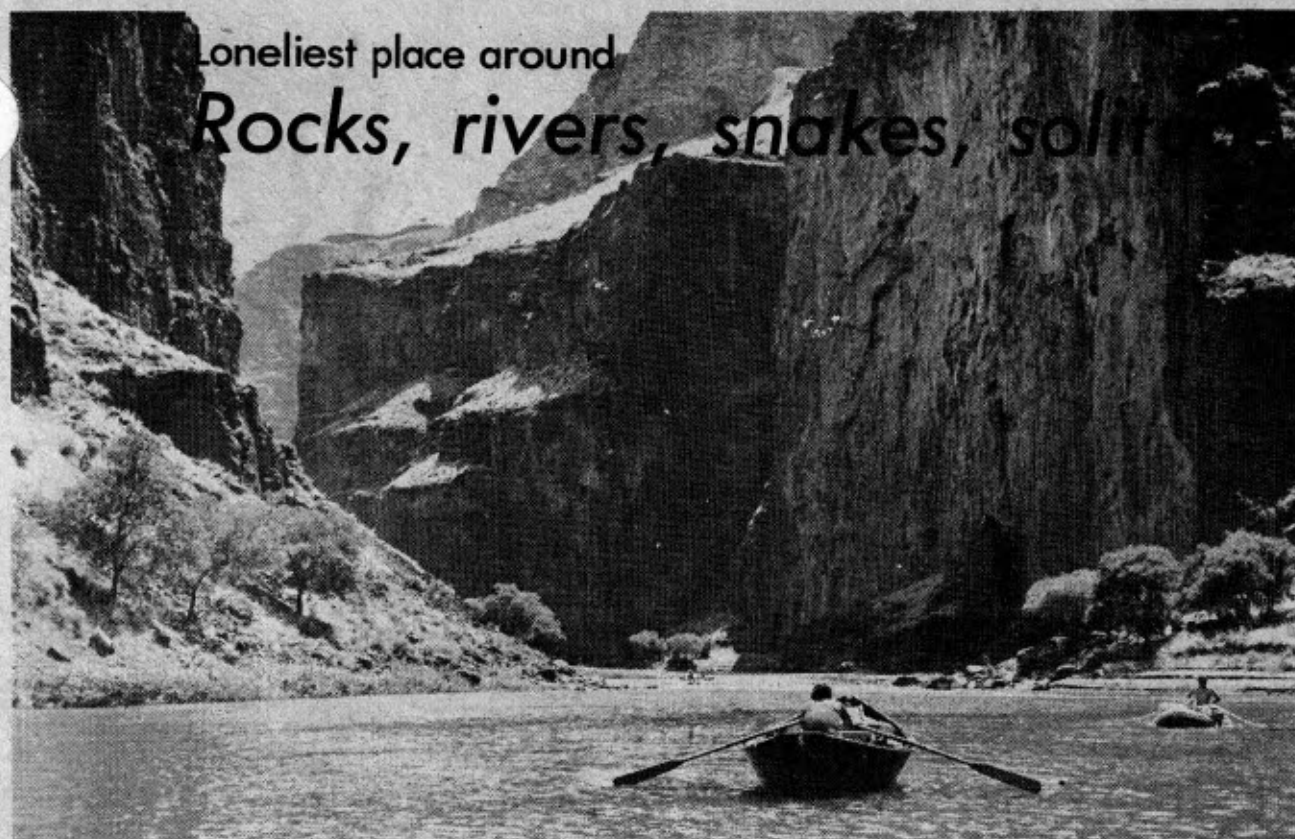




Loneliest place around Rocks, rivers, snakes, solitude — Owyhee

by Wilder Bellamy

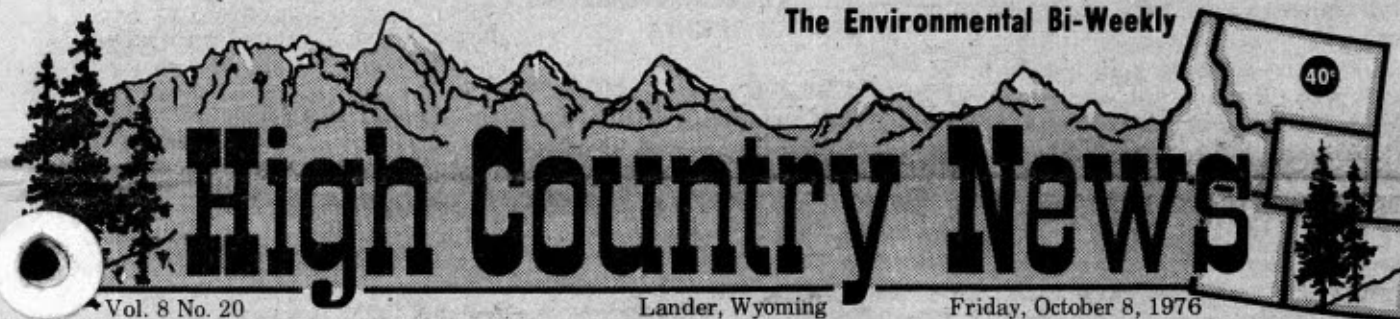
Two spectacular river gorges in southwest Idaho—the Owyhee and the Bruneau—are being considered for study as possible national wild and scenic rivers, with surrounding primitive areas. Both are located in a remote, dry, desolate, range country named after Hawaii, of all places.

The Owyhee Desert, spelled differently but pronounced the same—got its name when three Hawaiians were lost during an expedition into the area in mid-19th century.

About 90% of the desert has remained untouched, except for grazing, since white miners prospected the far eastern part for silver and other minerals.

Most of the desert is inaccessible except by bumpy dirt roads that often wash out in summer cloudbursts. The only signs of human habitation are a dredgeline on the river, an occasional herd of cattle grazing on the plains, and sometimes a band of whitewater rafters heading down the river's churning froth.

WILD OWYHEE. The Bureau of Land Management has proposed protecting the Owyhee River and the surrounding primitive area. Photo courtesy of Bureau of Outdoor Recreation



PRESERVATION PROPOSAL

On the Owyhee, Bureau of Land Management planners have drafted tentative boundaries which would preserve the river canyons from the edge of the Duck Valley Indian Reservation through Owyhee Reservoir north of Rome, Ore. The proposal covers over 170 miles, including entering tributaries.

The Bruneau River area would begin at the Indian Bath tub section and include the main stem and west fork of the Bruneau, along with a large portion of the Jarbidge River.

Tentative maps drafted by BLM show additional possible primitive areas up to a mile beyond the canyon rims, on the desert flats and hills, according to BLM Outdoor Recreation Planner Wally Meyer and Owyhee Roadless Area Manager Gene Schloemer.

Together, the two primitive study areas may cover up to 300,000 acres of desert land and river canyons—200,000 for the Owyhee River and 100,000 for the Bruneau, according to Meyer. The river proposals are scheduled for completion next year.

After the area study, the next step could be permanent designation of the sites as wild and scenic river areas and primitive areas, which would earmark the canyons for preservation and natural recreational use and forbid further dam construction or dredge mining along the river. The primitive areas would be closed to entry by any motor vehicle, but open to hunting and grazing.

LANDSCAPE TELLS STORY

From the air, the country looks like roughly tanned hide with deep green and brown gashes which are the river canyons. The soil runs in contrasts of white chalk and dark basalt.

The landscape tells a story of former submergence and volcanic activity, like most of Southern Idaho. Black bruises of (continued on page 4)

Congress preserves new wild areas

by Bruce Hamilton

In the mad scramble to pass legislation before congress adjourned, environmental bills fared well. With members of congress and environmental lobbyists working long hours, we now have new wilderness areas, new wild rivers, new public land and national forest laws, protection from new mining for national parks, and other vital legislation. We also lost some good bills. The following is a run-down of some of the legislation of interest to HCN readers.

STRIP MINE BILL

The strip mine regulation bill died in the house when the Rules Committee refused to have the bill considered. This was the fourth time the bill was killed in this session of congress.

WILD RIVERS

Congress passed an omnibus wild rivers bill which would protect sections of five rivers. Under the bill, 149 miles of the Missouri River in Montana and 219 miles of the three forks of the Flathead River in Montana will become part of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. The bill protects the Missouri Breaks—the last free-flowing stretch of the Missouri. Rep.

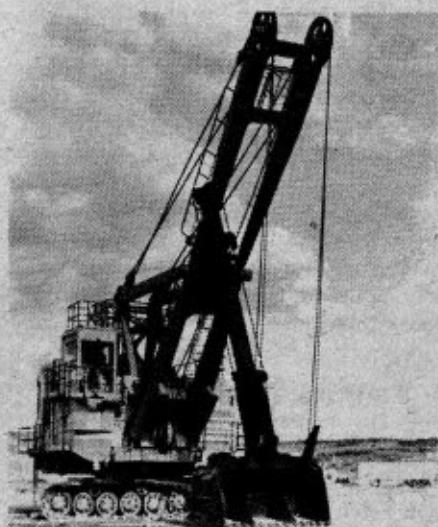
John Melcher (D-Mont.) stalled the Missouri bill for most of the session, but in the closing hours Melcher and Rep. Max Baucus (D-Mont.) pushed hard for the omnibus rivers package and it cleared the house on an unusual "unanimous consent" vote—when one negative vote could have killed the bill.

SYNFUELS SUBSIDIES

The bill to offer \$4 billion in loan guarantees and price supports to coal gasification, oil shale, and alternative energy plants died in the house. A procedural move to have the measure voted on by the full house failed by one vote.

FORESTRY BILL

A bill to reform timber management of the national forests passed the congress and will probably be signed by the President. The bill is a compromise between the weak house version, and the stronger senate version (which many environmentalists already felt was enough of a compromise). The bill ends the prohibition on clearcutting brought about by the Monongahela court case and makes the Church guidelines law. The Church guidelines, named for Idaho Sen. Frank Church, were reform rules adopted by the Forest Service



STRIP BILL DIES AGAIN. The bill to regulate strip mining died in congress again. In the mad scramble to pass legislation before congress adjourned Oct. 2, some other environmental legislation fared better.

in the wake of exposed timber management abuses in 1971.

Two key senate provisions absent from the house bill ended up in the compromise bill in modified form. Conservation lobbyists had sought a ban on timbering of (continued on page 7)



HCN Letters

STRAIGHT TALK

Dear editors:

Abbey calls a spade a spade, in this case a dragline a dragline. "Joy, Shipmates, Joy" is one of the better pieces of straight talk since "Civil Disobedience," to my way of thinking, and rather puts in the shade the nitpicking controversy over **The Monkey Wrench Gang**. Thanks for printing it.

Thomas Lyon
Logan, Utah



T-SHIRT. The latest style in Idaho.
Photo by Wilder Bellamy

CHANGE NAME TO MUDHOLE

Dear High Country News,

I just finished reading your September 10th issue and the editorial about the Catamount dam and recreation development in Pleasant Valley, Colo., which is adjacent to the Yampa Valley. I have lived near Pleasant Valley off and on for the last five years and regard it as one of the most beautiful places I know of; it truly fits its name! I was shocked to read in the **Denver Post** about the apparent progress and success of this gross development, and then was relieved to read in HCN the truth about the **Post** article, and about the development and its troubles and opposition.

THANKS. I urge anyone, especially people from the Yampa Valley area, who wishes to see a beautiful place left the way it is, to change at its own pace, to spend a day in Pleasant Valley and then write to any of the following people and make your views known. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Colorado Land Use Commission, the Routt County Planning Commission, the Colorado Division of Wildlife, the Sierra Club, the Colorado Open Space Council, and the Wilderness Society. If Catamount Dam and Recreation Project goes ahead, they really will have to change the name, maybe Crawford Gulch and Mudhole!!

Randy Berry
Pueblo, Colo.

TIES IN NEW YORK

Dear HCN,

Here in Northern New York State we are fighting against a 765 kilovolt power line to march through our countryside from the Canadian border to Utica, N.Y., to keep the air conditioners operating in New York City. The Public Service Commission has granted a go-ahead **before** open hearings. The idea of the PSC is to allow hydro-energy from Canada to be transferred to New York City. But they neglect to mention the nuclear power plants planned for this northern region, thus the need for such a big line.

Anyhow — just to let you know how this ties in with us all.

Ann Smith
Nicholville, N.Y.

WE REMIND HIM OF BLIZZARD

Dear HCN,

I received an issue of your **High Country News** and enjoyed it very much though I remember the time we got caught in a blizzard between Lander and Rawlins at Muddy Gap.

I also enjoyed the sections on sun power. It is really newsy, much better than we get in our papers around here. Congratulations.

Frank Hardesty
Mesa, Arizona

DAM ON YAMPA

Dear HCN:

Bruce Hamilton's editorial on Lake Catamount's press coverage (HCN, 9-10-76) was most interesting. He is quite correct in giving Richard Schneider of the **Rocky Mountain News** credit for writing a story reflecting a broader picture of this proposed resort. Jack Phinney of the **Denver Post** maintained a rather narrow course.

However, neither paper has addressed a more far-reaching problem, i.e., the proposed dam and reservoir serving the Pleasant Valley area will spell the beginning of the end for the free-flowing Yampa River.

The proposed Lake Catamount reservoir may be, in and of itself, innocuous; however, it portends a bleak future. The Yampa River is a regal river. It is a wonderfully meandering water course with a rich history.

For me, Lake Catamount symbolizes man's indifference to his river ecosystems.

Sincerely,
Martin Sorensen
Chairman: Water Resource Committee
Rocky Mountain Chapter, Sierra Club
Golden, Colo.

FRONTIER ETHIC ALIVE

Dear Mr. Bell,

I have just finished reading your column on the Teton Dam tragedy from the June 18, issue of **High Country News**. I think that it pinpoints the entire psychological and philosophical attitude of our nation towards the environment. The "frontier ethic" is definitely alive. Americans have progressed very little (if at all) from the days when the railroad had to be built across the great wilderness to the present when an oil pipeline is built to be a monument to man's conquest of the tundra. Screwing the country in the name of progress still remains a screw.

Congratulations on a fine column.

Neil Bernstein
Cleveland, Ohio



"JUST TRUST THE OLD PROGNOSTICATOR, MY BEAUTY, THE BEAST WILL FOLLOW US EVERYWHERE."

SCHIZOPHRENIA

Dear HCN,

Your Sept. 24 issue of HCN appears to me to typify the schizophrenia inherent in trying to be alive and aware in the Western states at this point in history. All three of the major articles, the Edward Abbey essay, the BLM grazing policy review, and the story on the Never Summers are demonstrating the same problem, from different angles.

Abbey says some very sensible things about the necessity of choosing to support the agricultural economic base over the spread of energy-hungry industrialism. His style probably turned more people off to what he was really saying than anything you've ever published. My "friends" at the Regional Planning Office in Basin, Wyo., are convinced he's insane. You can't fight development, only prepare for it. That's why an entity like a Regional Planning Office exists.

The article on BLM's intensive management programs appears to me to skirt the basic issue, which is who is running the ranchers' operations — them or BLM range specialists? Not to say that ranchers haven't been guilty of greed in their day, but currently they are the underdogs. Forest Service emphasis is recreation, and BLM emphasis is shifting to energy development, as being 1) more remunerative 2) less hard on the range.

The story on the Never Summers was the most forthright in demonstrating the conflicts inherent in trying to solve local "problems" with a big solution. Part of the reason the Never Summers are so beautiful, unspoiled, etc., is **because** the trailheads are impossible to find and "not maintained."

Which gets us back to Abbey and his basic contention about too many people, which everyone nods at and ignores; he's right but who wants the U.S. to do what India did? Besides three apiece is at least one too many at this point. Saying we should decrease the population does nothing to solve the question of how agricul-

tural land should be taxed or where Denver is going to get its water. But what will?

But the first step toward the solution to any problem is information, and you all keep the information flowing anyway. So keep up the good work.

Name withheld
Basin, Wyo.

SMALL BACKPACKER

Dear HCN:

I wish to tell Bob LaLonde that I disagree with his letter (HCN 8-27-76) in which he said backpackers using the wilderness must be capable of carrying a 90 pound pack. I can spend 10 days in the wilderness with a 30 pound pack, and I am a small woman in her 50s. Many people are in need of an introduction to wilderness and encouragement to use it.

Priscilla Cook
Prairie, Idaho

High Country News

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Box K, Lander, Wyoming 82520



Editorials

HCN

Oct. 8, 1976

High Country
News-3

White dam a white elephant?

The big push to dam the White River — one of the few remaining free-flowing rivers in Utah — is in the making. Recently, the Utah Division of Water Resources applied for the right to build a 125-foot dam and reservoir on this river in Northeast Utah. The project is designed to supply water for many uses including oil shale development, irrigation of Ute Indian lands, and creation of a recreational lake.

It is also seen in the eyes of some as an exercise in building a white elephant. Oil shale projects are extremely tenuous at this point in time; the Utes aren't using the water they're entitled to now, much less needing more water; and the recreational lake that is envisioned will fill with silt to such a level that within 50 years boating and fishing opportunities will be lost.

The project will drown deeply-carved canyons of inspiring beauty, eliminate a rare plant found nowhere else, jeopardize waterfowl and raptors that nest along the canyon walls, and possibly submerge an old stage coach stop along with the history surrounding this settlement.

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) will shortly begin a six-month environmental analysis of the project, which will include public hearings. When the analysis is completed, BLM might rule that the project does not constitute a "major action." And if little public interest has been shown during this period, no environmental impact statement would be required and the construction crews could begin their work immediately.

So far, public interest in the project has been practically nil. Perhaps citizens feel there is no need for alarm; construction is at least a year away. What many don't realize is that it is in the very beginning phases of a project when individuals can have the most impact on the planning process. "The further down the line you go, the harder it is for citizens to modify the project," claims Ralph Heft, BLM's natural resource specialist. As time passes, more time and money is invested in the project and plans become solidified.

Having looked over the edge into the mammoth twisting canyons of the White River and experienced the wilderness feeling brought on by its complete isolation, we can only hope that the public will speak out soon. Instead of attempting to put out fires, we must work toward preventing them. Voicing your opinion early on the White River will be a step in that direction.

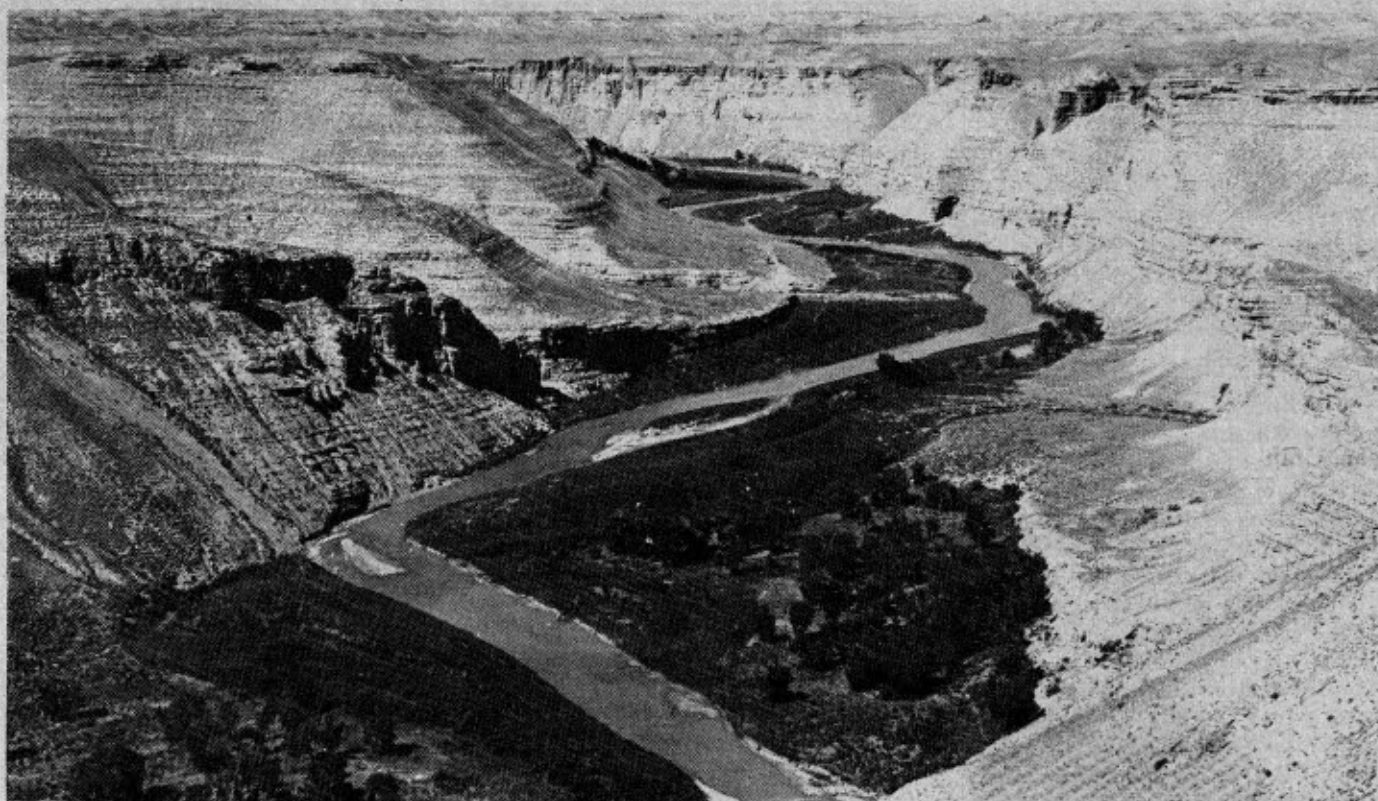
If you are concerned or would like more information write to: District Manager, BLM, P.O. Box F, Vernal, Utah 84078.

—MP

Maryland advertises HCN

An HCN ad appeared in a Maryland paper this past week but we don't know who had the ad published. Thank you just the same.

In the May 7, 1976 issue of HCN we printed some ads and asked our readers to place one of them in their local papers. Ads have appeared in 11 states and the paper has received at least 50 requests for samples and sold several new subscriptions. Thank you.



DAM PROPOSED. One of the magnificent canyons found along the White River in Utah that may be compromised by a dam proposal.
Photo by Dorothy Harvey



Guest Editorial

HCN

Wyo. wilderness sought for water

by Bart Koehler
Wilderness Society Representative

The Huston Park Roadless Area, 61,000 acres of magnificent wild country located along the Continental Divide west of Encampment, Wyo., is in deep trouble.

The chief of the Forest Service has directed the staff of the Medicine Bow National Forest to compress what was originally a three-year planning process into three months. The forest supervisor will decide by this December which lands in Huston Park will be allocated for wilderness study and which will be allocated for development.

This hurry-up effort was forced by the city of Cheyenne, with help from the Wyoming congressional delegation. The city owns water rights along the west slope of the Sierra Madre Range and has cried that her citizens "desperately need" to develop the water. The need question is complicated by the fact that the city is negotiating a water sale with Pacific Power and Light Company and Panhandle Eastern Pipeline Company to help pay for the project. I can't help but wonder just whose "need" is really pushing the project so fast.

The proposed project, which will run west slope water through a pipeline to the

east slope, has many significant impacts on the natural resources of the Huston Park area. Important fisheries which hold rare populations of Colorado cutthroat trout, undisturbed prime elk habitat, and miles of wild country will be altered.

The issues are somewhat clouded, but the action that wilderness conservationists must take is clear. We have to insure that as much land as possible in Huston Park will be granted a wilderness study by urging for a wilderness study for the entire area. This is known to the Forest Service as "Alternative A."

Why should we be asking for a wilderness study? The original Huston Park Roadless Area (30,000 acres) was recommended for wilderness status in 1972 by the staff of the Medicine Bow National Forest and the regional forester. Unfortunately, the chief turned the recommendation down.

So much of the Medicine Bow National Forest has been crisscrossed with roads and scarred by clearcuts that it is extremely difficult to find a large tract of wild country anymore. Huston Park is by far the largest roadless area in the forest and possesses the most ecological diversity; from sagebrush flats to alpine tundra. If all the development plans for the Sierra Madre Range are approved, such as the Jack Creek Timber Sales, future water developments by Cheyenne along Jack Creek, and the Savery-Pot Hook project, there won't be much wild country left in the range.

Alternative A, the wilderness study alternative, will not close the door on the city of Cheyenne; such an action will still leave the option of developing Cheyenne's water open in the future.

Don Rollens, the Forest Supervisor of the Medicine Bow National Forest in Laramie, wants to receive public input on this land allocation before the end of October. The Wilderness Society and the Wyoming Wilderness Coalition urge you to sit down and write a letter in support of Alternative A for Huston Park.

AUDUBON CALLS FOR MORE TIME

The Alpine Audubon Society has called for an extension of time in the planning process for Huston Park. The area is "supremely qualified" for consideration as wilderness, the group says, and the water diversion might jeopardize its chances for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System. In light of the questions raised about Cheyenne's need for more water, the Audubon group feels this risk may be unjustified.

Try screaming a little louder

If you don't like the idea of having a coal gasification plant move in next door, scream a little louder; protest a little longer. Believe it or not, your voice is being heard.

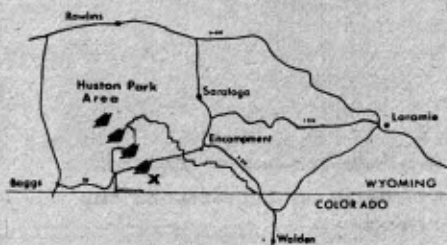
Ray Newsom, director of energy conversion development for Houston-based Panhandle Eastern Pipeline Co., recently told **Business Week**: "The mounting opposition to Western coal gasification projects is forcing companies to review their plans and be more inclined to accept the higher cost of an Eastern project in order to improve their chances of realizing any project at all."

Newsom says Panhandle's proposed plant near Gillette, Wyo., would be 15% cheaper than a plant in Illinois. "We're still hanging tough in Wyoming, but given the opposition there, we view our fallback position in Illinois more favorably than before," he said.

Business Week reported that six Eastern governors "fell all over themselves offering tax incentives, access roads, and other favors," when their states were considered for new gasification plants.

Let them fight over who gets the plants. Meanwhile, let's keep fighting to keep the West's air clean and our rivers flowing.

Scream a little louder! Protest a little longer!
—BH



4-High Country News — Oct. 8, 1976

Owyhee. . .

(continued from page 1)

lava frequently color the canyon walls, where the river has cut into the soft alluvial soil laid down by prehistoric Lake Idaho.

Fossils show that mastodons, mammoths, camels, bison, and the ancient predecessors of the modern horse all used to roam the area. Fossilized clams, shells, and fishbones reveal the thriving state of ancient sea life in Lake Idaho, according to Earl J. Larrison's *Owyhee: Life Of A Northern Desert*.

The earliest known human dwellers were the Shoshone, who lived in caves along the river bank. Meyer, who has explored some of the caves on foot, says they extend as far as 200 feet back into the sandstone of the canyon walls and contain untouched relics of Indian life.

The Shoshone also built rock walls to hem the buffalo and big game in on the promontories of the cliffs. The hunters drove them over the canyon walls in groups, where the animals would fall to their deaths. The rock walls remain.

Most of the history of the white man in the area took place around Silver City, to the east of the Bruneau, and in the Jordan Valley in Oregon, along the northern part

From the air, the country looks like roughly tanned hide.

of the Owyhee area being considered for protection. But the interior of Idaho's "Hawaii" remains a harsh, dry northern

desert. This kind of land will be a new experience to campers used to the woods and mountains of central Idaho's wilderness areas.

"The Owyhee is the loneliest place in the Pacific Northwest," said one awestruck camper returning from three days in the desert. "I never saw so many rattlesnakes, and I never felt so lonely. I knew it was a heck of a long ways to the nearest ranch."

Many trying to enter the area may get as far as Silver City, or the nearby War Eagle

Black bruises of lava frequently color the canyon walls.

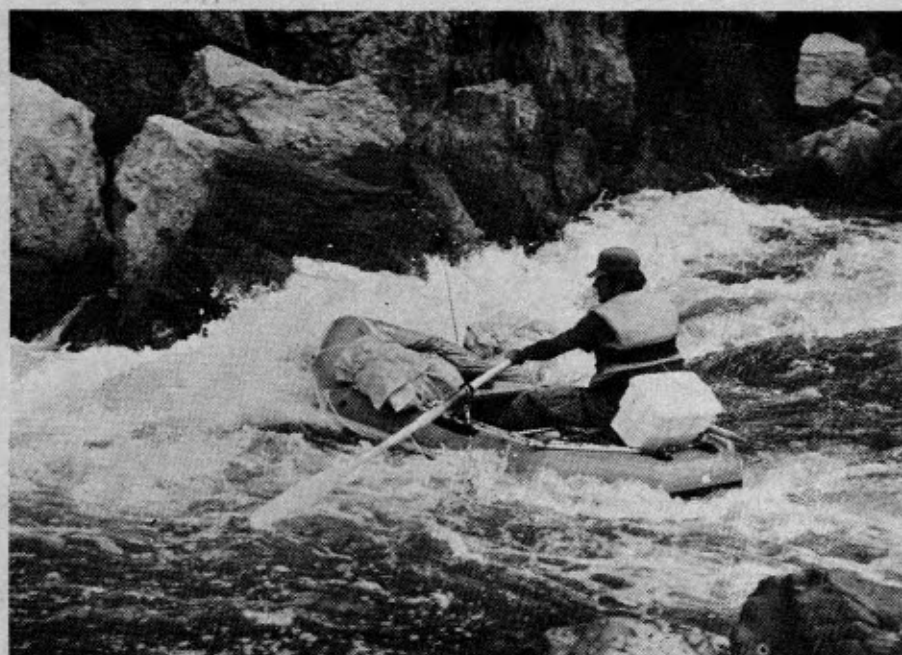
Mountain, with a commanding view of four states, including, if they're lucky, a glimpse of Wyoming's Grand Tetons clear across the other side of Idaho.

Most of the big game was wiped out by both Indian and white hunters. Idaho Fish and Game Department has restocked the area with bighorns, which now number about 350. The wild sheep get out onto the plains sometimes, but during the lambing season and whenever they feel threatened by coyotes or humans, they stay on the steep cliffs surrounding the rivers.

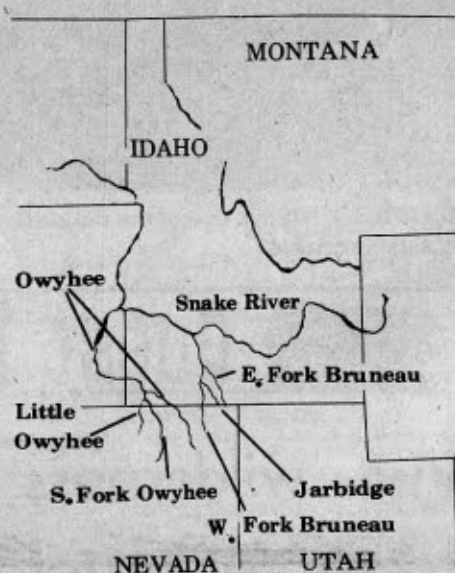
Pronghorn antelope and wild horses can be spotted on the flats above the canyons. Wildlife biologists estimate that the horses number about 500.

For hawks and eagles, the Owyhee and Bruneau River canyons must be somewhere next to heaven in the summertime — like the Snake River's nearby Birds of Prey Natural Area.

Many of the desert's animals, including most of the rodents and insects, live underground in burrows to flee from the temperature extremes of the desert. Ground squirrels, chipmunks, marmots, and badgers dig their burrows underground.



CHALLENGING FLOAT TRIP. But watch out — at least four people have drowned on the Owyhee. Photo courtesy of the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation.



The ground squirrels have good reason — they are prey for most of the larger animals in the desert, and particularly for the Owyhee's raptor population. So they camp in snug, sphere-shaped tunnels, which can get as warm as 60 degrees during the desert's cold nights, according to naturalist W. T. Shaw.

RATTLESNAKE CITY

The Owyhee has a well-deserved reputation for being "Rattlesnake City." One very experienced camper, a naturalist who had studied the area, was careful to bring folding armchairs and cots and to sit on the ground as rarely as possible.

He wasn't struck by any snakes on that camping trip, but he often found them curled up in his tent whenever he was preparing to pack it away.

The Owyhee summer, like that of any desert, spans about a 70-degree temperature range in one day, with a high possibly reaching 120, and the low dipping down below 50 at night.

Elevation makes or breaks the rainfall in this area. The annual rainfall in the mountains near Silver City, for example, totals around 20 inches. The total drops below 10 inches in the lower flats farther west.

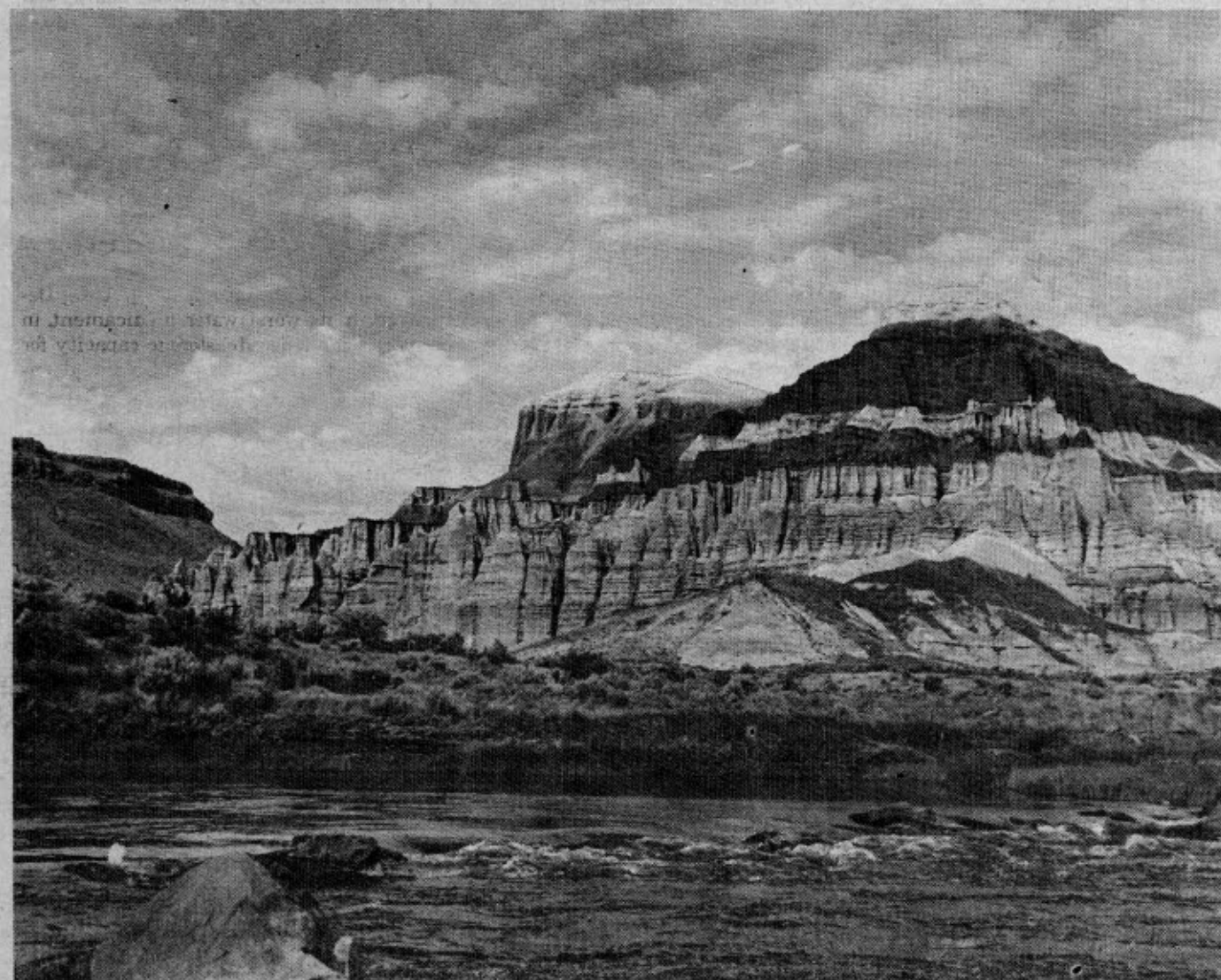
Snow in the winter is often buried under sand and insulated, only to reappear when the wind blows away the sand, surprising visitors in late summer.

But the most spectacular aspect of the Owyhee's weather cycle is the summer thunderstorms, which pile up above the mountains and then tear loose from their moorings and wash across the desert.

When camping on the desert, Larrison was surprised by such a thunderstorm. He parked on a high area of the road and waited until the storm washed by before moving again. In winter, the roads get so muddy that the ranchers often block up their pickups for the duration, though there rarely is enough snow to use skis or snowmobiles for transportation.

Despite its tropical name, Idaho's "Hawaii" is a harsh land which exacts its own terms, and you must be prepared when traveling through. For the most part, camping has been restricted to overnights on whitewater float trips down the Owyhee, Bruneau, and Jarbidge canyons, which are fast gaining a reputation as a fine run for experienced whitewater travelers. But watch out — at least four people have drowned on the Owyhee.

Wilder Bellamy is a freelance writer based in Boise, Idaho.



INVITING DESOLATION. This kind of land will be a new experience to campers used to the woods and mountains of central Idaho's wilderness areas. Photo of the

Chalk Basin on the Owyhee River courtesy of the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation.

Plugging the Platte

Denver growth demands more dams

by Jim Scott

John Wesley Powell, the legendary U.S. government explorer of Grand Canyon fame, reached the headwaters of the South Platte River in the central Colorado mountains in 1867. His expedition summarily charted the pristine flow, climbed back down the Continental Divide, and headed east.

Little more than a century later, Powell would not recognize the river he once mapped. Although still winding out of the Rockies and spilling onto the Great Plains, the South Platte has been metamorphosed into an entirely different waterway. Today, marred by reservoirs, hydroelectric generators, and water diversions, this river flows to a new beat on its way to the Gulf.

But Powell probably saw the spectre even as he was leaving. The mountains of the South Platte Valley were already inundated with frenzied miners, the plains with frenzied settlements.

But although the South Platte has stoically endured over the past 100 years, serving the metro multitudes has left indelible marks. Cheesman Dam and Chatfield Dam now block the river's roll, and the proposed Two Forks and Narrows Dams loom ominously in the future.

Two Forks has stirred up a wave of protest and debate. The size of the dam alone justifies the tremendous disaccord already generated. Planned for construction in Waterton Canyon 20 miles southwest of Denver, Two Forks would become the largest reservoir in the state. It would immerse 28 miles of the North Fork and South Fork valleys, submerging more than 6,400 acres.

Blueprinted by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, the estimated price tag of the project is \$350 million.

PRO-GROWTH BIAS

The Denver Water Board's reason for wanting the dam is to store water for the board's estimate of suburban growth by the year 2000. The key rift between the water board and opponents of Two Forks lies here. In 1973 city water department manager James Ogilvie testified before a U.S. Senate subcommittee that the metro area's anticipated population would be 1,700,000 by the year 2000. Three years later, the figure was jacked up to 2,700,000.

With the assistance of the Metropolitan Water District Legislative Committee, the water board today estimates that Denver's megalopolis will number 3.2 million by 2010. The Denver Area Council of Governments, however, is assuming only 2.4 million by 2010.

Dam opponents argue that making more municipal water available will invariably trigger accelerated deterioration of the Front Range by promoting uncontrolled growth. Many environmentalists feel making Two Forks water available could turn the water board's growth Denver projections into a self-fulfilling prophesy.

Dam opponents argue that making more municipal water available will invariably trigger accelerated deterioration of the Front Range by promoting uncontrolled growth.

Opponents of the dam have repeatedly attacked the makeup of the five man water board of water commissioners for a pro-growth bias. Jim Holland, president of the Concerned Citizens for the Upper South Platte River, Inc., believes that the board has deliberately altered growth projections to favor development.

"I have not seen a reasonable growth figure from them yet," said Holland. "Their

Upper Colorado River Basin. The water board is planning to divert 170,000 acre-feet of Upper Colorado River Basin water across the Continental Divide and into the South Platte River.

CURIOUS SHENANIGANS

The curious shenanigans engulfing Two Forks were additionally fueled in April of



INUNDATION AHEAD? If Two Forks Dam is built, natural and cultural resources will be lost. The free-flowing South Platte (above) and the historic South Platte Hotel (below) are two sights that may disappear beneath the rising reservoir. Photos by Jim Scott.



tunnel vision numbers are obviously drawn on the assumption that Two Forks will be built."

Of the five commissioners, four are heads of companies benefiting from continued growth. The group includes a power company chief executive, a bank director, a brick and pipe company president, and the president of a cleaners chain — all appointed by Denver Mayor William McNichols.

Critics have charged Charles Brannan, vice-president of the DWB and chief executive of the Rocky Mountain Power Company, with a severe conflict of interest. The *Straight Creek Journal*, a Denver alternative weekly newspaper, recently demanded Brannan's resignation by pointing out that the power company, although it has generated no power, claims as a principal asset 100,000 acre-feet of water in the

1975 when a water referee who had ruled against the construction of Two Forks was fired and his ruling thrown out of a Greeley District Court.

Steven N. Hannon, the appointed water master of the Two Forks case (giving him full power to act as judge in the matter), was dismissed by Judge Donald A. Carpenter. Hannon had ruled that the water board had not exercised "due diligence" toward the construction of Two Forks Reservoir, and therefore should lose its water rights.

Had Hannon's ruling stood, Two Forks would have died.

Hannon was apparently fired at the instigation of Glenn Saunders, longtime water board attorney now employed as a private consultant. Saunders, one of the board's most powerful lawyers for 40 years, admits he recommended that Judge Carpenter dismiss Hannon. Carpenter, however, denies that the conversation ever took place.

'LEFT DEAD AND LIFELESS'

Although a final decision on Two Forks Dam will likely come from voters in the Denver metro area, the 140 full-time residents of the Upper South Platte (along with

several hundred additional summer inhabitants) plan to fight inundation of the spectacular canyon all the way.

In addition, the Jefferson County Planning Commission, which reviewed a Bureau of Reclamation feasibility study on Two Forks, unanimously adopted a motion recommending that the county commissioners oppose the dam. "No one has done anything but show me this (Two Forks) is detrimental to Jefferson County," said commissioner member Richard Newman. "Denver has used us as an aqueduct for 100 years." Jefferson County would be the site of the dam.

An environmental impact report, prepared in 1973 for the Bureau of Reclamation by the International Engineering Company, Inc., does not paint a scenic picture of Two Forks. Although it states that the enormous dam would provide "new vistas" and "panoramic views," it perceptively envisions that "for some, the presence of large numbers of people and boats and the attendant noise and litter will reduce the quality of the esthetic experience."

Because of the fluctuating water level, a 93 mile long horizontal "bathtub ring" reaching heights of 110 feet is expected to scar the perimeter. "Thus," concludes the report, "two once charming valleys would be left dead and lifeless in appearance from time to time."

Wildlife presently at the dam location site on the upper river would be severely disrupted. Biologists believe that the band of bighorn sheep in the Waterton Canyon would be wiped out. Colorado Division of Wildlife raptor specialist Jerry Craig has reported that the proposed reservoir area has been used by several pairs of endangered peregrine falcons in recent years. In addition, mountain lions, bears, and deer are known to inhabit the valley.

IS THERE A NEED?

How badly does Denver need the water? Last year the metro area used 345,000 acre-feet of water, leaving about 40,000 acre-feet of usable surplus in the city's holding tanks. Although the water board recently threatened the Denver area with water rationing because of an unusually low runoff in the mountains, (putting Denver in its worst water predicament in more than a decade) storage capacity for metro water, including the planned enlargement of Gross Reservoir, is 619,000 acre-feet.

Water board projections that metro Denver will be using 550,000 acre-feet by 1990 (and a whopping 849,000 by 2010) have been blasted by environmentalists who charge that the board has virtually ignored the conservation and recycling potentials of area water use.

About one-third of all water consumed in the Denver area is used to water lawns and flush toilets.

Alternatives to Two Forks are currently being explored to prepare for the day when, no matter which conservation methods are employed, Denver will finally outstrip its water supply. Proposed projects are raising Dillon Dam, raising Chatfield Dam, and construction of a series of smaller dams on the South Platte in lieu of Two Forks.

Jim Scott is a freelance writer-photographer living in Boulder, Colo. He is a graduate of the University of Colorado in organismic biology.

6-High Country News
Oct. 8, 1976

Conservationists examine the candidates Carter 'outstanding': Ford 'hopeless'

National conservation organizations have been studying the record and the promises of the two major party's Presidential candidates and have come up with a clear favorite on environmental issues — Jimmy Carter.

The Washington, D.C.-based League of Conservation Voters has conducted a detailed comparison of the candidates' environmental programs. It rates Democrat Carter as "outstanding" and Republican President Gerald Ford as "hopeless."

Ford has been ignoring environmental issues in his bid for reelection. In sharp contrast, Carter has been successfully wooing top environmental leaders into his fold. Joe Browder, director of the Environmental Policy Center, is a top Carter advisor on natural resource issues. Kathy Fletcher, a staff scientist at the Denver office of the Environmental Defense Fund, has moved to Atlanta, Ga., to work on Carter's policy staff.

A grassroots environmentalist drive to place Carter in the White House has also emerged. First appearing in Georgia, "Conservationists for Carter" organizations are now being set up in many other states.

The following is a brief comparison of the candidates' stands on several environmental issues of importance to the West.

ECONOMY V. ENVIRONMENT

Ford: "If accomplishing every environmental objective would slow down our effort to regain energy independence and a stronger economy, then of necessity I must weigh all factors involved."

Carter: "I do not believe that there is an incompatibility between economic progress and environmental quality. . . . I want

to make it clear if there is ever a conflict, I will go for beauty, clean air, water, and landscape."

STRIP MINING LEGISLATION

Ford: Ford has twice vetoed strip mining regulation legislation passed by congress. He has cited a potential loss of jobs and a potential decline in coal production as his reasons.

Carter: Carter has said two provisions of the congressional bills were overly restrictive, but he would have signed the legislation. Carter does not believe jobs and coal production would decline due to the new law.

WATER DEVELOPMENT

Ford: As a congressman, Ford occasionally voted against environmentally destructive water development projects. As President, he has called for funding of many projects conservationists oppose — including the Oahe Diversion in South Dakota, the Garrison Diversion in North Dakota, and the Dickey-Lincoln Dam in Maine. Ford signed legislation to protect Hells Canyon in Idaho and the New River in North Carolina from dams.

Carter: Carter has pledged "to get the Army (Corps of) Engineers out of the dam building business." As governor of Georgia he brought a halt to stream channelization projects in his state. He also worked to save Georgia's few remaining wild and scenic rivers. Carter's most publicized conservation action was his veto of the Sprewell Bluff Dam on the Flint River.

LAND USE PLANNING

Ford: The President opposes federal

land use planning legislation which would offer federal grants to encourage states to initiate planning. He cites budgetary reasons.

Carter: In 1974 congressional hearings Carter personally testified in support of the Udall land use bill. This was the bill backed by conservation groups and opposed by Ford.

AIR QUALITY

Ford: Ford has called for repeal of the "no significant deterioration" provision of the Clean Air Act which requires that clean air regions of the country be protected. Ford has called for extensions in the amount of time allowed before air pollution clean-up goals must be reached.

Carter: While governor, Georgia was slow to adopt an air pollution control program that would satisfy the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Eventually the state came into compliance. Carter supports strict enforcement of the no significant deterioration provision of the Clean Air Act. He says auto emission standards should not be weakened because of the energy crisis.

NUCLEAR POWER

Ford: The President favors nuclear power as a cornerstone for achieving energy independence. He has given top priority to funding nuclear research, including the controversial breeder reactor. Ford favors continued federally-backed nuclear liability insurance — the Price-Anderson Act.

Carter: Nuclear power would be a "last resort" behind coal, solar power, and mandatory energy conservation, in Carter's

program. Carter would cut the nuclear research budget, and drastically cut breeder research. He opposes the Price-Anderson nuclear insurance legislation. He does not favor a nuclear moratorium, but favors better siting, plant safety, and waste disposal efforts.

WESTERN COAL

Ford: Ford believes that we must develop all our coal resources — East and West — if we are to become energy independent. The Ford Administration has lifted the moratorium on federal coal leasing to stimulate Western coal development. Ford's vetoes of strip mining regulation bills encourages Western strip mining at the expense of Eastern deep mining, according to some critics.

Carter: Carter says a shift of coal production to the West will mean "a massive shift in the distribution of capital, tax revenues, and job opportunities away from the industrial East and Midwest to the agricultural regions of the West. We must question whether that is in the best interests of this country." He favors shifting from oil to coal, emphasizing development of low-sulfur deep-minable coal in the East and improved deep mine safety.

MORE DETAILED ANALYSIS

For a more detailed analysis of Ford's and Carter's environmental stands send \$2 to the League of Conservation Voters, 317 Pennsylvania Ave. S.E., Washington, D.C. 20003 and ask for "The Presidential Candidates" publication. The league also has charts on the environmental voting records of all incumbent senators and congressmen. The senate and house voting charts are \$2 each.

Water problems plague Wyoming boomtown

by Dan Whipple

Gillette, Wyo., is the quintessential boomtown. No one, from Gillette's mayor to the local Chamber of Commerce, disputes this. But now the early growth problems have settled down, and the city is facing more basic, mundane problems. One of these is shared by the entire high country West — water.

In the past month, Gillette has had serious run-ins with the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality concerning water supply and water quality. The encounters raise questions about Gillette's adherence to the letter of the law and DEQ's enthusiasm about enforcing it.

The first problem, on the surface, wasn't serious. Kerr-McGee Coal announced the cancellation of a 100-unit trailer park in Gillette for incoming construction workers

because the company couldn't get a permit from DEQ until Gillette came up with "new sources" of water for the project.

DEQ had told the city in June that it wouldn't approve any new projects until the city got new sources of water. Gillette promptly went out and tried to obtain water from some abandoned oil wells that were capable of supplying soft water to the city.

However, DEQ rules require that the agency give formal approval to any new source of water for the city. DEQ not only didn't give approval, but the agency wasn't even aware of Gillette's efforts to get new sources, until after the wells were producing water.

Gillette Mayor Michael Enzi says that he was aware of the reporting requirements, but "it wasn't done because we needed the

water right away." Enzi claims that the drilling contractor contacted DEQ for approval and was given verbal permission to go ahead with the wells. The formal paperwork is now being done — two months after the water came into Gillette's system.

Nevertheless, Gillette's "new" water improved the overall quality of the city's water. Even DEQ admits that.

DEQ also warned the city that it must stop bypassing its water treatment facility. DEQ said that this procedure could result in health hazards to the population. In fact, "If this shock (of untreated water) is great enough, it could even cause death to young children and the elderly," said DEQ.

Gillette argues that the water treatment facility wastes water in an already thirsty community. The city has an electrolysis plant that consumes 25% of the water in processing.

DIRTY SLUDGE

In Gillette's second encounter with DEQ last month, the agency said that Gillette's sewage treatment plant was "inadequate." The department had found concentrations of some heavy metals — copper, zinc, lead, and chrome — in the sewage sludge.

According to DEQ, dumping sewage with high concentrations of heavy metals over a long period of time will leave the land barren. DEQ has known about the problem since at least April 4, 1975, when some tests were done on the sludge. They showed that if Gillette's disposal site is

considered permanent, it exceeds allowable concentration for copper, lead, and zinc. If the site is to have only a 20-year life, Gillette's heavy metals concentrations are in excess for zinc.

Gillette has taken steps to determine the source of the heavy metals problem. Apparently, most of the metals come from 14 businesses in the Gillette area, primarily oil field service companies and garages.

In addition, the city has set up an intermittent monitoring system to keep track of the heavy metals discharge into the sewage system. Gillette has also hired a microbiologist for the treatment plant.

Eventually, the city hopes to set up a "drying field" in which the water from the sludge will evaporate, leaving fertilizer. This, however, is predicated upon eliminating the heavy metals from the sludge. Enzi says, "that will be considerably easier now that we know where it is coming from."

Another part of the Gillette-DEQ dispute centers around a sewage disposal plan. When the city was first issued a discharge permit in April of 1974, the permit required a sewage disposal plan within 120 days. It was never submitted. A second discharge permit was issued this year, with the same requirement. Still no plan has been filed.

DEQ says that it formally asked Gillette for its sewage disposal plan in July. But Mayor Enzi told HCN, "No, we aren't working on a plan."



IN A HURRY. Gillette, Wyo., is in a hurry to supply water to a rapidly growing community. The state Department of Environmental Quality questions the city's methods, but has not yet enforced state regulations.

Bills pass . . .

(continued from page 1)

"marginal lands" — where regrowth is slow and soils are unstable. The conference committee bill gives the secretary of agriculture and the Forest Service discretionary power to identify marginal lands and prevent all but salvage timber harvesting on such lands for up to 10 years. Conservation lobbyists had also sought to have a "sustained yield" provision — allowing no more timber to be cut each year than can be regrown. The final version of the bill allows the secretary of agriculture to permit short term cutting of more wood than the forest can replace — but sustained yield must be achieved over a 10-year period.

Forest Service Chief John McGuire called the final bill a victory for his agency. "Congress in effect endorsed the administrative policies we've been operating under," he said.

CONSERVATION FUND

Congress passed and the President signed a bill increasing funds authorized for land and water conservation and historic preservation. The bill increases the annual level of funding from \$3 million to \$6 million for fiscal 1978 and up to \$9 million for fiscal 1980-1989.

WATER POLLUTION

Water Pollution Control Act amendments died in congress. The key amendment environmentalists had been concerned with was proposed changes in Section 404 aimed at restricting federal control of wetland dredging and filling.

PARK MINING

The congress passed and the President signed a bill banning any new mining claims in six units of the National Park System which were still open to mining. The six areas are Death Valley, Organ Pipe Cactus, Mt. McKinley, Crater Lake, Glacier Bay, and Coronado. The bill allows continued operation of mines begun before last February. Digging at existing mines can go deeper, but not wider on the surface. A four year moratorium is imposed on some existing mining claims in the parks.

BLM ORGANIC ACT

The Bureau of Land Management Organic Act passed the congress and President Ford is expected to sign it. The bill directs BLM to review all of its land for potential wilderness. It mandates congressional review of all public land administrative withdrawals over 5,000 acres in size. Existing wildlife refuges and units of the National Park System would not be reviewed. The bill authorizes BLM and the Forest Service to issue 10-year grazing permits with a preference right of renewal. Range improvements would be funded by 50% of the grazing fees collected.

PRESIDENT'S PARK PROGRAM

President Ford's \$1.5 billion "Bicentennial Land Heritage Program" — the preservation bill he unveiled at a Yellowstone National Park political speech — died because it was introduced so late in the session. Critics say the bill was introduced to gain political mileage, but the Administration says it was not introduced earlier because of the domestic economic situation.

CLEAN AIR ACT

Amendments to the Clean Air Act were killed in a senate filibuster by Utah Sens.

Jake Garn (R) and Frank Moss (D). The Utahns fought the bill because it contained congressionally mandated clean air zones for national parks, which would have limited development in Southern Utah. The amendments also had a provision which environmentalists opposed — extensions to deadlines on auto industry emission compliance.

Clean air regions of the country will still be protected under significant deterioration regulations adopted by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). However, the amendments would have had the potential of making those regulations stronger.

WILDERNESS

The Montana Wilderness Study Bill died in the house. Bill Cunningham of the Wilderness Society blames Rep. John Melcher's (D-Mont.) lack of interest in the legislation for its defeat.

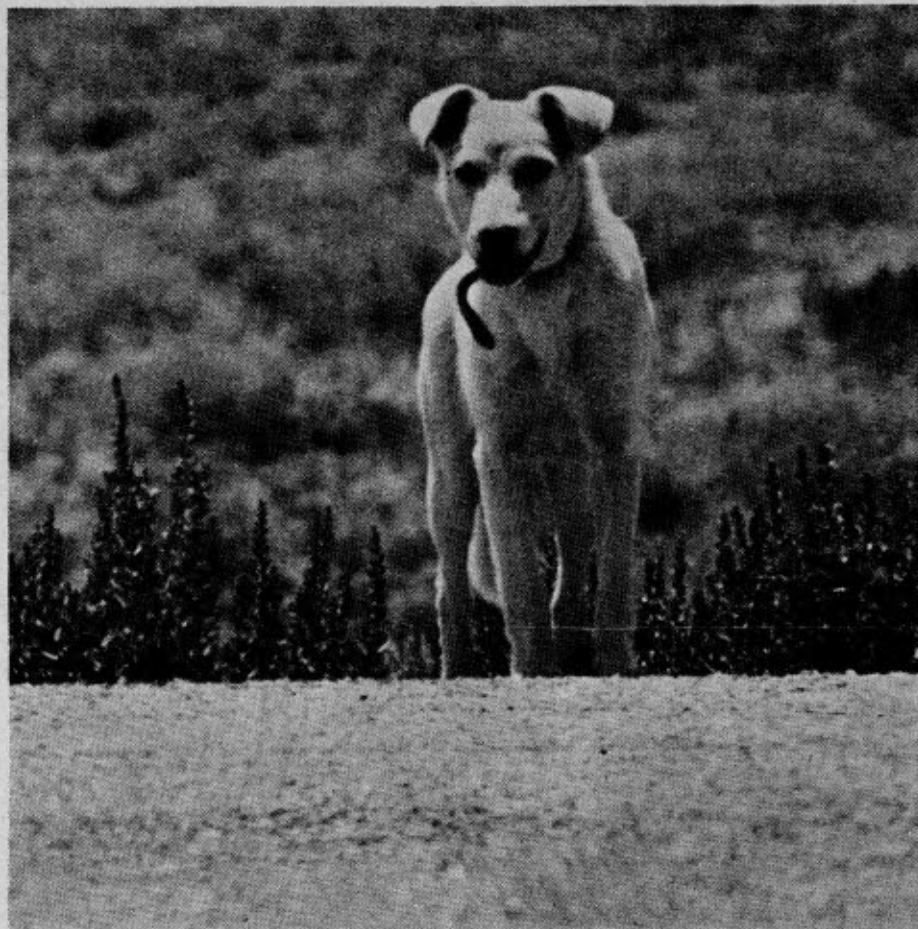
An omnibus wilderness bill passed congress. It establishes 20 wilderness areas including Fitzpatrick (Glacier) in Wyoming, Manzano Mountain and Sandia Mountain in New Mexico, Red Rock Lakes in Montana, and Simeonof in Alaska. It also calls for eight new wilderness studies including Great Bear and Elkhorns in Montana. The Elkhorns were in the Montana Wilderness Study Bill, which was defeated, but the area was added to the omnibus bill with Rep. John Melcher's help.

The congress also passed a bill which establishes wilderness in several existing national parks. The national parks omnibus wilderness bill has an amendment attached to it by Sen. Clifford Hansen (R-Wyo.) which deletes 6,497 acres from the Fitzpatrick Wilderness, which would be established by the other omnibus wilderness bill. No one is sure what the ultimate size of the Fitzpatrick will be if the

President signs both bills. The acreage in question is a bighorn sheep range on Whiskey Mountain near Dubois, Wyo., on the Shoshone National Forest. Hansen wanted the area deleted so it could be managed for bighorns. Rep. Teno Roncalio (D-Wyo.) fought the deletion, arguing that management would be possible within the wil-

derness. Hansen's amendment would classify Whiskey Mountain as a primitive area until the secretary of agriculture determines otherwise.

The Udall-Church American Endangered Wilderness Bill died in congress. It was introduced late in the session.



ONCE DOMESTIC. This dog still wears its collar as it roams the desert 40 miles south of Green River, Wyo. The dogs which attack both wildlife and stock are usually wandering pets or homeless urban dogs.

Dogs chase Wyoming wildlife, stock

by Carol M. Ryczek

"An awful lot" of dogs are chasing wildlife and livestock in southwestern Wyoming.

The assessment was made by Wyoming Game and Fish Acting District Supervisor Greg Rost, and is as close as anyone has come to estimating exact numbers. Rost is part of the animal damage control program in Rock Springs, Wyo.

While everyone from ranchers to wildlife biologists concedes there is a dog problem, no one seems to know how big it is or how to control it.

Rost says the uncertainty comes from the fact that the dogs aren't really "feral;" they haven't reverted to a wild state.

Jim Arnoldi at the Wyoming Game and Fish Department office in Green River, Wyo., says most of the dogs form packs in the cities and roam just outside the city limits at night. The packs include dogs of any size or breed.

"These may be family pets or simply homeless urban dogs. During the day they are likely to come sleep on your porch or play with your family; some go out regularly, some irregularly," Arnoldi says.

The dogs threaten other animals both because of the numbers they kill, and the way they kill them. Danger to wildlife becomes especially severe in the winter when the game moves closer to the cities.

In the winter of '71-'72, a Game & Fish report cited 50 antelope killed by dogs in

the Rock Springs, Green River, and Reliance, Wyo., area. (The towns span a 20 mile stretch of road.)

Wildlife losses were less this year, Arnoldi says, because the winter was relatively mild.

Unlike true feral dogs or coyotes, urban dogs don't kill out of hunger or know how to effectively kill their prey.

"You can tell whether or not an animal has been killed by a dog (or a coyote) by noting whether the face was torn out. Dogs

"I have no regrets if I have to shoot a dog that's attacking game."

will attack whatever part of the body is within reach, while coyotes make a clean kill at the throat," Arnoldi explains.

"Coyotes also kill the animal before they start to eat it; dogs will sometimes eat the animal half alive," he says.

"I've seen from one to seven dogs in a herd of sheep at any one time," Rost says. Because they're such unskilled hunters, however, they don't do useful predation on fast-moving small prey such as jackrabbits.

A state ruling permits Wyoming wildlife agency employees to shoot any dogs that

might threaten wildlife. Arnoldi doesn't have an exact count of the dogs shot; he says the Game & Fish office doesn't keep such records because they don't consider dogs a very serious problem.

"The advice I give to ranchers is give the herders rifles and teach them to shoot," Rost says.

He says that they don't set traps for the dogs because the traps would have to be set so close to sheep populations the sheep would be endangered.

Since there is "logistically no way" to control dogs once they are out of the city, Rost says, something must be done to control them within the towns. But urban animal control is often a low-priority or low budget operation.

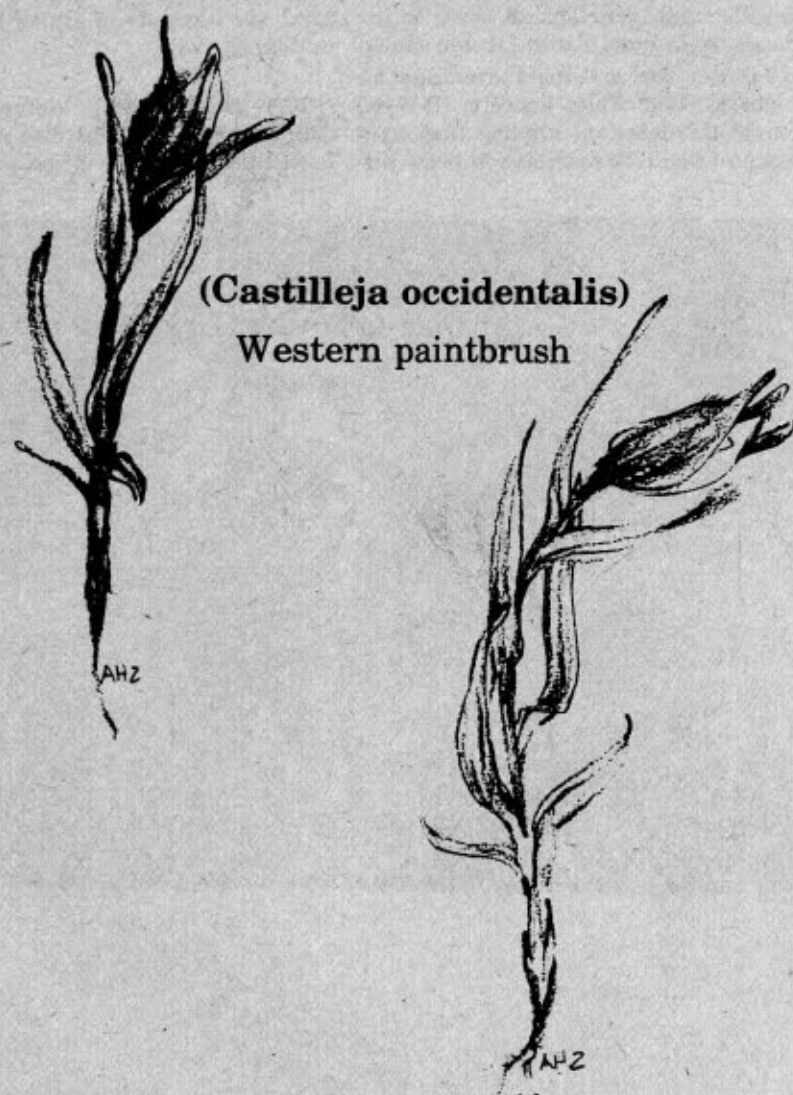
Elaine Stockwell, the Animal Humane Officer in Rock Springs, complains of inadequate collection methods and lenient fines. Stockwell uses a rope to capture strays; she says she would like the option of a tranquilizer gun.

"Only the gentle dogs get picked up," she says. "I can't get the vicious ones like that."

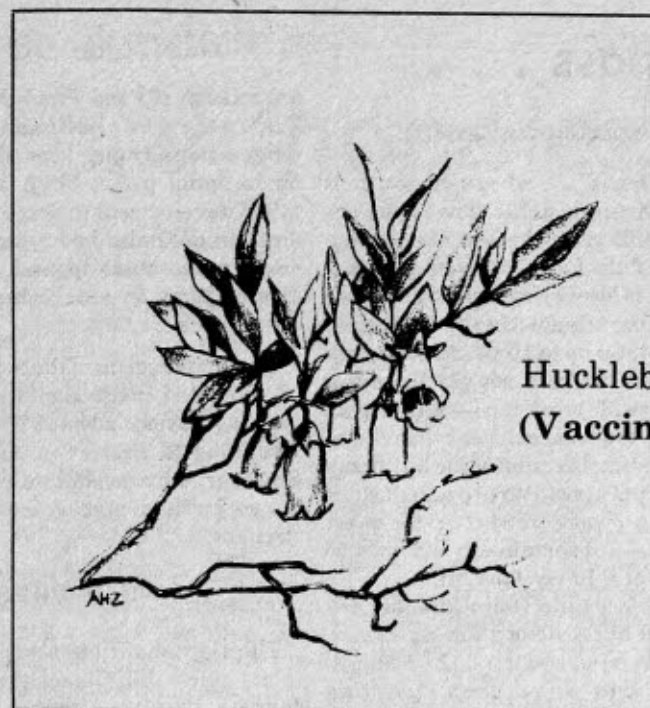
Stockwell adds that she often collects the same dog several times because the fines aren't high enough to discourage dog owners from letting their pets run loose.

"I have two dogs of my own," Arnoldi says. "But I have no regrets if I have to shoot a dog that's attacking game. If they want to have pets, people should learn to take care of their own animals."

8-High Country News — Oct. 8, 1976



(*Castilleja occidentalis*)
Western paintbrush



Huckleberry
(*Vaccinium augustifolium*)

Tundra, land of

Fall finds many of us busy with constructive projects, preparing for winter. We are absorbed in fuel, food, and shelter — canning, chopping, and chinking. We have no time for something so seemingly non-essential to us as tundra, as much as we may have enjoyed it this summer.

Just when we need it most, perhaps, Colorado writer and artist Ann Zwinger has sent us a reminder of life at high altitudes in the Rockies. Here are her charcoal drawings of some plants that inhabit the tundra — a land of the Lilliputian, where extreme temperatures, a short growing season, a scarcity of moisture, and meager soils set much tougher terms than those most of us face with the onset of winter.

Since the terms are harsh, life is limited. Yet in the Rockies 300 kinds of plants and a few dozen bird and mammal species manage to survive here year-round.

In *Wilderness U.S.A.* (1973, National Geographic Society) Frank Craighead, Jr., describes tundra as a tonic, ecosystem able to delight human beings with its brilliant sun, abundant snow, and sturdy life-forms:

"I still have vivid recollections of my first trek into the treeless alpine zone of the Colorado Rockies. . . Here desiccating winds sweep over a surface broken only by boulders; the land is snow-clad most of the year. But it was summer with the sun like a warm sweater on my shoulders. The intense white light of midday cast a sheen on moss campion, dryads, dwarf paintbrush, forget-me-nots, arctic gen-

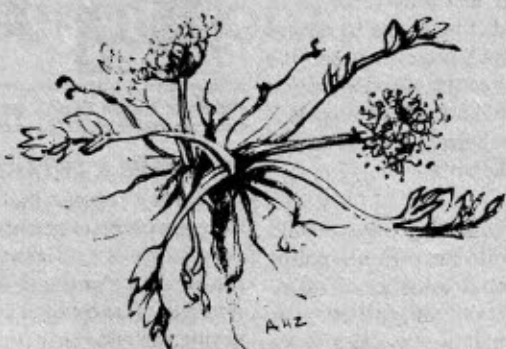


Chiming bells (*Mertensia viridis*),
also called green mertensia, a
common species of high altitude grasslands



Daisy (*Erigeron simplex*),
a dwarf species, common

stifolia)



Alpine parsley
(*Oreoxis alpina*),
a tiny plant

f the Lilliputian

tians, and snow buttercups that brightened patches of soil. Elatedly I jumped from one lichen-encrusted boulder to another, for I was young and this was a new world for me to explore. I felt free, exhilarated. I wanted nothing so much as to go on indefinitely hiking through this magic kingdom of Lilliputian plants, learning the ways of rosy finches and saucy Clark's nutcrackers, watching the golden eagles soar purposefully above a marmot sunning on a rock — with an escape crevice nearby. Each day brought new sights and new stimuli. . . ."

"It is good to have wilderness in the Rockies, places to find moments of intense involvement — stimulants and tonics we all need in the course of a lifetime. Man strives eternally for freedom and finds it expressed, at least temporarily, in the expanse and order of a wilderness environment."

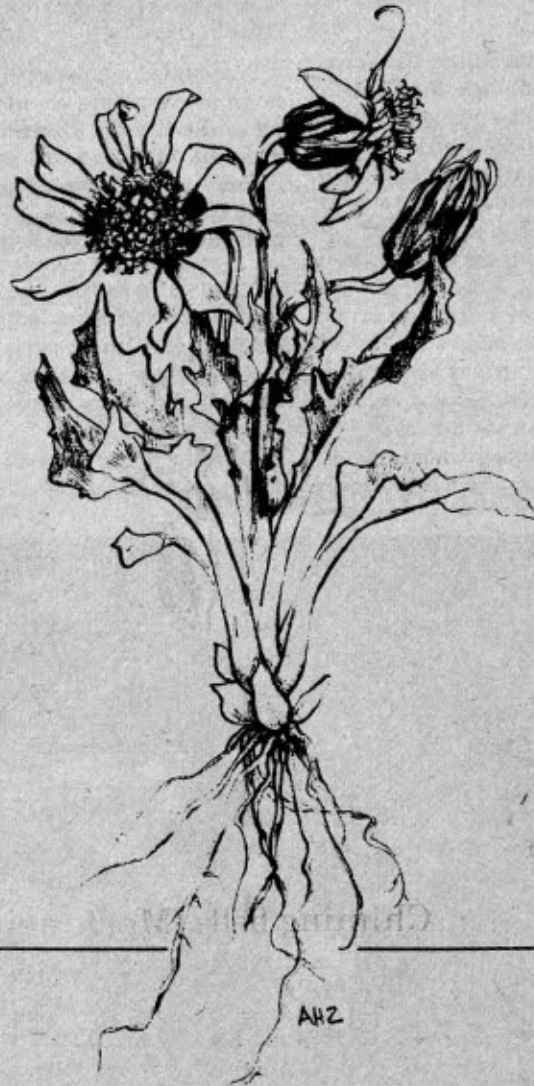
Ann Zwinger is author and illustrator of *Beyond the Aspen Grove* and, with Betty Willard, *Land Above the Trees*. She won the 1976 John Burroughs medal for her book on the Green River, *Run, River, Run: A Naturalist's Journey Down One of the Great Rivers of the West*. She is currently working on a book on another great Western river, the San Juan. Her home is in Colorado Springs, Colo.



Alpine candytuft
(*Thlaspi alpina*)



Golden daisy (*Erigeron aureus*)



Alpine ragwort (*Senecio soldanella*),
rare, on boulder fields and scree of the
higher peaks



Snow willow (*Salix nivalis*),
a tiny alpine mat plant, easily overlooked



10-High Country News — Oct. 8, 1976

Pioneer opponent looks to rate reform

Leaders of the movement to stop the Pioneer Power Plant near Boise, Idaho, are pleased with the Idaho Public Utilities Commission order saying the plant can't be built (see HCN, 9-24-76). However, Jeff Fereday of the Idaho Conservation League (ICL) says the order left the door open for other new power plants.

The PUC rejected the plant because of potential pollution problems near Boise, not because of a lack of need.

"The PUC did recognize the fact that a 1,000 megawatt coal-fired plant would have a tremendous impact, both environmentally and economically. The PUC decision is a historic document in recognizing the seriousness of continued electrical demand. The commissioners admitted it's a crisis situation, but they kept their mouths shut about how to solve this crisis," Fereday says.

ICL sees rate reform as the "major preventative" of another Pioneer. Present rate structures in Idaho and most other states encourage the use of electricity by offering lower rates to higher users. Consequently, small residential users subsidize higher users.

"You could read into the order that another site — further from a population center — might be acceptable to the PUC," Fereday says. While keeping their eyes open for other power plant proposals, ICL is now directing its efforts into an intensive energy conservation and rate reform campaign.

Fereday believes that citizen participation through an ICL affiliate, the Citizens Against Pioneer (CAP), may have been a key to their successful fight against Pioneer. He admits that having both Gov. Cecil Andrus and the Idaho Statesman oppose the plant was also a big help.

After a year of fighting the Pioneer proposal, Fereday says the ICL staff realized that it was too much of a drain on an organization with broad interests. The affiliate group they set up was 95% volunteers and had one worker devoted entirely to communications, Ardyth Schuster.

Schuster says CAP concentrated primarily on the issue of rates, which it said were

going to rise by 250 to 300%. CAP representatives wrote letters-to-the-editor, gave presentations to schools, and carried brochures door-to-door, all the time using Idaho Power's own testimony on rates to persuade the people to vote against the power plant.

The success of this grassroots campaign was proven by the fact that although Idaho Power ads outnumbered CAP media messages by 50 to 1, on an advisory ballot voters overwhelmingly opposed building the power plant.

Although Fereday and Schuster both think the vote had a positive effect on the

PUC vote, they were hesitant to try it in the first place and still hesitate to advise other states to attempt a popular vote. "It's like being a lawyer in court; you don't ask a question unless you know the answer," Schuster says. She believes they could have won without the vote.

They also both doubt that they could have won if they would have made pollution the principle issue instead of rates. When groups emphasize air pollution or water impact, hearings become the stage for matches between experts, and utilities can afford more witnesses, they say.

Reckoning from Washington

by Lee Catterall

The government has produced a map of Wyoming targeting projected energy sites in the state, and it looks messy.

Don't blame the artist. He merely drew circles wherever he was told a new energy facility or an expansion of an existing one is likely to occur. He drew 64 circles, most of them in such a small area of the state that he couldn't do it and make it look very tidy.

The circles represent 33 coal mines, seven power plants or additions, six coal conversion plants, 13 uranium mines, five uranium mills, an oil refinery, and a natural gas processing plant. To complete the picture, the artist added two coal slurry pipelines and a railroad spur.

Although "some of the listed projects may never be constructed," the Bureau of Mines reports, the circles represent the ones "presently under construction, planned, or proposed by various companies and organizations."

According to the Bureau of Mines map, 13 coal mines and expansions are planned

in Campbell County, five in Sweetwater County, four near Kemmerer, two southwest of Rawlins, four near Hanna, three north of Sheridan, one in the Lake DeSmet area north of Buffalo, and one near Grass Creek in Hot Springs County. Ten of those are expansions of existing mines.

Once they're all producing, Wyoming will have increased its coal output by nearly 140 million tons annually, nearly a fourth of what now is mined in the entire country.

The National Coal Association, whose predictions for production in the entire West are little more than half what the Bureau of Mines forecasts, projects an even higher output for Wyoming than the government envisions. It predicts Wyoming will be producing nearly 160 million tons of coal yearly by 1986 unless the government adopts stricter environmental rules than current standards.

The government reports that new power plants are planned or being built near Wheatland (Basin Electric), Sheridan (Pacific Power & Light), and Gillette (Black Hills Power & Light and Pacific Power & Light's Wyodak plant and another "possible" plant in the area, company unknown). Additions are planned for four other power plants.

The bureau forecasts coal gasification plants will be built by Carter Oil Co. north of Gillette, Panhandle Eastern Pipeline Co. northeast of Douglas, Northern Natural Gas Co. in Campbell County, Texaco near Lake DeSmet, the government in an underground gasification experiment south of Gillette, and Champlin Petroleum and Union Pacific Railroad northeast of Evanston.

In addition to expansions of Exxon's uranium mine in Converse County and the Western Nuclear mine near Jeffrey City, the bureau envisions two new uranium mines near Jeffrey City (Minerals Exploration Co. and Utah International, Inc.) and four more in Converse County (Kerr-McGee, United Nuclear Corp., Nuclear Dynamics, and the Union Pacific Railroad's Rocky Mountain Energy Co.).

Four uranium mines are planned in Carbon County's Shirley Basin (Getty Oil, Wold Nuclear, Inc., Union Carbide, and Primary Fuels, Inc.). Others are planned near Kaycee (U.S. Energy Co.) and in northeast Sweetwater County (Minerals Exploration Co.).

United Nuclear, Rocky Mountain Energy and Kerr-McGee plan enrichment facilities or uranium mills near their mines.



The **HCN**
Hot Line

energy news from across the country

URANIUM STRIKE? The U.S. Geological Survey reports that uranium, thorium, and rare earth elements have been found in potentially significant concentrations on the Seward Peninsula in Alaska. The Los Angeles Times quotes a USGS official as saying the concentrations are high enough to warrant "further study of the economic potential of the area."

OIL TO JAPAN. John A. Hill, deputy administrator of the Federal Energy Administration, says it "may be possible and wise" to ship oil from the trans-Alaska pipeline to Japan until pipeline systems are developed to bring the oil from the West Coast to the Midwest and East. Hill emphasizes that this would be an exchange, not an export. Alaskan oil could be sent to Japan in exchange for Mideastern country oil ordinarily sent to Japan.

SAFER THAN DAMS? Dr. Edward Teller, a key scientist in the development of atomic and hydrogen bombs, says dams are more dangerous than nuclear power plants. Thousands have died from collapsing dams, but nuclear plants have hurt no one, he says. Meanwhile, a royal commission in England has warned against a major commitment to nuclear power plants. The commission cited two major hazards — the danger posed by nuclear wastes and the "entirely credible" possibility that terrorists could seize nuclear material to build a bomb. The commission urged stepped up research in alternative energy sources such as tides, wind, and sun, according to the Associated Press.

UMW REVOKES SUPPORT. The United Mine Workers has voted to revoke its previous support of a federal strip mining regulation law. The reversal represents a concession to the union's strip miners who feel a federal law could cost jobs. Less than 20% of the UMW members are strip miners. Previously, the UMW supported a federal law because it felt it would encourage deep mining which provides more jobs per ton of coal mined.

SOLAR SITE SOUGHT. The U.S. Energy Research and Development Administration is evaluating nine proposed sites for the world's first solar electric power plant. The proposed locations are in Arizona, California, Florida, Mississippi, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, and Texas. They were nominated by utility companies and state governments interested in sharing partnership in the project. The plant, to be completed in 1980, would produce 10 megawatts of power. Concentrated sunlight would be used to produce steam to generate electricity.

SOLAR LOANS. California voters will decide if they want to initiate a solar energy low-interest loan program this November. If voters approve Propositions 3 and 12, Californians will be able to secure low-interest loans for installing solar heating and cooling systems or home insulation. Proposition 3 is a \$25 million bond issue for the loans, and Proposition 12 would allow the state legislature to provide the loans at lower than market rates — about eight per cent.



SUN-HEATED HOT DOGS. The Sunshine Company brought solar energy know-how to the children of Vail, Colo., this summer. Led by experts, the kids built their own solar cookers. Success meant lunch — a sun-warmed hot dog. The Sunshine Company is a traveling solar energy and energy conservation show sponsored by the University of Colorado at Denver. It is touring 15 cities in Colorado this year. Still ahead are shows in Greeley, Oct. 12-20; Sterling, Oct. 25-30; Fort Collins, Nov. 2-6; La Junta, Nov. 9-13; Boulder, Nov. 16-22; Alamosa, Nov. 29-Dec. 4; and Aspen, Dec. 7-14. The exhibit may be willing to travel to other states in 1977. For more information, write Solar Energy Exhibition Program, University of Colorado at Denver, 1100 14th St., Denver, Colo. 80202. Photo courtesy of the Sunshine Company.

Wyoming balks at Interior proposal Will state regs cover federal coal?

by Bruce Hamilton

Interior Secretary Thomas Kleppe has promised to adopt state mine reclamation requirements for federal land if they are at least as stringent as those of the federal government. Wyoming Gov. Ed Herschler calls Interior's promise "double talk and hot air" and has filed suit against the department to insist that state laws prevail.

Interior is presently reviewing state mine reclamation laws to see if they are adequate to protect federal land. In the first state under study — Wyoming — Interior accepted the state's reclamation

standards, but that was only part of the state laws. The standards cover substantive requirements like recontouring, re-seeding, and pollution prevention. But the department refused to immediately accept the state's procedural reclamation requirements, such as bonding, leaving acceptance open to negotiation. The two step approval process has the state up in arms.

Wyoming officials want total, unqualified control of mining on federal lands in the state. The state believes its procedural reclamation requirements are also tougher than federal requirements and blanket approval, not negotiation, is in order.

By only accepting half of Wyoming's strip mining laws, "the effect is to totally emasculate any control the state... might have had over federal coal operations," says Rep. Teno Roncalio (D-Wyo.). Roncalio points out that the federal government refused to accept without negotiation Wyoming laws covering surface owner consent, permit applications, mining plan requirements, bonding procedures, the designation of land not suited for strip mining, inspection, and variance procedures.

By not adopting Wyoming's variance procedures, the half of the state law accepted by Interior is meaningless, says Roncalio. "In effect, Interior is saying, 'We will adopt Wyoming's law, but remain totally free to gut it with our variance provisions,'" he says.

Gov. Herschler complains that Interior says state laws will apply, but the department "doesn't even require a state permit for mining on federal lands in Wyoming."

GOOD FAITH OFFER

Assistant Interior Secretary Jack Horton told HCN that the department is not trying to exclude any part of Wyoming's law by the two step approval process. "It's a good faith offer," he says.

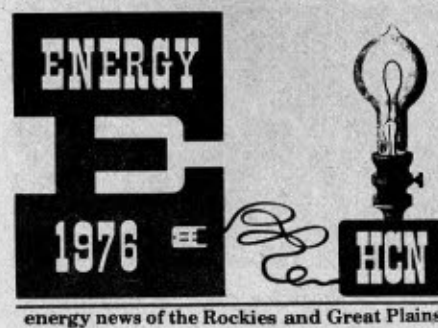
Horton says its not simply a matter of determining if the state laws are at least as stringent as the federal standards and then handing the entire program over to the states. He says Interior also needs to assess the state's ability and willingness to administer the program — and this is why negotiation with each state is necessary.

Among the subjects to be brought up in negotiations are enforcement capability, manpower and funding availability, and willingness of the state to issue permits and inspect mines.

Some of the states may not want all that responsibility, says Horton. "What if a state said, 'We want the federal government to enforce state standards on federal land because we don't have the manpower?'" Horton asked. "We need to know the capacity of each state."

Horton says Interior is willing to sit down with Wyoming "as early as tomorrow" and negotiate a final settlement. He says previous attempts to meet with the state and discuss acceptance of the other half of Wyoming's laws have been boycotted by the state because of its pending lawsuit. If Wyoming wins its lawsuit, Interior would have to accept all of the state's laws without negotiation.

Horton says other states seem more willing to work with the two step process. Interior has set up a meeting to negotiate with Montana officials this month to determine if all of Montana's laws will hold on federal land.



NUKE FOR IDAHO? With the proposed coal-fired Pioneer Power Plant turned down by the Idaho Public Utilities Commission (see HCN, 9-24-76), Gov. Cecil D. Andrus says he sees a nuclear power plant in Idaho's future "to be on line sometime around 1990." Andrus told television station KTVB that a regional nuclear plant is being considered which could service consumers in several states. Idaho Power Co. President James E. Bruce says he has discussed the possibility of a joint nuclear plant with Utah Power and Light Co. Bruce told the *Idaho Statesman* his company is exploring several possible sites both in and outside Idaho for both coal and nuclear generation. He said the utility will probably seek another site within Idaho for a coal-fired plant. The PUC turned down the Pioneer Plant on siting considerations, not need for the plant.

IN SITU OIL SHALE. An interagency task force has been assembled to prepare an environmental impact statement on possible in situ development of oil shale in Utah and Colorado. In situ development involves underground heating of oil shale to produce oil and then pumping the petroleum to the surface. Four tracts of 5,000 acres each are being proposed for development — three near Vernal, Utah and one near Craig, Colo. Only two of the four tracts may be selected for leasing. The EIS will be completed next year.

MODEL INDIAN LEASE. The Navajo's renegotiated lease with El Paso Natural Gas and Consolidation Coal is being hailed by tribal officials as a model settlement, according to *Coal Week*. Under the new lease the companies give the tribe the right to levy taxes, control over reclamation, and veto power over mining plans. The tribe will receive \$5.6 million in bonus royalty payments and \$6.25 per acre for the first seven years. In addition, the tribe will receive 55 cents or eight per cent of the selling price of each ton of coal, whichever is greater. The lease covers 40,286 acres near Burnham, N.M. The Interior Department still must approve its terms.



THE AMAZING BEADWALL. A beadwall is an insulated window. To seal up a house, styrofoam beads are blown between the sheets of a double-glazed window with a vacuum cleaner motor. When not in use the beads are stored in a 55-gallon drum. Beadwall plans and a license to build the patented device are available for \$15 from Zomeworks, Box 712, Albuquerque, N.M. 87103. The model shown here is a part of the Sunshine Company traveling solar exhibit, sponsored by the University of Denver.

Plans for a solar water heater, drum wall, beadwall, dehydrator

Solar energy is easily adapted to small-scale, home-built applications. The August edition of *People and Energy* newsletter lists the following plans and blueprints for solar devices:

—Ecotope Group, a non-profit education and research organization, has put together a six-page instruction sheet for building a solar collector intended for hot water heating. Included are instructions, materials needed, and tools. There is also a diagram of what the collector looks like and how to hook it up with your water system. Available from Ecotope Group, Box 618, Snohomish, Wash. 98290.

—A four-page instruction sheet for assembling hot-water heaters, including in-

loop water heater for both warm and cold climates. Its Bread Box Water Heater Plans (\$2.50) describe a solar water heater which uses the tank as the collector. Its Drum Wall Plans (\$5 for two pages of blueprints) describe the drum wall — a passive heating system which uses 50-gallon drums as part of a south wall. Its Beadwall System Plans and License (\$15 for seven pages of plans) describes a double-glazed system in which styrofoam beads are blown between two layers of glass at night to retain heat. Write to Box 712, Albuquerque, N.M. 87103.

—Solar Survival is a small decentralist group working on a cottage industry scale to promote total solar living concepts. They offer a four-page blueprint for a solar energized food dehydrator and the complete units are also available for \$200. Their address is Cherry Hill Road, Harrisville, N.H. 03450.

—For a further listing of solar plans, send *People and Energy* a self-addressed stamped envelope. The newsletter is published monthly by the Center for Science in the Public Interest, a non-profit research organization working on energy, environmental, consumer, and food issues. Its address is 1757 S St. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20009.



structions, materials, and tools, is available from *Rain Magazine* (2270 NW Irving, Portland, Ore. 97210) for \$1 and a stamped, self-addressed business envelope.

—Zomeworks Corporation offers various solar plans. Its Solar Water Heater Plans (\$5) are two 24 in. by 36 in. pages of blueprints describing how to build a convective

12-High Country News — Oct. 8, 1976

Grizzly dilemma

Keeping the country safe for cows and children

by Sarah Doll

Early settlers of North America had no mixed feelings towards grizzly bears. This species was universally feared, and with good reason. Although the grizzly tended to avoid men, when a chance encounter arose, the human armed only with knife or musket was the underdog. The most powerful animal in the woods, the grizzly represented to early Americans the wilderness elements they had to conquer in order to survive. As firearms developed and tipped the balance of power towards man, brave souls started to seek out and exterminate the grizzly, in the name of making the country safe for cows and children.

They were enormously successful, and today few have seen a grizzly outside a zoo. Outside Alaska, they exist only in a few of the most isolated areas of the country, including Yellowstone National Park in Wyoming, and Glacier National Park and the Bob Marshall Wilderness in Montana. A few people believe the grizzly still exists in southwestern Colorado, but there have been no sightings for years.

Unlike most endangered species today, the grizzly's main problem is not lack of habitat. Much suitable bear habitat presently exists that is devoid of bears. The biggest roadblock to reintroduction is human fear. Many people's knowledge of the bear is limited to movies like *Man in the Wilderness* and the ridiculous *Grizzly*, in which the bear is chief villain.

The grizzly's actual numbers are hard to determine and its habitat needs virtually unknown, so wildlife management officials, who must consider the needs of all life, including man, are in a quandary. (See HCN, 7-30-76.)

One man who knows exactly where he stands with regard to the grizzly is Marty Stouffer, a young filmmaker from Aspen, Colo. His company, Stouffer Productions Ltd., specializes in filming wildlife, and tries to focus public attention on endangered species. Stouffer wants to see the big bear re-established in Colorado. He believes that where a bear can exist, the balance of nature is intact.

In 1973, Stouffer and a friend, David Speer, set up the Endangered Species Restoration Foundation to provide tax-free funds to draw upon in the obtaining and establishment of a female grizzly with cubs in former grizzly range. The area chosen was the area where grizzlies were last seen in the state, the Weminuche Wilderness Area between Durango and Silverton.

At this point proceedings snagged. Stouffer claims that a verbal agreement with Colorado's Division of Wildlife was made to re-establish the grizzly in the state before the foundation was set up. The division, he says, reneged after funds of \$10,000 were made available from the foundation. According to Stouffer, no satisfactory explanation was ever offered. He feels the division bowed to livestock interests. "They don't want to step on the big ranchers' toes," he says.

However, John Torres, non-game supervisor for the division, says the only agreement that was made was to try to contact the federal agencies in control of the land involved, and, if an agreement was made with them, to try to get the Division of Wildlife to endorse such a program. Torres has been working on the idea for years, not only to reintroduce the grizzly, but also other species, such as the wolf. In 1972, two years before he met Stouffer, he appeared

before the state legislature and proposed such a program, only to meet tremendous opposition, especially from ranching interests. Further, Torres denies that Stouffer made \$10,000 available to the division.

Stouffer next decided to try to gain public support for his ideas through a film. Stouffer Productions obtained two grizzly cubs from zoos and hand-raised them as pets to use in the film. The finished product, *The Man Who Loved Bears*, is scheduled for release late this year. It stars Marty Stouffer as a writer who discovers a grizzly in southwestern Colorado and determines to find it a mate. He obtains a female cub from a zoo, raises it, and introduces it to the wild.

Concerning Stouffer's accusations against the Division of Wildlife, John Torres is "almost convinced Marty's doing it for publicity. He wants to capitalize professionally, as a photographer, on the reintroduction of the grizzly." He regrets Stouffer's attitude, because "had his motives been properly oriented, he could have been a big help to us."

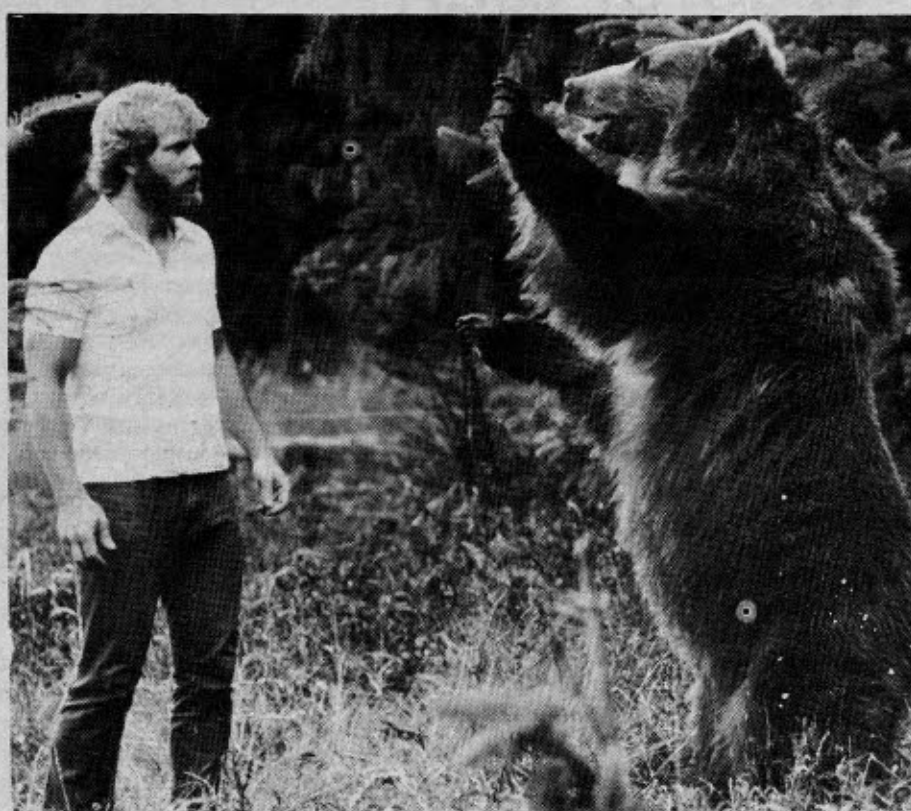
The grizzly problem is enormously complex. Discussing restocking grizzlies in their former ranges in the January, 1976, *Audubon*, nature writer Bil Gilbert writes: "Perhaps they can and should be, but no steps have been taken, largely because local residents and game managers have shown no eagerness to take part in such experiments. Dedicated protectionists may feel this reluctance is reactionary and shortsighted, but they are not the people who have backyards to which grizzlies could be transplanted. Just as we can tolerate only a small number of grizzlies, we can tolerate the animals in only a few places."

More people are using the wilderness, and man-bear encounters are becoming more frequent. Stouffer characterizes the grizzly as "a harmless, peaceful giant, perfectly satisfied to let you alone if you let him alone," but unprovoked attacks are on record.

Cliff Martinka, research biologist at Glacier National Park, says, "I used to think that with prudent management we could largely eliminate bear-man incidents. Now I'm not so sure. I'm beginning to believe the grizzlies have reached the point where they have encountered so many people that it has affected their collective behavior. They may be losing their shyness of man but not losing their aggressiveness. It might be they are becoming behaviorally more like black bears, which now are very bold around people. If grizzlies get as bold as blacks it could be critical because they are altogether a more aggressive and dangerous animal."

Idaho can regulate mining on forest

The Idaho Supreme Court has ruled that the state can regulate mining on federal land in Idaho. The state wanted to require dredge miners in the St. Joe National Forest along a tributary of the St. Joe River to meet state reclamation and bonding requirements. The miners argued they were not subject to state law. Earlier, a state district court refused to grant the state a permanent injunction to stop the mining, ruling that state law does not apply on federal property. The Idaho Supreme Court reversed that decision. Federal courts have not reviewed the situation.



Stouffer Productions photo

The twain shall meet

by Dan Whipple

"Skewered through and through with office pens, and bound hand and foot with red tape." — Charles Dickens, *David Copperfield*

Red tape trips up even the most dedicated lobbyist. A recent column by Jack Anderson gave a frightening example of how not to deal with the federal bureaucracy.

Montana's Sen. Lee Metcalf wanted some fairly innocuous information about utility bills from the commissioner of labor statistics. The material was clearly in the public domain. After repeated telephone calls, Metcalf sent a letter to the commissioner, formally requesting the information. No reply.

A month later, Metcalf sent a complaint, reminding the commissioner of his request. No reply.

Again, two months later, Metcalf sent a letter to then-Labor Secretary Peter Brennan, complaining about the lack of cooperation. Two months after this letter — five months after the original request — Metcalf received a "jumble of figures" that were useless for his purposes.

If Metcalf, duly elected Senator of Montana, can't get simple information from a middle-level bureaucrat, how do you, chairman of the Sweetwater Canyon Jazz Appreciation Society, expect to get through to the Secretary of Interior?

As explained last issue, you don't have to get through to the top to affect a program that affects you. You need only contact the program-oriented office in charge. This isn't difficult, but it takes persistence.

First, call or write to the public affairs office in the agency you are dealing with and request a telephone directory of the personnel at the agency. They probably

won't give it to you, but don't be discouraged. Write to the Government Printing Office and ask for the same thing. You may have to pay two dollars but, if you are serious, this is money well spent.

Most of the offices have names that are specifically designed to impart as little information as possible about what goes on there. They are called things like the Urban Squalor Office or the Office of National Seashore and Lower Upland Minerals. Don't be deterred. Call the Highest Ranking Official's office of the program that sounds even remotely like the one you are interested in.

Then, without identifying yourself, ask whoever answers the phone for the person in the urban squalor office who handles rat control (or whatever). One thing to remember is that the secretary of the Highest Ranking Official will probably answer the phone. Secretaries in the government know absolutely everything worth knowing. If you're friendly with the Highest Ranking Official's secretary, you needn't waste any more time on the Highest Ranking Official.

The reason you shouldn't identify yourself is that most people who work for the government assume that everyone who calls works for the government, too. If they find out that you don't, they may refer you to the Office for Untracking of Public Interest Pests, and you will be "bound hand and foot with red tape" forever after. Take it from me, this is a fate best left to career bureaucrats and not to a sensitive soul like you.

Once you find him, you'll be surprised at how flattered the program-oriented bureaucrat will be by your attention. And since he's the one who does the real work — at least for some parts of your issue — things will go a little more your way.

Good hunting.



Western Roundup

HCN

Ski Yellowstone resort approval urged

A draft environmental impact statement (EIS) on the proposed Ski Yellowstone resort near West Yellowstone (see HCN, 5-23-75) recommends that the development be approved. The EIS says the ski resort would be good for business and recreation in the area. Montana environmentalists have protested the proposed development, partly on the grounds that it would intrude on grizzly bear habitat. Forest Service Planner John Sandmeyer told the Associated Press that the effect on the grizzly is still unknown. The base of the mountain is in the national forest. The Forest Service has scheduled public hearings on the Ski Yellowstone EIS in West Yellowstone on Oct. 19, and in Bozeman on Oct. 21. Copies of the EIS may be obtained by writing U.S. Forest Service, Federal Building, Missoula, Mont. 59801.

Whooper foster parent plan repeated

Four more juvenile whooping cranes have been added to the tiny world population of whoopers by a foster parent program in Idaho. Two years ago, the only wild whoopers left were a small band of 49 birds which summered in Canada and wintered in Texas. Last year, scientists began an experiment of taking "extra" eggs from the Canadian breeding colony (whoopers lay two eggs, but usually only one chick survives) and placing them under foster parent sandhill cranes in Idaho. In 1975, 14 eggs were brought down to Idaho and four young whoopers migrated with their foster parents to a wintering ground in New Mexico. This year, the experiment was repeated with 15 eggs and four new young whoopers are ready to migrate south this month. Last year's foster whoopers didn't all return to their birthplace at Greys Lake National Wildlife Refuge in Idaho as expected. One summered within 20 miles of Greys Lake, another summered near Big Timber, Mont., and a third stayed at the Ouray National Wildlife Refuge near Vernal, Utah. The whereabouts of the fourth 18-month-old whooper is unknown. Scientists hope to establish a second flock of whoopers in the Idaho-New Mexico corridor to help save the species from extinction.

House report attacks Garrison plan

The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's plans for the Garrison Diversion in North Dakota have been attacked by a congressional committee that says the agency is violating the National Environmental Policy Act, an agreement with Canada, and congressional funds authorizations. The House Government Operations Committee says the bureau is buying right-of-ways and constructing a reservoir, which would be needed only if a 1,007,000 acre irrigation project were planned. However, this size of project has repeatedly failed to get congressional funding, according to *The Prairie Ethic*, a publication of a local chapter of the National Audubon Society. The committee also said ongoing construction potentially affects Canada, in violation of the agreement between the U.S. and Canada that such construction would not begin until Canadian concerns are resolved.

A court suit filed by the National Audubon Society is now pending on the project. The society says a comprehensive impact statement is needed instead of the segmented approach being used by the bureau. The society bases its case, in part, upon the recent U.S. Supreme Court decision on the Sierra Club suit on Northern Plains coal development. The decision in that case said a regional comprehensive impact statement is needed when a federal agency develops a proposal that significantly affects the environment. The suit against Garrison was filed in district court in Washington, D.C.

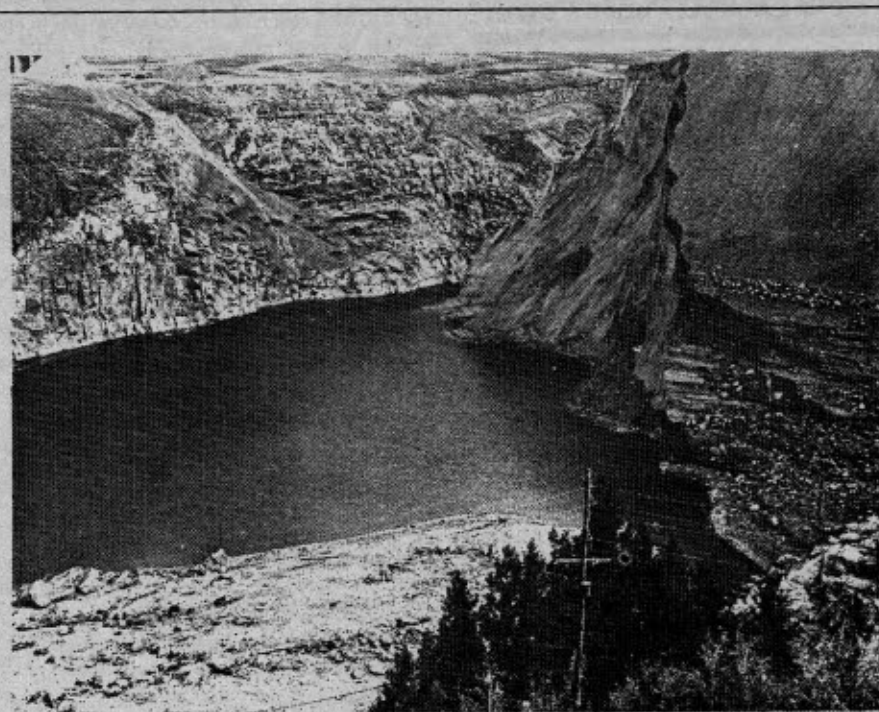
Copies of the congressional report (House Report No. 94-1335) are available from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402 at \$1.70 each.

Teton preserve could halt development

A final report on the Grand Teton National Park Boundary Study calls for limited expansion of the park and creation of a Jackson Hole Scenic Preserve. The preserve would include private and public lands and take in all of Grand Teton National Park, all of the National Elk Refuge, and some of the Bridger-Teton National Forest visible from the valley floor. Agriculture, hunting, and other present activities would be allowed to continue in the preserve, but further development would be greatly restricted. The preserve concept is an attempt to deal with rapid subdividing which is ruining the pastoral scenic qualities of the valley. Under the proposal, an advisory commission with broad representation would be established to oversee management of the preserve. Federal agencies would retain management authority for their lands, but would be advised by the commission. Private land would remain private, but easements or other controls over future development would be acquired.

Idaho: sage grouse must have sage

Idahoans are concerned about the future of the sage grouse in their state but fail to recognize the connection between dwindling acres of sagebrush and dwindling grouse populations. Some of the landowners are attributing the lower populations to hunting pressure and are closing their land to hunters. However, the fish and game department says hunting regulations are designed to allow hunters up to 30% of a year's hatch, and usually they take less. "Sage grouse are not farm birds," the agency says, so enlarging the number of acres in hay and grain mean fewer and fewer grouse.



DAM FAILURE NO ACT OF GOD

The Teton Dam collapse in Idaho was a "man-made disaster" caused by an agency which irresponsibly ignored geologists' warnings, according to a House Government Operations Committee investigation of the disaster. The committee report sharply criticized the Bureau of Reclamation's "compulsion or momentum to continue to build despite danger signals and warnings." As the reservoir was filling for the first time on June 5, the dam gave way, killing 11 people and causing over \$1 billion in damages. "The exact cause is not yet known, but it was certainly not an act of God," said Rep. Leo Ryan (D-Calif.) of the committee. An independent investigative panel of engineers and geologists is still investigating the cause of the collapse. The panel's report is due by the end of the year. Meanwhile, the congressional committee made a number of recommendations to avert similar future disasters. Among the suggestions: inspect all existing dams; review federal agencies which build dams; have independent experts review all new dam sites; require mid-construction re-evaluations of all dam sites; and encourage agency employees to report all safety problems.

Photo of Teton Dam after collapse by Barbara Brown.

Parasite found in mountain stream

Sierra Club skiers in China Meadows in the Uinta Mountains of Utah were infested with a parasite last April. Experts believe the parasite may have passed from sheep into the water. A doctor writing in the Utah Sierra Club chapter newsletter says the infestation with the parasite, *giardia lamblia*, is getting more and more common. He warns hikers to either iodine or boil water whenever there is any possibility of upstream contamination. People infested with the parasite are successfully treated in 90% of all cases.

Judge Kerr blocks EPA poison lawsuit

A federal judge has blocked the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's attempt to review alleged illegal action by the state of Wyoming regarding predator poison. EPA believes the state may have been illegally importing and distributing a federally-banned predator poison — 1080. The federal agency threatened to sue Wyoming to obtain State Agriculture Department records which might indicate if Wyoming officials were importing the poison. The poison is not allowed in interstate commerce because of its high toxicity which has led to poisoning of wildlife species other than the animal it is intended to eliminate — the coyote. U.S. District Court Judge Ewing Kerr approved a state-requested writ of prohibition against EPA on the grounds that the agency was tampering with the jurisdiction of the court before a predator poison lawsuit which is pending has been settled. Wyoming is suing EPA, charging that the agency lacked the authority to ban predator poisons.

Canadians fear copper's water impact

Long touted as the longest unguarded border in the world, the line between Canada and the U.S. is becoming the site of yet another environmental dispute. Conservationists in Canada are concerned about a proposed deep copper-silver mine south of Troy, Mont., polluting the Kootenai River before it flows into British Columbia. Mining officials from the company, ASARCO, say the granite-type rock that is to be mined is relatively clean and stable and so won't cause pollution. However, the British Columbia Wildlife Federation is concerned that mine settling-pond discharges may get into the Kootenai, according to the *Missoulian*. Other environmental disputes flaring at the border include proposed mining in Canada, which may affect the Flathead and the Poplar Rivers flowing into Montana, and the Garrison Diversion, a North Dakota irrigation project, which may pollute water flowing into Canada.

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TAKING CHARGE

A New Look At Public Power

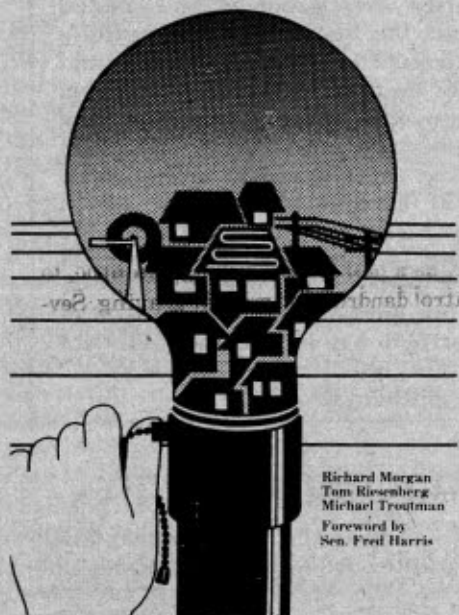
by Richard Morgan, Tom Riesenber, and Michael Troutman, Environmental Action Foundation, 724 Dupont Circle Building, Washington, D.C. 20036. Soft cover, \$2.50. 100 pages.

Review by Marjane Ambler

Public power. At first, it may not seem to be an issue that environmentalists should be concerned with. Yet many crucial environmental battles — plantsiting, air pollution controls, rate structures — are tougher because of who is in charge of the utilities.

Potentially the most effective way to win these battles is by "taking charge." As Edward Barkley of the International Association of Machinists says, "We don't want any Band-Aid solutions. We don't want to regulate the power companies, we want to own them."

The question of growth is key to the difference between private and publicly owned utilities. Public utilities' rates are



Richard Morgan
Tom Riesenber
Michael Troutman
Foreword by
Sen. Fred Harris

governed by the people who use the power. The rates of private utilities, in contrast, are governed by a regulatory process that pegs profits to the utilities' investments — thus encouraging the power companies to build new power plants even if they are not needed.

A ramification of the rate regulations that is important to Western coal development is the fuel adjustment clause. With the clause, private utilities can pass through to their customers — without hearings — their costs if they pay more for transporting coal long distances. Thus, these Eastern utilities have little incentive to use Appalachian coal even when its sulfur content is just as low as Western coal. The publicly owned utilities must answer directly to the customers if higher cost fuel drives rates up.

A basic motive behind groups which push for public power is lowering rates. Nationwide, rates for publicly owned utility districts were lower in 1974 (29% lower for municipals and public utility districts and 10% lower for cooperatives). Lower rates can be a disincentive to energy conservation. However, publicly owned utilities have a more positive attitude toward conservation than the private utilities, which make only token efforts at

conservation communications, according to the authors.

The Federal Energy Administration presented conservation awards to only two utilities in 1975 — both of them municipal electric utilities. Los Angeles Department of Water and Power's campaign succeeded in reducing electricity use by an incredible average of 17%. One reason is that municipal utilities can assure conservation in one of the largest power users: city government.

Public power groups also have more incentive to change their rate structures so that customers aren't rewarded for using more power.

NUCLEAR, ALTERNATIVE ENERGY

Alternative energy enthusiasts often become discouraged when they realize how the private power companies' negative attitude can slow advances of renewable energy sources. While solar energy is viewed as a threat by the private utilities, public power systems have a natural interest in it, the authors point out.

Many of the municipal and co-op power systems are at the mercy of investor owned utilities for their power supplies and would welcome an economical alternative.

The authors tell the inspiring tale of Santa Clara, Calif., which is already committed to the development of solar energy. The city foresees a city-owned solar utility which would finance and install solar heating and cooling systems in new buildings.

In Seattle, Wash., the Seattle City Light municipal utility decided not to participate in a nuclear plant. At local environmentalists' insistence, a thorough study was conducted which indicated that conservation could substitute.

The authors enliven the whole book with case studies of such community successes — and failures. They give specific step by step suggestions for organizing public power campaigns, including a list of consultants which can be relied upon to do such studies as the Seattle study fairly.

WHAT ABOUT TVA, REA?

If you win your campaign for public power, *Taking Charge* advises how to avoid the pitfalls that have turned other public power experiments, such as the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), into such outrageous failures.

The authors acknowledge that public power isn't always the solution to environmental problems — nor is it always the best thing for the people. It looks at TVA, the Bonneville Power Association of the Northwest, and other public power projects that have become villains to the people they service and tells how they went haywire.

TVA is a "black eye for public power" because it is insulated from public input; its boards were organized to prevent the potential problems that grassroots control could bring, authors say.

On the other hand, the people of the Northern Plains are becoming increasingly upset with the Rural Electric Cooperatives — the most pervasive form of public power in the country and an organization which provides best for grassroots influence.

Fortunately, the authors of *Taking Charge* are aware of this changing situation. The solution, as they see it, is to get control of the REA boards. They detail how disgruntled customer-owners in a Vermont community did just that.

Now that public dissatisfaction with private utilities is escalating, perhaps we need to be reminded of former U.S. Gen. George Norris' words in 1937:

"No free people can permanently prosper

or even endure if a necessary element for human happiness or existence must be owned by private monopoly, if that monopoly controls one of the natural resources God has given all his people. Electricity comes from our natural resources. Its economical development requires monopoly; it is a necessity of life, therefore, it should be supplied to our people without a profit to any person or private corporation from its generation, transmission, or distribution."

BROWN BAGGING IT...

A Guide to Fresh Food Cooking in the Wilderness by Jean Nagy, The Marty-Nagy Bookworks, San Francisco, 1976, \$2.50.

Review by Joan Nice

Forget this book, if your goal is to fuel your body for wilderness travel while keeping your pack as small and as light as possible. John Muir would certainly not have had any use for it.

If, however, you have gourmet tendencies, modest hiking plans, and an enormous pack, you may appreciate *Brown Bagging It*.

The book is based on the principle of embellishing dehydrated soups with spices and fresh vegetables. The idea is a good, practical one. Unfortunately, recipes offered in the book are full of things I could not find, could not afford, and would not carry on my back. Among the ingredients I pass off as unreachable are gumbo filé, brandy, garam masala, and kielbasa.

Other suggestions seemed either too heavy or too bulky for anything more than a three or four day trip. Steaks, chicken, carrots, zucchini, turnips, mushrooms, hot chilis, chard, and fresh fruit are all part of the shopping list if you wish to "brown bag it" à la Jean Nagy.

"The secret to keeping your vegetables fresh is brown paper bags. Brown bags allow evaporation of moisture, are absorptive, are fairly long-lasting, act as a preservative for fruits and vegetables, and when worn out can be used as fire starters," Nagy says. "Plastic, because it retains and contains moisture, begins to rapidly break down unrefrigerated food."

The pocket-sized book, which is cleverly

made of brown paper, looks simple and rustic. Its recipes are not, however.

Here's a sample:

THE JAPANESE-POLISH AFFAIR

1 pkg. Top Ramen pork base soup (with noodles)
1 pkg. Top Ramen soy bean soup (without the noodles)
3 shallots, chopped
4 mushrooms, chopped
1 medium head broccoli, slivered
1 Kielbasa (Polish sausage) cut in 1-inch pieces
½ piece ginger root, chopped
1 tsp. black mustard seeds
salt and pepper to taste

Heat enough water for one soup and add mixes, reserving noodles. Sauté separately shallots, mushrooms, sausage, and broccoli, adding to soup as sautéing is completed. Sauté ginger root and mustard seeds just until seeds begin to "pop." Add to soup. "Clean" pan with a little soup liquid, water or wine, adding to pot. Adjust seasonings and cook 20-30 minutes. About 10 minutes before soup is done, add one package of noodles.

Eavesdropper

environmental news from around the world

MINING PRAISED. "Minerals were put in the earth for the benefit of people" and miners "liberate" this gift, J. Allen Overton told a recent American Mining Congress convention. Overton, president of the mining congress, said the nation's "horn of plenty begins with a hole in the ground."

MERCURY COMPROMISE. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has decided against banning all pesticides containing mercury, according to a *Wall Street Journal* report. EPA says it has reached an agreement with manufacturers where some mercury pesticides would be phased out and others would be reintroduced under new safeguards set by the agency. Pesticides with excessive concentrations of mercury have been linked to nervous system disorders.

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The High Country News Research Fund

So far this year, contributors to the HCN Research Fund have paid for 34 stories which have appeared in *HCN*. That's two stories per issue. The fund pays for photographs, some writers' travel expenses and freelance writing. Some of this year's material includes: Jeffrey City, by Mary Trigg; Butterflies, by Rob Pudim; Never Summer Mountains, by Mark Peterson; Solar energy in Colorado, by Joan Nice. Contribute to the research fund and be instrumental in improving the content of your newspaper.

Send your tax-deductible donation to "Wyoming Environmental Institute — HCN Research Fund," P.O. Box 2497, Jackson, Wyo. 83001. (Please make out checks to "Wyoming Environmental Institute — HCN Research Fund." Thank you.)



HCN Bulletin Board



LOONEY LIMERICKS

by Zane E. Cology

There once was a man from the city
Who watered to make his lawn pretty
'Twas already green,
It's now submarine.
And the stream's gone — ain't it a pity?

SOLAR ENERGY PUBLICATION

The Alternative Energy Institute has released its introductory issue of "Solar Utilization News." SUN is a monthly newspaper covering recent developments in solar projects, patents, publications, and products. Subscriptions are available at \$8 for individuals and \$15 for corporate and library subscribers by writing to The Alternative Energy Institute, P.O. Box 3100, Estes Park, Colo. 80517.

High Country News is out to

Drum up business for our business.

To increase the number of advertisers in the paper, High Country News is offering advertising space in the form of a Service Directory. A one column, one inch ad costs \$15 for six issues in the Service Directory. The same ad would regularly cost \$27. Write HCN, Box K, Lander, Wyo. 82520 for details.



Photo by Don Domenick, Colorado Game, Fish and Parks Division.

FAR-OUT INSTRUCTORS

The University of the Wilderness is seeking "far-out" instructors experienced in ski-touring and snow camping, with a general knowledge of the natural environment and environmental issues. Positions are available for both its remote Wyoming ranch facility and its Homestead Campus near Vail, Colo. Applicants are asked to send a resume to: University of the Wilderness, 29952 Dorothy Rd., Evergreen, Colo. 80439.

WIND ENERGY MEETING

The American Wind Energy Association has chosen Warren, Vt., as the site for its national meeting on Oct. 21-24. The meeting will feature wind power experts and working wind energy systems. The cost for the four-day meeting is \$30. If interested, contact the American Wind Energy Association, 12949 Glastonbury, Detroit, Mich. 48223.

POWER PLANT PANEL

The Laramie River Station project near Wheatland, Wyo., will be the topic of a panel discussion to be held in the Hitching Post Inn at Cheyenne, Wyo., from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., on Saturday, Oct. 16. Following presentations by the panelists, the program will be open to questions and answers. For more information contact: Dianne Kirellis, Rocky Mountain Center on Environment, 1115 Grant St., Denver, Colo. 80203.

YAMPA AND GREEN WORKSHOP

The public is invited to participate in evaluating various alternatives for segments of the Yampa and Green Rivers being considered for protection under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. A workshop will be held to discuss these proposals at Arvada West Senior High School in Arvada, Colo., near Denver on Oct. 13 at 7:30 p.m.

GROUP SEEKS INTERNS

The Northern Rockies Action Group (NRAG) will be starting an internship program designed to improve an individual's skills in communications and media, fund raising, community organizing and citizen group management. Interns will work directly with NRAG staff on environmental and social justice issues. Salary will be \$300 per month and each assignment will last six months. For more information write: Northern Rockies Action Group, Number Nine Placer Street, Helena, Mont. 59601.

SUN SIGN SUBSCRIBER MESSAGE



If you have a "10-76" after your address label on this paper, it means that your subscription expires in October and you need to send us another \$10. It also means that we suspect you are a Libra Subscriber.

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Classifieds

Service Directory. Starting with its issue of October 22, High Country News will offer advertising space in the form of a service directory. For details, write HCN, Box K, Lander, Wyo. 82520.

SOLAR UTILIZATION NEWS is THE solar newspaper. Monthly; send 13 cent stamp for sample. Alternate Energy Institute, Box 3100, Estes Park, CO 80517.

Oct. 8, 1976 — High Country News-15

DISTAFF CORNER

by Myra Connell

In a previous column I mentioned a rumor that the big sagebrush had been imported into Wyoming with the Texas trail drives. This surprising remark inspired an interesting research in an attempt to determine its truth.

I found no positive evidence that big sage grew in Wyoming prior to the time of the trail drives. But in the opinion of Bureau of Land Management personnel whom I questioned, the species grew naturally here from time immemorial. The man to whom I talked mentioned certain tintype photographs from very early days showing big sage in the vicinity of Independence Rock. He said also that big sage is quite evident in pictures taken by the famous photographer William Henry Jackson who worked extensively in Wyoming and other Western states.

It seems reasonable to conclude that the big sagebrush is native to our area and adjoining states since its seeds were used by Indians and its leaves as medicine, according to Caxton's Encyclopedia. Elijah Nicholas Wilson, writing in *The White Indian Boy* (World Book Co., N.Y., c1919, 1937) tells of the use of sagebrush tea, made by boiling the leaves as a cure for a dog bite. It took the swelling away; however the swelling came back later, was again treated with the tea, but was finally healed by application of entrails of sagehen.

Early white pioneers, having few physicians and little orthodox medication, probably learned from the Indians that sagebrush has curative qualities.

I can recall my own family using sagebrush tea as a spring tonic and blood thinner, as a hair rinse following shampoo, to control dandruff and prevent graying. Several people of long experience in the West and as far east as Iowa, can remember various uses of sage tea.

Handfuls of the leaves have been used as a cure for hemorrhoids. One daughter of pioneers related to me a remarkable cure for pyorrhea which she herself experienced by rinsing her mouth several times a day with sage tea. The tea was drunk as a remedy for intestinal worms; a cloth dipped in it was applied to infected wounds, cuts, bruises and snake bites. In *Desert Plants and People* by Sam Hicks many of these uses are vouched for. He adds information about sage's value for washing and healing wire cuts on horses. The brew is very bitter and unpalatable if too strong — this I can vouch for myself.

Blackfoot Indians used the boiled roots or tops of sweet sage, also called "old man" or "prairie sage" to treat fever and it was chewed for indigestion. (McClintock, Walter, *Old North Trail*).

Sagebrush belongs to the genus *Artemisia*, one species of which, called by the ugly name of "mugwort," has been grown by Europeans for generations for use as seasoning and medicine. Another species, the widely known wormwood, is a famous home remedy. It was used medicinally in Egypt as early as 1600 B.C.

In *Green Medicine, the Search for Plants that Heal*, Margaret Kreig tells of the "golden drug of Pakistan" discovered by Prof. N.A. Quazilbash. It was extracted from *Artemisia kurramenis*, a kind of wormwood known as an important source of santonin, a medicine used against the intestinal parasites that plague the populations of the tropics.

One of the ingredients of the popular liniment Absorbine Jr. is wormwood. Take a good sniff of it and see if you aren't reminded of sagebrush after rain.

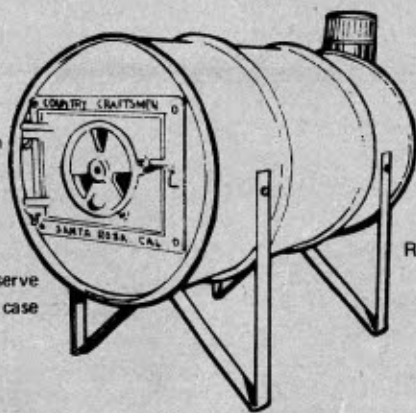
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Dan Lechefskey in Idaho

Organizing wilderness sympathizers

Article and photo
by Wilder Bellamy

On a hot, sweltering day in downtown Boise, especially a Friday afternoon, most wilderness lovers would be seriously tempted to head for the Idaho woods. But for Dan Lechefskey, it's just another business day.

The Idaho field representative of the Wilderness Society was answering calls in the cramped basement office he shares with the Idaho Conservation League. The office is in a renovated old house in Boise's government neighborhood — lawyers on the floors upstairs and state and county offices in the blocks nearby.

FORESTS MORE THAN FARMS

The 26-year-old Lechefskey came to Boise a year ago, after several months of preparation at the society's office in Denver. Born in the Allegheny Mountains in north central Pennsylvania, he studied forestry at Syracuse University in New York and did graduate research on aerial photography and range management in Nevada. He has also worked as a ranger in Wyoming's Devil's Tower area, near the Black Hills.

Gaining his forestry background in New York made a lot of difference in Lechefskey's outlook.

"Syracuse's program doesn't employ forests strictly as tree farms," Lechefskey says. "It's a more objective kind of land management program, emphasizing recreation and wildlife" in managing New England's small but thickly wooded areas. "The recent history of national forests has tended toward increased logging and increased road-building."

On the day of our interview, logging, mountains, and recreation were very much on Lechefskey's mind. Boise Cascade had just announced the closure of a lumber mill near the mountain town of McCall, Idaho. Company officials had claimed that the mill was closing because the Forest Service was reducing the annual timber harvest yield allowed in Payette National Forest. Lechefskey had countered by laying out some economic reasons for the mill's closing, in an interview with the *Idaho Statesman*.

"The rumor has been common in McCall for many years that the mill was going to close," he told the *Statesman*. "The timber industry finds itself in a good position to come out and blame the environmentalists for something the industry was going to do anyway."

25,000 MILES THIS YEAR

traveling the vast distances between Idaho's cities.

"I put on about 25,000 miles in the last year in the car," not counting additional bus or plane travel, he says. The three-hour trip from Lavery's Corners, his home town,

If he were a lobbyist, Lechefskey's Boise location would put him in the right spot to



Dan Lechefskey

influence state and local government. But as a publicist, he spends most of his time researching, preparing pamphlets and presentations, attending workshops — and to Syracuse University used to be the limit for this farm-raised Easterner, until his Nevada work put distances into more of a Western perspective.

Nevada also broke him in to the sagebrush and dry country which makes up a fair portion of the open land in Southern Idaho. Though he interrupted a master's degree project to work for the Wilderness Society, he feels that the graduate work taught him a scientific approach to wilderness problems.

IDAHO'S TOMORROW

Off the job, Lechefskey is relaxed and soci-

able. He enjoys open spaces, bicycling, reading, and day hiking, and he has traveled over most of the inland West and worked in range and woods. "I've liked

The movement is the volunteers — this is true everywhere.

everywhere I've lived, including Pennsylvania and New York," he says. But he has no intention of ever moving back East.

On the job, Lechefskey plays down his own role as an organizer and publicist, saying that the volunteers across the state he contacts and corresponds with do the real work in Idaho's conservation movement.

"The movement is the volunteers — this is true everywhere," he says. "They write the letters, do much of the research, gather facts, do the typings and mailings."

As an indicator of general opinion in Idaho, the recent government-sponsored "Idaho's Tomorrow" poll revealed that most state residents favor conservation and retaining wild land, as well as keeping Idaho predominantly agricultural.

Lechefskey says that this popular sympathy has made his job easier in informing the public on wilderness issues, but he feels this sentiment is not reflected, in general, in the state legislature.

MAYBE NEXT YEAR

Among the volunteer conservationists in Idaho, Lechefskey has worked with the Hell's Canyon Preservation Council, the

moose, mountain goats, and fish, is located along the Salmon River Canyon and includes Gospel Peak and Buffalo Hump.

Lechefskey jokes about seriously intending to head out on a long trip through some of the wilderness areas discussed in all the books and pamphlets stacked up in his office — when he has time. "Someday I'll get out on a long hike, maybe next year," he smiled as he returned to work.

River of No Return Wilderness Council, and citizens working to preserve the White Cloud Peaks and Sawtooth Wilderness Areas.

Lechefskey himself has been focusing work on the Gospel Hump area, around 450,000 acres of open land in Nez Perce and Payette National Forests facing possible timber development. The area, rich in

The recent history of national forests has tended toward increased logging and increased road-building.



Dear Friends,

Every now and then HCN steps into politics. We try to lend editorial support when we feel fairly sure that a candidate or an issue make a positive difference for the West.

Unfortunately, it's not something we feel confident about anymore. It does not make our hearts swell with hope. We admit it; we are idealists, perhaps destined for some disappointments.

Most candidates try to sound like idealists, but most behave like pragmatists. We've seen issues used as ladders to election success and then pushed aside. And issues — not parties, personalities or style — are all-important to us.

We have been disappointed to see what two years ago was hailed as a promising, new, environmentally-inclined congress fail in what was perhaps its most important mission — to devise an energy policy for this country. We've been disappointed

by "environmental candidates," who later become models of what they think the masses want, abandoning the issues that concerned them before they entered high-stakes politics. We have been disappointed with the hesitancy of some of the new Western governors, who promised us they could provide a strong, united front in the face of threatening energy development.

Like many other people, we still harbor some high hopes for political solutions and we ask for the best from our representatives. And as a newspaper, we still feel we should enter into the fray whenever we feel we can offer information or special insight. After all, even pragmatic politicians will shift a little to meet the idealism of their constituency. So we continue to work at making them meet our expectations.

A number of people have asked us how HCN stands on the presidential campaign. We have included in this issue an article

which compares Ford and Carter on environmental issues. But we are making no endorsements this time because we have no special insight, just hopes for change.

Carter clearly comes out on top when measured by the environmentalists' yardstick. It would be nice if he is also the good, capable man that our country needs at this time. But we do not know that. All we know is that Carter has an understanding of our feelings about environmental problems — and that is to his credit.

After providing you with some facts about one aspect of the two men's records, we are leaving the toughest part of the decision up to you. We have no inside scoop on their characters, leadership abilities, or administrative talents. We've all seen the same TV broadcasts, read the same articles in national magazines and newspapers. It's a personal decision. It's up to you.

—the editors



Idaho's Hawaii

wild desert rivers.

1

Congress adjourns

we won a few.

1

Two Forks

water feeds growth

5

Ford v. Carter

untelevised debate

6

Water woes

boomtown growth pains.

6

Zwinger drawings

a taste of the tundra.

8