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Conservationists give Utah delegation a low rating

by Joan Nice

Dick Carter is gaining a reputation among Utah environmentalists as a minor miracle worker. The reason? He successfully led the effort to convince the state's four-man congressional delegation to vote for the Endangered American Wilderness Act.

Since the bill passed both Houses last fall by an overwhelming margin, Carter's work as a representative of the Wilderness Society might not seem earth-shaking outside of Utah. But to environmentalists in the state, the campaign represents a breakthrough. Utah environmentalists consider

themselves practically without representation in Congress. Their senators, Jake Garn (R) and Orrin Hatch (R), and two congressmen, Gunn McKay (D) and Dan Marriott (R), consistently thwart their efforts.

"In Utah people who are concerned over the environment have no congressmen," a reader wrote to HCN last year. "I tried once to write to one of Utah's elected congressional 'representatives' on an environmental matter and received such a mess of irrational invective that I don't care to repeat that process."

Garn received a three percent rating from the League of Conservation Voters for

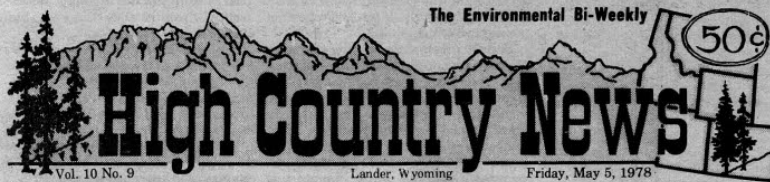
his environmental votes in 1975-76. Marriott earned 15 percent for his votes in 1977. McKay has a 27 percent average over the past seven years. Hatch hasn't been rated by LCV yet, but he is expected to fall in the footsteps of his colleagues.

"Utah's voting record is very consistent — consistently against the environment," says one Utahn.

The representatives themselves don't see it exactly that way. A member of Garn's staff says, "Senator Garn makes the standard disclaimers. He's for balance." Hatch is "basically concerned about the environment, but not a preservationist," says an

aide. Marriott is for "good multiple use." McKay has a "bone to pick" not with environment, but with (continued on page 6)

SEN. ORRIN HATCH, enthusiastically backed by right-wing elements of the Republican Party.



Vol. 10 No. 9

Lander, Wyoming

Friday, May 5, 1978

Environmentalists, backlash, and the 'New Right'

by Dan Whipple

Congressman Morris Udall, who ran a strong campaign for President in 1976, is worried about his re-election to the U.S. House of Representatives. The Arizona Democrat's campaign literature reads, "I am paying a heavy political penalty for my efforts on behalf of a sound policy on energy and environment." He says that right wing groups "are soliciting funds all over the country... in an effort to end my public career next fall."

Udall is one of the best known environmental advocates in Congress. He has been in the forefront of many crucial environ-

mental fights, including the federal strip mine bill and the bill to protect Alaska's wild lands. This "liberal" stance on the environment and other issues has made him a target of the "New Right."

In recent months, magazines and newspapers have featured stories with headlines like "Is America Turning Right?" The apparent shift in the national mood, along with tough environmental laws and successful court actions to enforce them, has given rise to talk of "environmental backlash."

The dictionary defines backlash as "a strong or violent reaction, as to some social change, often provoked by fear or prejudice." Some politicians contend that there is a growing "strong reaction" to the environmental gains of the last decade, particularly because they say environmental controls are having an adverse impact on jobs and the economy.

U.S. Sen. Malcolm Wallop (R-Wyo.) told HCN, "Potential for environmental backlash is high. There are pockets of it already. I've seen it from steelworkers, who believe that environmental controls are costing their jobs. When you get people out of work, the demands on industry (to keep people employed) are in excess of the demands on communities for, say, water pollution control."

The attack on Udall in his home district is seen by some as evidence that this potential backlash is rapidly becoming a reality. In response to political pressure from home, Udall has backed down on his proposed reform of the 1872 Mining Law, a major objective for environmentalists. His sponsorship of the legislation had angered the operators of small copper mines in Arizona, who then organized a recall

movement against him. However, the petitions for recall were never filed.

A Udall staffer denies that Udall's reversal on the mining law reform was the result of flagging enthusiasm for environmental issues, however. Bob Neuman, a Udall staff member on the House Interior Committee, says, "He changed his position principally because there are 8,000 unemployed copper workers in Arizona. They viewed the bill as a direct attack on them,

even though it wasn't. So, he withdrew his bill."

Udall's support of the Alaska National Interest Lands legislation, which would set aside about 100 million acres of lands and protect it in its natural state, has also brought him stiff opposition. Neuman says, "The identifiable groups that are opposing him are mostly in Alaska. The timber and mineral interests are behind it. And a

(continued on page 4)



Mountain States News Service photo
REP. MORRIS UDALL'S liberal voting record has brought him stiff opposition from conservatives. His campaign literature indicates that he is "running scared."

MO: GOP thinks he's ripe for defeat

"I am paying a heavy political penalty for my efforts on behalf of a sound policy on energy and the environment—and for some of the positions I took during the Presidential campaign two years ago. There is a disturbing turn to the right in many places, and my home state is no exception. Shril critics are not only asserting that my Presidential campaign demonstrated that I am 'out of step' with my District, they are soliciting funds all over the country through rightwing groups in an effort to end my public career next fall."

—Congressman Morris K. Udall

Republican unity, defeat of Udall stressed at dinner here

By THOM WALKER
The Republican Party in the House of Representatives is expected to vote on June 15 to remove the House of Representatives from the office of June 15.

Miners square off with Mo

By THOM WALKER
The House of Representatives is expected to vote on June 15 to remove the House of Representatives from the office of June 15.

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HCN
Letters

PROVOCATIVE

Dear HCN,

Just finished reading your lead article on insulation (HCN April 21, 1978). Excellent, timely, and provocative, and your comments on it in the "Dear Friends" section hit a number of the most prominent environmental blindspots.

Can't begin to tell you what a fine job I feel that you do; in some ways, you tie together many people whose only point of contact is a thorough reading of each issue. That's an important service.

James R. Udall
 Denver, Colo.

BURGEONING INSULATION DEBATE

Editor,

Joan Nice, Dede Feldman and HCN are to be commended for their excellent coverage of the burgeoning debate over insulation as an energy conservation measure (HCN, April 21). All in all, this was the best issue you have put out in a year. Let's have more of the same.

Knowledge is a dynamic media. One can only be expected to do one's best and move on when that proves inadequate. You're doing better than most if you can recognize the time to reassess what you have done before. Keep on.

Michael S. Hamilton
 Ft. Collins, Colo.

TRIBUTE TO ETTER

Dear HCN,

I would like to thank Bruce Hamilton for his beautiful tribute to Alfred Etter.

During his years at the Morton Arboretum, Etter's teachings and writings have been a joy and inspiration to hun-

dreds of people in the Chicagoland area. We will miss him.

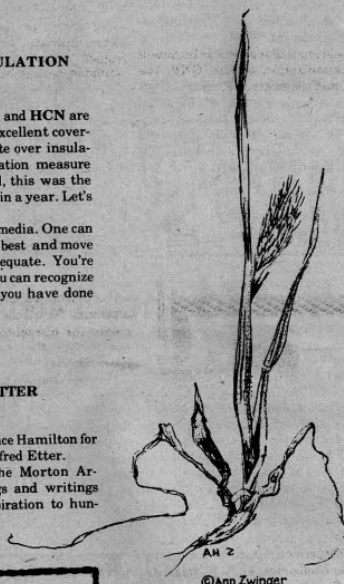
Dick Wilson
 Des Plaines, Ill.

DU NOIR

Dear High Country News,

I want to commend you on Richard Murphy's article and photographs on the DuNoir Wilderness area (proposed) in your March 24 issue. Like you, I am opposed to the Forest Service opening up a major portion of this scenic and valuable wildlife area to clearcutting by the timber companies. The major portion of it should definitely be set aside for wilderness designation. I have written to the Forest Service at Cody about this and sent photographs of a visit I made to this area in September 1970. I hope others have or will be doing the same. Keep up the good work.

Burton W. Marston
 Laramie, Wyo.



©Ann Zwinger

Headache?

Have you ever seen the orderly array of tablets in a full tin of aspirin? Notice how disheveled the pills get when the tin is half full. What happens to the tin when it's empty?

For the most part, Western resources are somewhat akin to the half-empty tin. They are in disarray. They're askew. They're taking care of a lot of peoples' energy headaches. But the aspirin is half gone and a new problem is raising its ugly head. What is the West going to do when it's empty?

To help monitor this and other stories of the West, subscribe to High Country News. The news stories keep track of the developing ailments and the editorial page offers analysis and remedies. Subscriptions are \$12 for one year (25 issues).

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 Still not convinced? Ask for a sample copy.

Western Watch

High Country News hopes you are enjoying the Western Watch on Washington series which is supported by the HCN Research Fund. The Utah segment appears in this issue.

Other stories in this issue supported by fund monies include Environmental Backlash and Environmental Movies.

Donate to the fund today, won't you? Donations are tax-deductible.

Make out checks to Wyoming Environmental Institute—HCN Research Fund and send to: WEI, P.O. Box 2497, Jackson, Wyoming 83001. Thank you. Enclosed is a donation to the HCN Research

Fund from:

name _____
 address _____
 city _____
 state _____ zip _____

FARFETCHED?

Dear HCN,

I want to share some random thoughts about a recent public meeting in Casper, which the Bureau of Land Management held to discuss wilderness review procedures.

The meeting was supposed to focus on proposed procedures—not philosophy. Nevertheless, several members of the oil and gas community recited several hackneyed anti-wilderness, federal takeover statements.

Now, I know that there are many oil and gas folks who read this paper, and even a few who support wilderness, but these vocal "bad-apples" seriously made me wonder if the oil and gas industry could give one whit for preserving any of Wyoming.

The BLM wilderness review is a different ball game from RARE II (the Forest Service's Roadless Area Review and Evaluation). In contrast to the large tracts of undisturbed country inventoried by RARE II, there are so many road scars (thanks largely to the mining industry) and other developments, that few of our desert, prairie, and canyon areas managed by the BLM will qualify for wilderness designation. Frankly, there won't be that much land to fight over.

Several people at the meeting expressed the need for unrestrained mineral exploration. Even the desire to maintain our "national strength" entered into the discussions. I view the strength of our nation in many ways—certainly our strength need not be measured by the millions of gallons of oil we squander each day. Strength can be measured by our success in protecting our heritage and assuring the biological health of our land base.

We desperately need to preserve the few "living museums" out there in the desert.

before it's too late. Don't we want to remember what Wyoming used to be like?

Friends, picture this: ten years from now your son or daughter comes to you after reading about the Red Desert and asks, "Can we go to the desert this weekend?"

A tear comes to your eye when you say, "No... we better not... but I do have some slides I can show you."

Bewildered, your child tries once more. "But... why can't we see the desert for ourselves?"

Your reply echoes an old song by John Prine about "Paradise." "I'm really sorry... but they shipped the last ton of the desert to a nuclear power plant in Dallas."

Farfetched? Maybe—but maybe not.

Bart Koehler
 The Wilderness Society
 Cheyenne, Wyo.

TUCKED AWAY?

Dear HCN,

We might save more forest if we built our houses of other material than wood.

In about 1951, Warbler Day School on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota built the day school of rammed earth. I believe other dwellings were built of it for Indian homes.

Some time later I spoke to a man at Haskell Institute in Lawrence, Kan. He said they had a machine that made blocks of a mixture of any kind of dirt and an amount of cement. A blast from a fire hose did not disintegrate the block.

I am sure all this information is tucked away in some government file. It would be interesting to know how the rammed earth has stood up.

Mrs. E. A. Kennard
 Reno, Nev.

HIGH COUNTRY

By Tom Bell

The tinkle of rain on the roof filters through to where I sit. Grey clouds hang low, but the light is strong. Amid the alchemy of sunlight, rain, and warmth, green grass carpets every slope and vale.

Tomorrow, or the day after, the sun may be shining brightly. In all the miracles and mysteries of the universe, there is no surer thing than that the sun will rise and set on the morrow. And should there be no sun in the heavens, then it is certain there will be no life on earth in a matter of time.

Most folks take the sun for granted. That may change in the near future. As the world's population grows and conventional sources of energy are depleted, all the various forms of sun energy will take on new significance.

Sun Day, May 3, may mark a turning point. That day will have come and gone when this reaches print. But it is hoped the day will bring a new level of national awareness to our energy problems.

We have precious little time left to prepare ourselves for the jolt when the bottom of the barrel of crude oil is reached. It is already in sight. As U.S. News & World Report (May 1, 1978) points out in an energy analysis, "in recent months, one study after another has made some somber predictions of coming disaster, barring effective measures to curb America's appetite for oil and a switch to more plentiful sources of energy."

"By the middle or late 1980s, these studies conclude, world demand for oil will outrun supply, and prices will soar as na-

tions compete for dwindling supplies of petroleum."

At that rate, we may have 10 years to make some mighty conversions to other sources of energy, make a mighty effort at energy conservation, and still fall short.

There are hopeful signs. Residents of Burlington, Vt., recently voted in a \$65 million bond issue to build two wood-fired power plants. One will supply heat and the other electricity. They will burn wood chips and other locally available materials.

In eastern Oregon, the U.S. Forest Service said the Wallows-Whitman Forest could provide a 25-year supply of wood products unusable for any other purpose.

Solar Age magazine reports Sears, Roebuck and Company may soon be offering off-the-shelf solar hardware and equipment. The Sears catalog may display domestic water-heating equipment, solar space heating systems, and accessory equipment.

President Jimmy Carter is expected to announce stepped up solar energy research, possibly on his visit to the Solar Energy Research Institute in Colorado on Sun Day. That research plus government investment in solar hardware would give a big boost to the coming solar era.

But it is the vision and innovation of a myriad of backyard solar tinkers that has offered the most hope so far. Among all those tinkers are probably another Edison and another Henry Ford.

Let us hope so, for without such genius civilization may be heading into another Dark Ages. And with the sun still overhead.

No discernible commercial, sporting, educational value?

May 5, 1978 — High Country News-3

Creepy crawlies: a lesson in humility

by Philip White

Mark Twain argued against the proposition that the world was made for man. He suggested that the jury was still out. He compared man's part in the history of the earth to the top skin of paint on the ball atop the Eiffel Tower.

However, the array of monied manipulators who strut and swagger across

this little planet have no doubts: the world was made for man and man is invincible. This belief underlies a barrage of editorial fire that has recently been directed at the Endangered Species Act of 1973, which is up for Congressional reauthorization this spring.

The critics claim that the act was intended to protect only the big stuff, like bald eagles and whooping cranes, and that

the Interior Department has subverted it by classifying all manner of snails, snapdragons, and shiners as endangered species and thereby halting suburbs, power plants, dams, and stream channeling projects everywhere.

The Casper (Wyo.) Star-Tribune, in an editorial on April 24, listed several examples where the act's protection of creepy crawlies had allegedly stopped man's economic growth. The paper noted that two minnows had stymied "growth and development in Birmingham, Ala.," and that "neither (fish) has any discernible commercial, sporting, educational, or scientific value."

Further, the editors say, unless the act is amended to restrict the definition of an endangered species and to protect economic growth, "man himself could join the endangered species list."

We would argue that precisely because of man's canonization of the GNP, the kilovolt, and the infernal combustion engine, we are already an endangered species. For too long, our societal interpreters have praised population and economic growth, ignoring the spawn of their shallow values: alcoholism, child abuse, divorces, suicide, cancer and

cardio-vascular disease, pervasive depression and violence, all growing right in step.

A truthful assessment of the Endangered Species Act's effects would show that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has applied the law slowly and cautiously (at a snail's pace, shall we say), and that nearly every conflict has been resolved with minor modifications of development plans.

That, however, is only one of several superficial reasons for supporting the act. The most cogent arguments in its favor consider the place of *Homo sapiens* in the natural scheme. Too often in our history, when we needed to devoid ourselves of such inconveniences as wise and frugal resource use, we took milk of amnesia. We thought ourselves king.

The Endangered Species Act is valuable because it speaks a lesson of humility to us today when we, like Snoopy, have allowed our egotism (or is it simply ignorance) to obfuscate our awareness of our own essence. In a "Peanuts" strip in April, Sally asked Snoopy for help with her school report on animals. "How can I help?" Snoopy replied. "I don't know any animals."

Human beings have forgotten that we are omnivorous, terrestrial bipeds, nearly naked, and absolutely dependent upon the oxygen-producing algae of the ocean and the photosynthesis of plants. We laugh with Ozymandias at the idea of a three-inch fish stopping a hundred-million-dollar dam. What could be more inconvenient? We live in an age when New York Life can casually say, "We guarantee tomorrow today."

Sooner or later, our society will come squarely before some inescapable natural laws: that the earth's resources are not infinite; that our technology cannot prescribe a panacea for all the mighty problems we create for ourselves through rampant materialism; that we have no divine dispensation from following the dinosaurs into extinction.

I suspect that the basic, though subliminal, reason for passage of the Endangered Species Act was not so we could point to the whooping crane and say, "look, how beneficent we are," but rather because even hermit man, choking on his own avarice and arrogance, knows intuitively that the death of any creature, be it diatom or protozoan or grizzly bear, portends our own gasping death.

The health of that practically unknown, myriad, microscopic empire in the rivers, the soils, and the seas is much more critical to our survival than that of the larger, visible species. The demise of the big ones is just a signal to us that the fuse is about to blow.

In an evolutionary sense, the Endangered Species Act may be the most emergent concept ever enacted as law by the human mind. It causes us to make some hard choices while there may still be time.

Will it be food or freeways, air or automobiles, water or watts?

The jury is still out.

OZYMANDIAS

I met a traveller from an antique land
Who said: Two vast and trunkless legs of stone
Stand in the desert . . . Near them, on the sand,
Half sunk, a shattered visage lies, whose frown,
And wrinkled lip, and sneer of cold command,
Tell that its sculptor well those passions read
Which yet survive, stamped on these lifeless things,
The hand that mocked them, and the heart that fed:
And on the pedestal these words appear:

'My name is Ozymandias, king of kings:
Look on my works, ye Mighty, and despair!
Nothing beside remains. Round the decay
Of that colossal wreck, boundless and bare
The lone and level sands stretch far away.'

—Percy Bysshe Shelley, 1817

Question isn't clean air v. dirty coal

Once again the nation is being told that low sulfur coal will magically allow us to generate power while keeping the air clean. The Environmental Protection Agency is considering a regulation that would require utilities to clean up 90 percent of the sulfur dioxide from high sulfur coal but only 50 percent from low sulfur coal (see story on page 10).

We thought this question had been settled long ago. When President Jimmy Carter announced his energy plan, he said that the nation would be converting to coal — but that "the best available control technology would be used in all new coal fired plants including those that burn low sulfur coal" (emphasis added). Whenever the EPA or the Federal Energy Administration discussed the impacts of Carter's massive conversion to coal they were assuming 90 percent control of sulfur dioxide.

But now it seems the utilities are elbowing their way into the considerations once again and insisting that they can't afford

all this cleaning up. The utilities are being supported by a couple of Western senators, Malcolm Wallop (R-Wyo.) and Pete Domenici (R-N.M.), who are afraid that the nation is going to lose interest in Western coal unless special concessions are made.

For Wallop it boils down to a question of "dirty coal and clean air." While downplaying the environmental effects of requiring only 50 percent cleanup of Western coal, he whines that the 90 percent requirement would "eliminate the incentive to use cleaner, low sulfur fuels. This," he says, "will almost certainly result in more total emissions than if some credit were given for using low sulfur coals."

Aside from the fact that we find it very distressing that Wyoming environmentalists' former friend is looking out for the strip miners, his arguments are very shaky.

Low sulfur Western coal is not necessarily a clean fuel since more of it must be burned to produce the same amount of energy. Wallop is assuming too much when he says the use of low sulfur coals with the lower 50 percent standard will result in less pollution than the use of high sulfur coals with the 90 percent standard. While EPA experts say this may sometimes be true, it would depend upon the heat value and the specific sulfur content of the coal.

The fact that Wallop tries to ignore is that in the West, where primarily low sulfur coal is burned, the pollution would certainly increase if the 50 percent rule were to go into effect. Controlling 50 percent of the sulfur dioxide emissions from power plants using low sulfur coal is obviously worse than controlling 90 percent of the sulfur dioxide emissions from power plants using the same coal.

He argues that Wyoming doesn't have to worry because its air regulations are tough enough to protect us. However, none of the Western states have built walls around their air sheds — yet — and winds do blow into Wyoming from surrounding states, all



of which have weaker standards than the proposed 50 percent federal standard. In addition, as Wallop must know, Wyoming's air regulations have come under vigorous attack. It would be much harder to defend them if there weren't federal standards that were nearly as stringent.

The reason that the state regulations are strong is that there is a broad public desire for clean air — a desire that Wallop had better start acknowledging if he expects to win the next election. No matter what their attitudes toward energy development, most people seem to think that it shouldn't proceed at the expense of air quality — even if it costs money.

Wallop needn't worry about the Western coal market. There will be plenty of coal sold to new Western power plants and to natural gas and oil power plants all over the country converting to coal. These converted plants don't have to meet the new source performance standards and may be able to get by without scrubbers if they use low sulfur coal.

But the other members of Congress, EPA officials, and the President need to be reminded that we Westerners do put a high value on our clean air. We don't want to suffer the consequences of dirty air just to hold down electricity prices or to protect the market for our coal.

—MJA

High Country News

Published biweekly at 331 Main, Lander, Wyo. 82520. Telephone 307-332-4877. Second class postage paid at Lander.

Publisher: Thomas A. Bell
Managing Editor: Joan Vire
Associate Editor: Margaree Ambler
Office Manager: Mary Margaret Davis
Advertising: August Daler
Contributing Editors: Dan Whipple, Peter Wild, Philip White
Correspondent: Hannah Hinchman
Staff Artist: Georgia Nations
Circulation Manager: Sarah Dell

Subscription rate \$12.00
Single copy rate 50 cents

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U.S. SEN. MALCOLM WALLOP says that environmentalists should be more flexible. He says, "There are people in Washington who will take nothing but 100 percent."

Backlash. . .

(continued from page 1)

group that is raising money is the Committee for the Survival of a Free Congress."

THE NEW RIGHT

CSFC is a "New Right" organization, funded in large part by Joseph Coors, of Coors beer fame. The Americans for Democratic Action says that CSFC is a major political committee of the right wing. CSFC classifies Udall as a "radical." David Troxler, assistant director of CSFC, says that Udall achieved a 16% rating from his group, making him the 35th most liberal member of Congress.

Troxler says, however, that Udall's environmental record is not the sole reason for his group's opposition to the congressman. He says, "Our only interest is his ultra-liberal record. Udall is the type of congressman we'd like to replace." Troxler says that his group will probably give \$5,000 to defeat Udall — the limit imposed by federal law — and also provide organizing support for an acceptable opposition candidate.

But does this opposition mean that Udall is the target of "environmental backlash?" "I think not," says Neuman. "His district has always known that he's an ardent environmentalist."

Furthermore, Neuman says, "I haven't seen any appreciable change in attitudes about the environment. The opposition may have some impact, but not enough to cause his defeat."

Wyoming's Wallop, who was elected with the support of Wyoming environmentalists in 1976, has repeatedly warned about backlash during his visits to the state. He says that issues like wilderness, the second Roadless Area Review and Evaluation (RARE II), and air pollution controls seem to generate the anti-environmental feelings.

In addition, Wallop says that there is a kind of elitism among environmentalists and an unwillingness to compromise, at least from those in the national environmental groups. He says, "I'm talking about the need for people not to be so brittle."

There are people in Washington who will take nothing but 100%."

As evidenced by the Alaska-based opposition to Udall, there is considerable concern in some quarters about new wilderness designations. Wallop says, "There are a number of people who reacted strongly to RARE II. It is bottling up a number of areas that are not wilderness potential. It's hurting the small lumber companies. People get concerned when they get laid off."

The meetings that constituted the first stage of RARE II attracted a lot of attention. The sessions were designed to compile an accurate list of roadless areas, which would later be considered for wilderness. However, a large number of interest groups used the meetings to speak out against wilderness in general.

A number of observers contend that this opposition does not constitute a "backlash." Dave Foreman, Wilderness Society representative for the Southwest, says, "There is a major effort to fight new wilderness by the timber, mining, and ORV groups. But these people have always opposed wilderness. That isn't evidence of environmental backlash. Environmental backlash would be an erosion of traditional support."

"Environmental backlash is pretty much a figment of somebody's imagination. It's just that people are getting their arguments together, and they are better organized. It's no worse than it used to be. Opposition is more vocal and organized, but no more widespread."

Foreman's assessment is echoed by another Wyoming legislator, Rep. Teno Roncalio (D). He says, "I see more people in Wyoming sympathetic to environmental legislation than ever before." Roncalio has long been an avid supporter of wilderness. He says that only a few years ago there was bitter opposition in his state to new wilderness proposals. Now, he says, those attitudes have mellowed.

Commenting on recent hearings held on the proposed DuNoir wilderness area in

northwest Wyoming, Roncalio says, "Take the DuNoir, for example. If you took a vote, 75 percent of the people in Teton and Fremont counties would probably vote for it. We're seeing the last of the 'wilderness-be-damned' attitude."

Roncalio says, however, "If it would adversely affect jobs, then you may have trouble. But wilderness has absolutely no adverse effect on jobs."

BACKLASH AND JOBS

The question of whether environmental protections adversely affect jobs is one of considerable debate. Wallop contends that it is this issue that will generate backlash. He says that environmentalists are insisting on "extraneous economic issues attached to environmental matters, for example, the local coal amendment to the Clean Air Act." This amendment gives a governor of a coal-producing state the right to ask the President that coal burned by utilities in the state be produced locally. The amendment is designed to protect the jobs of Eastern coal miners but it could, potentially, affect production in Western mines. Wallop says, "If this starts to cost jobs, there will be a reaction. By having environmentalists support this, people question whether the goal is environmental protection or economic manipulation."

Wallop also cites the example of steelworkers in Youngstown, Ohio. The area was affected by a steel mill closing, which was widely believed by the employees to be the result of stringent clean air requirements.

Roncalio says, "There's no question but that clean air legislation could adversely affect jobs. If you don't have clean air legislation, however, you will pollute the atmosphere so badly that people can't live. Are you going to wait until we're all sick to

been reduced in cities between 1971 and 1979 by 88 percent of the sulfates and 58 percent of particulates, there would have been a seven percent decline in illness and \$16.1 billion reduction in health costs. The savings would be nearly double the project cost of the pollution controls — about \$9.5 billion.

However, the report concludes that, based on this cost-benefit approach, the investment in automobile control is not worth it. Costs of controlling tailpipe emissions would reach nearly \$11 billion annually, while health "savings" would amount to only \$5 billion.

PROFITS, NOT JOBS

Udall aide Neuman says that the argument about jobs versus environment is outmoded and disproven. He says, "We don't hear the argument very much any more that environmental controls are costing jobs. They may be costing profits, but they have considerably increased jobs. The argument about profits doesn't seem to carry as much weight with the man on the street."

The apparent national swing to the right is generating a number of newspaper and magazine articles with anti-environmental themes. However, it is not clear whether these articles are examples of "backlash" or merely the opposition that has always greeted environmental reforms.

In December of last year, Harper's published "Environmentalism and the Leisure Class." The article charged the environmental movement with elitism, saying it protected "birds, fishes, and, above all, social privilege." The author, William Tucker, says, "The fundamental environmentalist assumption is that we can 'stop growth,' at least until the 'right' solution to

A Udall aide says environmental controls "may be costing profits, but they have considerably increased jobs."

pass these laws? There is a possibility of a backlash here, but you have to maintain a balanced approach to all of these issues."

There have been job losses as a result of pollution controls, according to the Council on Environmental Quality. CEQ reports that 69 industrial and power plants closed between 1971 and 1974, affecting about 12,000 jobs. However, most of these plants were old and only marginally profitable, and CEQ concludes that they would probably have closed anyway.

In contrast, the Environmental Protection Agency reports that by 1976, one million new jobs were created by anti-pollution spending.

Some critics argue that the jobs created by environmental spending are not "productive," but simply "paper-pushing." It appears, however, that some clean air expenditures pay off in ways not measurable in terms of jobs. A study by two Carnegie-Mellon University economists published this year argues that expenditures to control smokestack emissions have a net economic benefit.

Economists Lester Lave and Eugene Seskin wrote, "In the largest U.S. cities, there are close relationships between mortality rates and air pollution." The study concludes that, had smokestack pollution

our technological problems comes along. This is foolishness. 'Stopping growth' simply means falling behind, with all the economic consequences."

In an editorial, the Washington Post cited a study by a Brookings Institute scholar, Edward F. Denison. Writing in the Survey of Current Business, Denison identified three changes that have contributed to the slowdown in productivity. The amount of money invested in environmental protection was the most important of the three.

The Post said, "These three factors have one characteristic in common: they all tend to reduce economic output . . . Is that a reason for abandoning the environmental protections that have been written into the law over the past decade? Clearly not. But there is a danger. This country, in its high-flying way, might try to avoid a choice. It would not be uncharacteristic of Americans to keep pressing Congress for more environmental protections in the style of the 1970s, while pressing President Carter for faster economic growth at the rate of the early 1960s . . . those two purposes don't fit together."

The Post's warning may be a reality. Pollster Louis Harris reports that the American public is in favor of increased environmental protection and expects to maintain an increasing standard of living.

As energy and environment have become inextricably intertwined in the national debate over energy sources, anti-environmentalist sentiment is being gener-

(see next page)

Opposition is better organized, and some organizations of the New Right are putting money into the struggle.

Backlash. . .

(continued from page 4)

ated by the growing opposition to nuclear power.

An article in the *Denver Post*, reprinted from *Across the Board*, magazine of the Conference Board, a non-profit, independent business research organization, criticized environmentalists for their stance on nuclear power. Margaret Maxey, professor of bioethics at the University of Detroit, wrote that the environmental movement has generated a "climate of crisis," and the opposition to nuclear electricity is the result of "quasi-religious fervor and righteous moral indignation," not scientific analysis.

Maxey concluded that the development of nuclear power is essential to avoid world disaster. She writes, "Thinking small, freezing growth, and going local is one of the surest ways to guarantee a global catastrophe. Social justice and protection of the environment demand a global policy that will undertake vigorous efforts to meet Third and Fourth World needs for energy resources. Otherwise the leaders of the poor will justifiably reject ecology as their enemy and pursue their national development without any concern for possible damage to the global environment."

Most of the anti-environmentalist articles dismiss the potential of solar energy and any large-scale conservation effort. Environmentalists argue that there are

options to maintain both a healthy economy and environmental protection. Environmentalists for Full Employment says in a report on energy and the economy, "The increased energy efficiency plus solar energy choice can provide sufficient energy for a prosperous economy. In fact, such a solution to the nation's energy problem actually leads to a more stable economy and to more jobs than does the large-scale system scenario."

BETTER ORGANIZED

The Wilderness Society's Foreman says that the opposition is better organized now than it has been in the past but has not increased its political base. "They are starting to use our tactics," he says.

During the RARE II meetings, the timber industry managed to marshal its forces to turn out in opposition to wilderness. Louisiana Pacific Co., for instance, provided busses so that their employees could attend and testify at a meeting in Wyoming.

In addition, some organizations of the New Right, like the CSFC, are putting money into the struggle. The Heritage Foundation, which the Americans for Democratic Action describes as "a right-wing think tank," recently issued a report recommending that environmental restrictions be relaxed to speed the development of nuclear and coal-fired power. The Heritage Foundation, like CSFC, is funded largely by Joseph Coors.

ADA says that a number of New Right committees were also instrumental in de-

feating environmentalist Marvin Durning in Washington state during a special election for the U.S. House of Representatives seat of Brock Adams, now in the Carter Cabinet. Seven New Right committees poured \$35,000 dollars into the election to defeat Durning, ADA says.

However, although the New Right is able to command large sums of money, apparently they haven't organized a large number of people. CSFC has a seven-man advisory board that sets policy and deter-

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mines "targets" for defeat. CSFC's Troxler says that none of the seven are "what you would call national figures." There is no membership in the organization.

A number of signs indicate that the American public is unwavering in its commitment to environmental protection. Concern about nuclear power is leading to more careful analysis of that option, not a backlash for development of it. Renclio, who favors nuclear development, says,

One activist says, "Environmental backlash is pretty much a figment of somebody's imagination."

"There has been activity in Congress looking into the storing of spent nuclear fuel. And people are getting a lot more concerned about low-level radiation."

On the issue of wilderness, a poll sponsored by the American Forestry Institute

ing the cause and things that have been done (in the past) were being undone. That isn't happening. We've had more wilderness designated this year than any year since 1964. The Endangered American Wilderness bill and Absaroka-Beartooth wilderness passed by a large majority. That doesn't sound like environmental backlash to me."

Udall, even though facing a re-election fight, recently told a group of Colorado businessmen that they should "face reality." He says that business and mineral industries will have to face the mood of a Congress that will continue to require tough environmental regulation. ★

Sen. Malcolm Wallop says, "Potential for environmental backlash is high. There are pockets of it already."

poetry
of the
earth



A former resident of the Southwest, Frank Graziano now is Poet-in-Residence for the South Carolina Arts Commission, as well as the editor of Grilled Flowers Press. Two of his books of poetry will appear this year, *Desemboque*, from Floating Island Press, and *Follain*, from The Bieler Press.

Resting at Half-Moon Dam, you have his eyes

Now while the new stars
warm in their sockets
you crouch and dip your hand
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you are the only one

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with your hand
in a sclera, the only hand
dipped the way Orion

dips, coming up
with the night, rising with your new face
growing on the water,
the duckweed
pulsing like a heart.

—Frank Graziano

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Wyoming Energy Conservation Office is seeking an individual or a group who is interested in working as a consultant to its office on about a 20 person-hours per week basis through the rest of 1978 and all of 1979.

The consultant's job would be to facilitate the development and start-up of ongoing community-based energy conservation and alternate energy programs, by broad-based community boards.

If you or anyone you know would be interested in such a project, contact Richard D. Rich, Program Manager, DAPC-Purchasing and Property

Control Division, Room 301, Emerson Building, Cheyenne, Wyoming, telephone (307) 777-7253, or Lynn Dickey, Energy Conservation Coordinator, Energy Conservation Office, Capital Hill Office Building, Cheyenne, Wyoming, telephone (307) 777-7131, for further information and/or a Request for Proposal form.

Sealed Proposals will be received in the Office of the Division of Purchasing and Property Control, Room 301, Emerson Building, Cheyenne, Wyoming, until 2:00 p.m., May 10, 1978, at which time they will be publicly opened and read for furnishing the above referenced services. STATE OF WYOMING



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(303) 395-8466

Utah delegation. . .

(continued from page 1)

environmentalists, but with "the extreme environmental element."

Nevertheless, the delegation votes more consistently in what environmental groups consider the "wrong way" than do the representatives of any other state in the Northern Rockies. While the other states each have their low-scorers, they also each have at least one member of Congress who is a strong advocate of environmental protection.

MUCH IN COMMON

Utah appears to have much in common with surrounding states. Like the rest, Utah is predominantly rural and has abundant open space, wildlife, and clean air, spectacular mountains and deserts, and scarce but clean water. It also has rich energy and mineral resources. As in the other states, rapid development in Utah will bring not only prosperity but an altered landscape and social structure.

Despite these similarities, Utahns are keenly aware of their differences from the rest of the region, which are attributable to a unique cultural and religious heritage. About 71 percent of the state's population and all of its Congressional representatives are Mormon.

"Utah is different from every other state in the union," says Florence Krall, a professor at the University of Utah. When Mormon settlers came to the area, they anticipated setting up a separate country. Particularly in Utah's rural areas, a sense of isolation and persecution has remained, she says. Rural Utahns tend to resent people they consider to be outsiders — the federal government, Salt Lake City residents, and sometimes environmentalists.

In addition, "As much as any group in the country these people have bought the American dream," says Ladd Holt, a Salt Lake City university professor who is a Mormon and a "moderate environmentalist." Holt says the people are not necessarily anti-environment. But they generally aren't aware of the hidden costs of development, he says. They do see immediate financial gains in development, and church leaders have always encouraged their members to become "acceptably rich," he says.

Boosterism is common in the West. What is unique in Utah is that so many people's



REP. GUNN MCKAY has been a problem to environmentalists.

commitment to development is strengthened by cultural and religious ties.

If the Congressional delegation seems unblinkingly pro-development, it may be because on most issues scant opposition to development is heard, particularly from the rural areas in the state where major projects have been proposed. Several environmentalists say that despite a poor environmental record, Utah's delegation does a pretty good job of representing the majority of people in the state.

For instance, in the Delta, Utah, area most farmers apparently favor the idea of a 3,000 megawatt coal-fired power plant in the community, even though its water consumption will put many of them out of business. Nearly all of the 60 people who attended a recent public meeting in Delta said they were for the Intermountain Power Project, according to an Associated Press story.

Water acquisition "has been going unbelievably well," according to a power project official. The reason seems to be that many farmers in the area who are now just barely eking out a living could be made rich by selling their water rights.

Consciously or unconsciously, the Delta community is choosing wealth and the uncertainties of development over what they have now.

"They're living the last days of Delta as they know it now," says Lee Kapaloski, a member of the state Energy Conservation and Development Council, which sponsored the meeting. "But I don't think they understand what it really means — or want to."

LOWEST RATING

"Garn represents the state fairly well," Holt says. "He hears the state." Before he was elected to the Senate in 1974, Garn was mayor of Salt Lake City. He has won respect in the state for his forthright manner, if not for his environmental votes.

Garn looks at wilderness in terms of the needs of the state, rather than the needs of the nation. "The state is big enough — has enough natural beauty that we can afford to develop many parts of it," a Garn aide says.

Garn has the lowest environmental rating of any member of Congress, and some environmentalists say he deserves it. Dick Carter of the Wilderness Society says, however, he's the "most responsive" of the bunch.

Garn's colleague, Orrin Hatch, is said to have less of the common touch than Garn.

"He doesn't seem concerned about the local issues of the state," Kapaloski says. "He hasn't been here long enough. Utah seems to be just a vehicle for him."

Dick Carter says he's found Hatch to be totally unreachable. A newcomer to Washington, Hatch defeated three-term incumbent Democrat Frank Moss in the 1976 election. He was enthusiastically backed by the right-wing elements of the Republican Party.

McKay is serving his fourth term in Congress.

"He's a guy who has lived with people, who knows their values," Holt says. "He understands both Democrats and Republicans."

McKay is from Huntsville, Utah. He has worked as a teacher and a farmer as well as a state representative and an administrative assistant to the governor.

"He is a good congressman outside of environmental issues," Carter says. "He's supposed to be one of the hardest-working."

A McKay aide says, "When you grow up in Utah on a farm you understand the basic concept of environment and the need to protect it."

Nevertheless, Carter says McKay "has been a problem to us. He's been making outrageous statements locally — like (Rep.) Steve Symms of Idaho — and that's sad." Most irritating to Carter has been McKay's renewed campaign to construct a road in Canyonlands National Park to the confluence of the Green and Colorado rivers, a project that is anathema to conservationists.

Marriott is "the most vulnerable member of the delegation in upcoming elections, according to one environmentalist. Marriott's district, which includes Salt Lake City, is more liberal and includes more non-Mormons than McKay's."

"He is not representing those people," Dick Carter says.

Another environmentalist says Marriott has "values the same as Garn's, but no intellect."

Other environmentalists in the state are less critical. "Marriott listens the most," one said. Another called him "less posed" and less rigid than the rest of the delegation.

Both McKay and Marriott are in key positions to influence environmental legislation. Marriott is on the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs. McKay is on the House Appropriations Committee.

TRUST IN THE BUREAUCRACY

How do environmentalists in the state deal with the delegation? Many don't.

"People with any kind of strong environmental bent are forced to place 90 percent of their trust in the federal bureaucracy," Kapaloski says.

Dick Carter says that when he started working for the Wilderness Society in the state a year and a half ago, he found that most environmentalists ignored the delegation because they assumed it was so hostile. Some used the delegation's reputation to justify the statement, "We can't do anything, so why try?" he says.

However, Carter believes that even Utah environmentalists can occasionally influence their congressmen. The entire delegation opposed the Endangered American Wilderness Act when it was first introduced. Garn "never did like the bill"

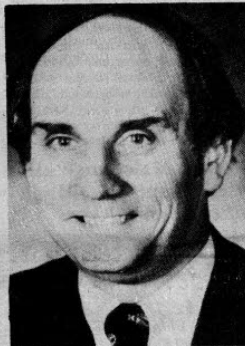
but eventually voted for it in response to the outcry of "a significant minority" in the state, a Garn aide says. Under pressure from Carter and other environmentalists, the rest of the delegation reversed its stand on the wilderness bill, too.

That doesn't mean the delegation now supports wilderness, Carter says. Lone Peak, the only Utah area included in the bill, is fairly non-controversial. Development interests didn't have any big stake in the rugged, alpine country. But the episode proves that the delegation can be responsive, Carter says.

Ruth Frear of the Sierra Club says she continues to write letters even though she knows the delegation will almost always ignore her advice. "We're not writing anybody off yet," she says.

Another encouraging sign for environmentalists was Marriott and Garn's introduction of the Uranium Mill Site Restoration Act of 1978. The bill would provide federal funds to states to clean up abandoned radioactive mill tailings in nine states in the West. "We commend them for that bill," Frear says.

However, Jan Johnson, another Utah



SEN. JAKE GARN: "The state is big enough that we can afford to develop many parts of it."

environmentalist, is cynical about the move. She says that the bill was introduced so late that it has little chance of passage. She calls it "a token effort."

When it comes to protecting wilderness and other public land in Alaska through a bill like HR 39, the House bill supported by conservationists, all members of the delegation seem negative.

"There's going to be some wilderness set aside up there," says an aide to Hatch. "What we're concerned about is energy and mineral rich areas being tied up."

Marriott's aide said that he voted against HR 39 when it came before the Interior committee. "Seventy-five million acres of wilderness is just too much at this time," the aide says.

GOOD OLD DAYS

The good old days for Utah environmentalists seem to have been when former Sen. Frank Moss (D) and former Rep. Wayne Owens (D) were in office. From 1969-1976 Moss' League of Conservation

(see next page)



REP. DAN MARRIOTT is the most vulnerable member of the delegation in the upcoming election, environmentalists say.

If a conservative candidate in Utah had environmentalist leanings, it probably wouldn't hurt him too much.

(continued from page 6)

Voters rating averaged 42 percent. Owens, who served 1973-1974, received a 73 percent rating.

Their defeats are thought to have had little to do with their stands on environmental issues. At election time in 1976

could vote for," she says.

But Utah, and particularly the Salt Lake City area, is growing rapidly. The new residents are bound to make subtle changes in the politics of the state. Florence Krall facetiously suggests that the only hope for Utah environmentalists is a couple of big

"People with any kind of strong environmental bent are placing 90 percent of their trust in the federal bureaucracy."

Moss was perceived as being either too liberal or too evasive on some key Utah issues — the Equal Rights Amendment, abortion, and big government. As for Wayne Owens, "It was surprising he was elected in the first place," one observer says. After a term in the House he decided to run for the Senate even though his party didn't support the move. "He was too liberal, too young, and too ambitious. He offended too many people," he says.

Among this year's congressional candidates, environmental issues are being played down. "Nobody is trying to gain votes with environmental issues," Holt says. On the other hand, if a conservative candidate had environmental leanings, "it wouldn't hurt him much," he says.

Looking over the current list of candidates, Ruth Frear doesn't see much change ahead. "There isn't anybody running I

development projects that would break down the cultural and religious homogeneity of the state.

For a while, however, it appears that Utah environmentalists are going to have to remain satisfied with working hard to gain isolated victories like the Lone Peak Wilderness.

In a recent collection of stories entitled *The Journey Home*, Edward Abbey introduced a feisty figure named J. Orrin Garn. The fictitious Garn explains away "the brown-yeller smog" hovering over Salt Lake City with the glib pronouncement, "Smoke means jobs."

Abbey's angel Nehi must have been speaking for all frustrated Utah environmentalists when he replied: "Emphysema means jobs too. If you want to work in a nursing home. Clean it up."



Tim O'Brien — Eclectic fiddle

Guess Who's in Town

This album's query: "Guess Who's in Town?" is answered with such a variety of musical styles and songs that one knows Tim O'Brien and friends must be in town.

O'Brien is a fine singer and a triple-treat instrumentalist. He plays fiddle, mandolin, and guitar. His voice is a haunting tenor.

There are 15 selections on this album. Side one is fiddle-filled, with eight tunes from the country. Side two vocals include some sweet, vibrant, swing numbers like "Guess Who's in Town" and "Cadillac-in" (with the Ophelia Swing Band).

To order: send \$5 to "Guess Who's in Town," Tim O'Brien, 1251-A, Verbena Street, Denver, Colo. 80220. (Biscuit City Records — BC 1317) HCN is sharing the profits on sales of this album.

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LONE PEAK, the one Utah area included in the Endangered American Wilderness Act. All four of Utah's congressional representatives opposed the bill at first, but later were convinced to support it.

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WYOMING OUTDOOR COUNCIL

The Wyoming Outdoor Council (WOC) has an opening for an executive director. The position entails coordinating the yearly legislative lobbying efforts, maintaining close working relationships with state agencies, and serving as coordinator of WOC field staff and administrator of WOC business. The executive director is also responsible for supervising fund raising.

Maintaining and improving the quality of life in Wyoming through citizen action is WOC's primary function.

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Specific qualifications include: versatile writing ability; experience in supervising staff, policy planning, and budgeting; good verbal communication skills; experience in resource management issues; knowledge of and experience with Wyoming way of life. Extensive travel at times. Salary in addition to travel and office expenses. Job begins July 1, 1978, to train one month with out-going director.

Send resume with 4-6 references (complete with addresses and phone numbers) and a brief writing sample to: WOC, Box 1184, Cheyenne, Wyo. 82001; or call (307) 635-3416. Applications must arrive by May 20. Interviews scheduled following week.

Like to work with people?

8-High Country News — May 5, 1978

Environmental films: nuclear power to family farming

The old farmer from Pennsylvania says his most expensive piece of equipment is his manure spreader, which cost \$160.

by Dede Feldman

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — Environmental groups produce a wealth of imaginative and well-made documentary films each year to document their projects, to inspire opposition to massive development, or simply to give hope to individuals — isolated from one another — who are working hard to create alternatives to the mass consumption society. But few of these movies ever receive the audience they deserve.

Nevertheless, such films drew considerable attention at an environmental film festival held here at the University of New Mexico. The festival, organized by Kathleen Brooker, featured 40 short and medium length films on topics including nuclear energy, the small farm, resource management, and solar technology.

Brooker's two months' work preparing for the festival was funded by the UNM School of Architecture and Planning. She says she hoped each film would be "a stimulator, to get people involved with a particular issue and to get the old juices flowing again."

NUCLEAR FILMS

Three of the films shown at the festival are about nuclear energy. Two of these, **The Last Resort** and **Lovejoy's Nuclear War**, were made by Green Mountain Films, and both have received numerous awards.

The Last Resort documents more than two years of resistance to the construction of a controversial nuclear plant in Seabrook, N.H. The title refers to comments made by President Jimmy Carter in New Hampshire during his campaign, when he said nuclear power should be used only as a last resort. The film focuses on civil disobedience — another last resort — as well as the dangers of the nuclear path in general.

Through its use of "ordinary" but articulate townspeople, the film also demonstrates the arrogant insensitivity of state and company officials to the opinions of local people endangered by the nuclear installation.

One vivid illustration from the movie sticks in my mind. The square-jawed governor of New Hampshire, Meldrim Thompson, answers a press conference question with a casual dismissal of the necessity for beach evacuation plans. He says, "We saw sharks the other day along the coast and were prepared to handle that. And if we can handle sharks, I'm sure we can handle nuclear energy."

Juxtaposed against such scenes are interviews with Seabrook residents who oppose construction of the plant.

One interview is with Guy Chichester, who calculates that the \$2 billion spent to



Hannah Hinchman

construct the plant could provide solar heat and wind generated electricity for the 200,000 households in New Hampshire.

And then there is Louisa Santasucci, who says, "I'll stand right in front of the bulldozer if I have to."

Lovejoy's *Nuclear War* is based on an incident that occurred in Montague, Mass., in 1974 when Sam Lovejoy, in a solitary act of civil disobedience, sabotaged one of the largest nuclear power plants ever planned in the United States. In many ways, the film is similar to the *Last Resort*, but for me, its impact was much greater.

Through a series of well-handled and candid interviews, we see the confusion of working class residents of Montague — their distrust of nuclear power along with their need for jobs. We see the frustration of the anti-nuclear forces, the rationales of the utility company spokesmen, and the conservatism of those concerned with the property damages caused by Lovejoy.

The one figure we see most clearly, of course, is Lovejoy, the organic farmer who speaks gleefully, with a glint in his eye, as he describes exactly how he loosened the guy wires that held the utility's weather tower in place. Lovejoy is a self-educated anti-nuclear proponent who refused to live with educated powerlessness. He says simply, "I just wanted to let them know in a concrete way that if they built that plant it would have to be over my dead body."

When Lovejoy commits his act of sabotage, he knowingly commits an illegal act in order to face trial, present his case to the public, and, if necessary, serve his time.

Another important nuclear movie — especially for scientific and engineering audiences — is the Danish film, *More Power Stations*. This film is owned by anti-nuke activist and one time Presidential candidate, Jack Briggs, who will lend it free to any group in the West.

With clinical, precise, and emotionless commentary, the film details the levels of radiation present in nuclear power plants and the techniques used in transport and disposal of wastes. *More Power Stations* takes the viewer through the operations of a nuclear power station in Europe. It examines the problems of remote control operations, the decommissioning of used stations, and the contamination of workers.

More Power Stations is a frightening movie and would be effective in convincing audiences of the dangers of nuclear power development. It does not have the human touches of *The Last Resort*, but it effectively dramatizes the enormity of the problem.

FARMING TO ALCHEMY

Other movies shown at the film festival departed from the depressing spectre of a nuclear society and focused on alternatives, ranging from solar greenhouses to the small family farm.

The *New Alchemists* examines the accomplishments of a small group of industrious people living on a farm in Woods Hole, Mass. The alchemists' self-sufficiency in food and their use of small scale technology provides a model for others with a vision of a greener, kinder world.

Even more impressive than the *New Alchemists* in presenting alternatives is a film made by Ram Productions, *Farming is Farming*. The main objective of this film is to contrast the small, labor-intensive family farm with the huge agribusinesses

now prevalent in the United States. Through interviews with small farmers, interspersed with beautiful scenes of rural America on the one hand and noisy encounters with huge, gas-guzzling farm machinery on the other, *Farming is Farming* debunks the idea that the small family farm is unproductive and obsolete.

Who can afford the \$150,000 automatic feeding machine cheerfully displayed in the movie by an International Harvester salesman? Or who can afford the \$40,000-\$50,000 that several speakers in the movie estimate is necessary to equip a "modern" farm? Surely not the small farmers interviewed in the movie like Warner Clark of Tippacanoe, Ohio, or the old farmer from Pennsylvania who, standing next to his horse drawn team, is asked what the most expensive piece of equipment he owns is.

"I guess that would have to be my manure spreader. Cost me \$160," the farmer says.

In this movie filmmaker Douglas Miller portrays through his interviews small farmers who are not concerned just with making a profit. These people love the land and value the sense of freedom and independence that farming provides.

Some of their hardships are put into a larger context in the film through the comments of Susan de Marco and Jim Hightower, who, through their work with the Agribusiness Accountability Project, have done much to expose the extent of corporate penetration of agriculture and the degree of complicity between the U.S. Department of Agriculture and agribusiness.

Farming is Farming is a moving film. It has won several awards at the Cannes Film Festival and elsewhere. Through beautiful images and skillful contrasts, the film warns of the tragic consequences of the disappearance of the family farm, while pointing the way to a viable alternative for American agriculture.

Want to order some of the films mentioned in the above review? Here's how:

Lovejoy's Nuclear War and *The Last Resort* (each 60 min.) can be rented from Green Mountain Post Films, P.O. Box 177, Montague, Mass. 01351.

More Power Stations (60 min.) is available free to anti-nuclear community and educational groups from Jack Briggs, Box 481, Raton, N.M. 87740.

Farming is Farming (45 min.) can be rented for \$45 from Ram Films, 200 Lovers Lane, Steubenville, Ohio 43952.

The New Alchemists (29 min.) \$12.70 rental, available from University of Michigan, Audio-Visual Education Center, 416 Fourth St., Ann Arbor, Mich. 48109.

Other films shown in the series, not reviewed here, but recommended are:

The Hopi Way (23 min.) \$11.20 rental from Shoshoni Productions 1972. Available from University of Michigan, A-V Education Center, 416 Fourth St., Ann Arbor, Mich. 48109.

Juggernaut (28 min.) Follows a nuclear reactor as it passes on its 600 mile route through India. University of Michigan, Audio-Visual Ed. Center, 416 Fourth St., Ann Arbor, Mich. 48109.

"There's something we've learned through this. Something about the connection between the people and the land."



BLACK ELK, portrayed by Clayton Corbin, says, "Hear me not for myself but for my people."

Black Elk's message dramatized

by Dede Feldman

For 20 years now John Neihardt's classic account of the memories of an Oglala Sioux holy man, *Black Elk Speaks*, has moved Indian and non-Indian alike. Now a play is touring the West that portrays Black Elk's vision of the sacred hoop of his people and his memories of how the hoop, a symbol of his people and of their unity, was destroyed by the treachery of the U.S. generals, politicians, and the naivete of the Indians themselves.

The play, which is subtitled "A Short Shattering History of the Winning of the West as Experienced by Those Who Lost It," was staged in Albuquerque, N.M., before an audience packed with Navajos, Pueblos, and other local Indians. Author Christopher Sergel's stage adaptation of the book, and the fine acting of the all Indian cast was met with a standing ovation.

The play is a production of the Folger Theatre Group, of Washington, D.C., a theatre which usually performs Shakespeare. Bob Handy and the Handy Hawks Productions is arranging the tour. The play will be seen in 56 cities including Alamosa, Colo.; Billings, Mont.; Pocatello, Idaho; and Grand Forks, N.D., this spring and has 100 dates in the fall.

Black Elk, played by the towering Clayton Corbin, brings to mind images of what is now history: the massacre of the Cheyenne at Sand Creek, the Long Walk of the Navajo, the death of Crazy Horse, the betrayal of Black Kettle, and the battles of Wounded Knee and Little Big Horn. These tragic incidents are acted out by an ensemble of seven Indian actors and actresses.

Notable among these performers is Richard Camargo, of Comanche heritage, who plays both the feisty and funny Navajo leader Manuelito and the foolish and betrayed Cheyenne, Black Kettle.

"There's something we've learned through this," Manuelito says in the play, "something about the connection between the people and the land."

These and other lessons learned from that era come across to the audience through the words of the players, who portray figures ranging from Andrew Jackson to Crazy Horse to George Armstrong Custer. As Black Elk, howling Clayton Corbin (who is part Cherokee, part Irish, and part Black) points to the tragic mistakes made by Indians and white alike.

The play's last line, a quote from Black Elk, conveys the sacred place that resources hold in their culture: "We offer the wooden cup filled with water. It's the power to make live, and it's yours."

Sam Lovejoy describes exactly how he loosened the guy wires that held the utility's weather tower in place.

10-High Country News — May 5, 1978

Rocky Flats nuclear protest draws thousands



NUCLEAR DEMONSTRATORS came from all over the country. They numbered about 6,000.

Story and photos
by Dede Feldman

ROCKY FLATS, Colo. — They came by the thousands, hitching from Oregon, in buses from Minnesota, in caravans from New Mexico, on foot and by bike from nearby Boulder, Colo. Their numbers were beyond all expectations of organizers of the event (the Rocky Flats Action Group, the American Friends Service Committee and the Mobilization for Survival). An estimated 6,000 protesters flocked to the Rocky Flats Nuclear Weapons facility 16 miles northwest of Denver.

Undaunted by cold and rainy weather, they carried placards saying, "Hell No We

Won't Glow" and "America Reaps what it Sows." The protesters called for the closure of Rocky Flats as a weapons facility, an end to nuclear arms and power proliferation, and a conversion of weapons facilities to more peaceful and productive uses. A smaller group spent the night blocking the railroad tracks used to ship materials (some of them radioactive) to the plant.

The Rocky Flats facility has been the focus of protests from groups around the Denver area for four years. It was constructed in 1952 by the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission and now employs 3,600 people. Managed by Rockwell International, it manufactures and reprocesses the plutonium triggers for every hydrogen

bomb in the U.S. arsenal and is a research and production site for the proposed neutron bomb. In addition, aging bombs are periodically brought back to Rocky Flats from storage points around the globe for repairs.

Since its construction, over 200 plutonium fires have broken out at the plant, waste disposal drums buried in an open field have leaked, and radioactive tritium has flowed into the water supply of the town of Broomfield, Colo. Soil studies have revealed a high degree of cesium contamination. According to a study undertaken by Dr. Ernest Sternglass, a radiation specialist present at the protest, the lung cancer rate downwind of the plant has increased by 90 percent, while upwind in Boulder County the rate has remained stable. Local health specialists say that in nearby Golden, Colo., the cancer rate for residents between 45-64 years old is double the normal rate.

Rocky Flats and the entire Denver area is the center of an air, rail and road transport system for radioactive materials. This fact was dramatized by 13 protesters who arrived at Rocky Flats after six days of tracing the path of plutonium "buttons" made in Savannah River, S.C., and brought by truck through Atlanta, Ga.; Chattanooga and Nashville, Tenn.; and Wichita, Kan., to Rocky Flats.

"The people who we met along the way were shocked that radioactive materials went through the middle of their towns," said Bill Ramsey, leader of the "Plutonium Path" group.

"In Atlanta three members of the city council said they would introduce a resolution banning the transport of nuclear materials through the town, and we're hoping

for more city government response in Wichita," he said.

Many people from areas along the plutonium path or near nuclear power stations, storage sites or other nuclear facilities joined the protest at Rocky Flats. Most wanted to link their local issues with the national and global nuclear problem symbolized by the Rocky Flats plant.

"You ought to understand that your life is connected with what we do in Arizona — we're a menace to all people," said Mark Reader, a professor at Arizona State University. (see next page)



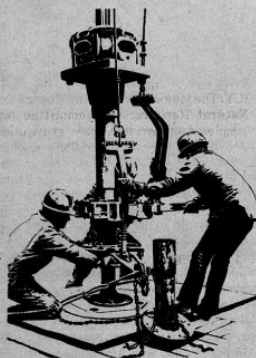
SOLAR BEATS ELECTRICITY. Solar heating can compete with electrically-generated heat in most Western states, according to a report by the Solar Planning Office-West. Electricity is said to be cheaper only in parts of Montana, Idaho, and Washington. Solar heating is still more expensive than natural gas or oil, the report says, however. The report also points out that Utah and Wyoming are the only two Western states which provide no tax incentives for solar installations. Of the others, California provides the largest incentive — an income tax credit of 55 percent of purchase and installation costs, up to a limit of \$3,000.

GASOLIN TESTS IN DENVER. The Environmental Protection Agency plans to sponsor tests of gasoline in automobiles in Denver to see if the new fuel can improve mileage and reduce air pollution. Gasohol is a 90 percent gasoline, 10 percent alcohol mix. The alcohol can be made from grain, potatoes, forest wastes, and other agricultural products.

NAVAJOS TOLD "NO." An ordinance passed by the Navajo Tribal Council that would make utilities pay by the pound for excess sulfur emissions has been rejected by the U.S. Interior Department. Interior says the penalty is too high and does not allow utilities enough time to add pollution controls. The ordinance would affect both the Four Corners power plant near Farmington, N.M., and the Navajo plant near Page, Ariz.

The tribal council has adopted another tax aimed at energy companies. It is a possessory business tax of 10% to be levied on a company's gross income over \$125,000. Five utilities in three states have filed suit against the tax.

FREE FARES BRING BUS RIDERS. Total bus patronage in Denver rose 67% during off-peak hours when a free fare system was in effect. And, on Monday, Feb. 6, rides were free all day — even during rush hour — and ridership was up 80%. February was declared "Transit Awareness Month" by the Denver bus system, RTD. During the month, bus rides are free on weekends and on weekdays except during rush hours. The experiment is designed to see if free fare incentives will encourage people to take the bus instead of their cars. During the Monday in which fares were free all day, RTD estimated that there were 25,000 fewer cars on the streets, about two to three per cent of the average daily total.



NUCLEAR VOTE. A measure that would require a public vote before any nuclear power plant or major nuclear facility is built in Montana is gaining support. The first 1,758 signatures gathered in the petition drive have been certified by the secretary of state's office, according to the Associated Press. To qualify for the November ballot, the initiative needs 15,836 signatures representing five percent of the voters in each of 34 Montana districts by Aug. 7. The drive is being led by a group called Nuclear Vote. For more information contact Jim Barngrover at (406) 442-1028.

COAL TAX ATTACK. When they paid their taxes in April, Montana's three largest coal mining companies made it official: they intend to challenge the constitutionality of the state coal tax in court. The companies — Decker Coal Co., Westmoreland Resources Inc. and Western Energy Co. — claim that the tax is excessive and a burden on interstate commerce. They say that they are taking the action at the insistence of their utility customers. Montana's levy of 30% of the mine-mouth price of sub-bituminous coal is the highest in the nation. In anticipation of the court battle ahead, the Old West Regional Commission has authorized \$70,000 for a study of mineral severance taxes in the region.

WORD OF CAUTION. The state of Utah has decided to accept federal funding to study the feasibility of a 10,000 megawatt nuclear power plant near the town of Green River. Meanwhile, a statewide newspaper, the *Deseret News*, has issued a word of caution. In an April 20 editorial the paper said, "The study should not be used just as a device for selling the project. Rather, it should be a tool for detecting flaws and minimizing any and all harmful effects. . . . Is it really safer and more economical to locate several nuclear power plants at a single, relatively isolated site rather than scattering them around the country? A nuclear power complex as large as the one being contemplated near Green River in Emery County could easily be one of the worst things that ever happened to Utah."

May 5, 1978 — High Country News-11



THE DEMONSTRATION included a wide variety of church and community groups.

(continued from page 10)

versity. He was referring to the three new nuclear power stations being built at Palo Verde, 45 miles outside of Phoenix, Ariz. Groups from the Midwest had their own reasons — ranging from concern with nuclear weapons to fear of a meltdown in their area — for participating.

A member of a 100-person group from Colorado Springs, Rita Ague, spoke for many Coloradans when she said simply, "I'm here for my children and for future generations."

Few public officials attended the Rocky Flats demonstration, although they were invited. One who did was Rep. Pat Schroeder (D-Colo.). Hitting hard at the necessity of converting military and nuclear jobs into jobs that will not damage the environment, she said, "The incredible thing is that everyone isn't here — who could possibly be for a dangerous nuclear facility within the range of a major city?"



The HCN Hot Line

energy news from across the country

FEDERAL SHALE EXPERIMENTS. A bill that would provide as much as \$400 million to build three oil shale demonstration plants has won the approval of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee. The bill, introduced by Sen. Floyd Haskell (D-Colo.), requires that two of the test plants use surface processing technology and that one use underground technology. The plants would be capable of producing about 25,000 barrels of oil per day. The bill has been opposed by Republicans and does not have the support of the Carter administration, according to a Denver Post story.

WIND BACKING. Wind power is receiving support in both houses of Congress. Sen. Gary Hart (D-Colo.) is expected to introduce an amendment that would more than double the wind power budget by adding \$53.2 million. Rep. Albert Gore (D-Tenn.) has already introduced legislation in the House calling for a \$60 million increase. The federal wind power budget has risen from \$1.8 million in fiscal year

1973-4 to about \$38 million this year. Hart proposes enlarging the federal testing and demonstration program for small-scale machines.

CONGRESS QUESTIONS NUKE POLICY. The House Environment, Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee has completed a report that raises "grave questions about the administration's nuclear policies," according to syndicated columnist Jack Anderson. The report indicates that nuclear power may not be able to compete with coal or with renewable energy sources such as solar power, Anderson says. "If the federal government spent only a small portion of what it has already spent on nuclear development for the commercialization of solar power, solar-generated electricity would be economically competitive within five years, in the view of many experts," Anderson quotes the report as saying.

POND POWER. A large pond lined with black synthetic rubber will be used to collect solar heat in Israel. The six-foot-deep two acre pond will provide enough energy to heat and cool a 2,200-room hotel being built nearby. The pond has salt water on the bottom and a layer of fresh water on top. Since the fresh water is lighter, it stays on top, allowing the salt water to reach temperatures near the boiling point. Israeli scientists believe that the pond is the first in the world generating energy for practical use.

EPA now considering emission limit of 50%

by Marjane Ambler

The Environmental Protection Agency is considering regulations that could lead to a rapid deterioration of air quality in the West. The decision may also have a dramatic effect on the market for Western coal and would mean fewer, but dirtier, power plants in the region.

Under consideration are sulfur dioxide regulations for new sources of pollution. The regulations were mandated by the Clean Air Act amendments of 1977. "This will be the most important decision EPA makes on air and energy in the next five years," according to Ron Rudolph of Friends of the Earth.

Many people in Washington, D.C., had assumed that EPA would require 90 percent reduction of sulfur dioxide emissions. The House bill called for 85 percent-90 percent reduction, and the House and Senate conference committee specified "maximum feasible emission reduction."

However, reacting to pressure from utilities and from the Department of Energy, EPA is now considering less stringent requirements for power plants using low sulfur coal. One "very live possibility," according to a Senate committee source, is a 50 percent emission reduction requirement.

EFFECT ON POLLUTION

When it passed the Clean Air Act amendments last summer, Congress decided to severely limit sulfur dioxide emissions because it was convinced of the substance's harmful effects on human health, visibility, and agricultural production. According to the American Lung Association, failure to meet sulfur dioxide air standards by 1980 could result in 32.7 million episodes of aggravated heart and lung disease, 10.7 million asthmatic attacks, and nearly 900,000 acute respiratory disease episodes in children. EPA studies show decreases in crop and timber production resulting from sulfur dioxide emissions as well.

Some proponents of the 50 percent limit on low sulfur coal plants say it would result in the same amount of sulfur dioxide emitted from plants burning low sulfur coal as from plants burning high sulfur coal with a 90 percent reduction. EPA spokesmen say that in some cases this might be true, depending upon the energy value of the coal and on the exact sulfur content of the coal.

However, in the West, there is little question that the 50 percent reduction would mean more pollution and lower visibility than the 90 percent reduction. Most plants in the West burn low sulfur coal. Wyoming is the only state in the Northern Plains and Northern Rocky Mountain region that would be protected by state regulations since it has a stronger sulfur dioxide

regulation than the 50 percent requirement being considered, according to EPA. Montana and Utah restrict emissions only by restricting the sulfur content of the coal.

EFFECTS ON DEVELOPMENT

Ironically, if the 50 percent regulation is adopted, it could mean that air quality will rapidly deteriorate to the limits set by another section of the Clean Air Act, the Prevention of Significant Deterioration regulations. This would mean that no further power plants could be built in the areas where the first plants were built. An aide to Sen. Gary Hart (D-Colo.) says that Hart's support of the uniform 90 percent reduction could actually be called a "pro-economic growth" argument. However, Rudolph warns that if the 50 percent requirement were adopted and future power plants were banned because of the resulting air quality deterioration, the pressure to weaken the Clean Air Act would be tremendous.

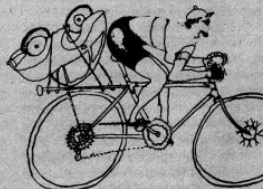
Sen. Malcolm Wallop (R-Wyo.) is pushing for the requirement that gives deference to low sulfur coal. He says the proposed uniform 90 percent standards would reduce demand for low sulfur coal.

However, experts can't agree on how the 90 percent standard v. the 50 percent standard would affect the demand for Western coal, which is generally low in sulfur. Sen. Jennings Randolph (D-W.Va.) is assuming the 50 percent standard would benefit coal from his region — low sulfur central Appalachian coal — more than Western coal, so he is also supporting the lower standard.

A West Virginia coal marketing expert, Norm Kilpatrick, agrees with Randolph's prediction. He points out that some central Appalachian coal can be washed sufficiently prior to burning to bring the sulfur content down, but Western coal can't be. Washing coal is much cheaper than the stack scrubbers that would be required for Western coal to meet even the 50 percent sulfur emission requirement. Kilpatrick, who has served as a special consultant on coal availability to EPA, says that with high transportation costs added to the costs of scrubbers, an Eastern or a Midwestern utility would be "crazy" to buy Western coal if it could get by without scrubbers using low sulfur central Appalachian coal.

Other experts question whether there is enough central Appalachian coal with sufficiently low sulfur content to make washing adequate without scrubbers.

EPA Administrator Douglas Costle is meeting with staff members to discuss the standard May 5. It is expected to be approved by EPA in the next few weeks.



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12-High Country News — May 5, 1978

Lamm blasted for support of Foothills project

Tied to Denver growth

Story and photos
by David Sumner

DENVER — Colorado Gov. Dick Lamm drew fire a few days prior to a long, tense and presumably final round of hearings here on the city's proposed Foothills Water Treatment Complex. On April 22, Front Range environmentalists held a press conference on the state capitol steps to criticize Lamm's support of the project. A few days later, the Environmental Protection Agency held hearings on Foothills.

The events redline the significance of the outcome of this battle. Denver may be the prototype for other growing cities of the Rocky Mountain West — Billings, Cheyenne, or Boise 20 or 30 years hence. Foothills has focused attention on Denver's health and future just as the controversial I-470 and the Olympics did in previous years.

Focus of the Foothills debate has narrowed to two issues: a) the 243-foot-high Strontia Springs Dam proposed in Waterton Canyon 25 miles southwest of Denver and b) water conservation throughout the city. Environmentalists maintain that conservation would eliminate need for the \$135 million dam, which they say is con-



CAROLYN JOHNSON of the Colorado Open Space Council led the singing of anti-Lamm songs.

siderably larger than necessary to collect water for the treatment plant. Environmentalists see the dam as the first domino in a massive, phased series of dams, tunnels, and pumps designed to collect water from west of the Continental Divide and divert it back to Denver to feed sprawl.

However, James Ogilvie of the Denver Water Department says, "Foothills stands alone." Denver city fathers and many suburban officials insist that the Strontia Springs dam is necessary.

The April 22 rally was staged primarily to draw attention to Lamm's lobbying for federal permits to build Foothills. A Bureau of Land Management permit has been granted. However, under provisions of the Clean Water Act, EPA must approve the Army Corps of Engineers' issue of a dredge-and-fill permit before haul road and dam construction can begin along the South Platte River in Waterton Canyon.

Representatives from the Colorado Open Space Council, the Sierra Club, Trout Unlimited and other groups also read anti-dam, anti-Lamm statements at the rally. The participants were serious in their intent, but humor was planned into the

event. The crowd of about 100 belted out openly derisive songs with lyrics like: Baa baa Black Lamm, Have you any pull?

"Yes sir, yes sir, nine dams full. Seven on the West Slope, Two on the Platte; I'll put more anywhere you're at." Baa baa Black Lamm, Don't you give a damn? Have you forgotten why you ran?

The punch line of another song was, "Oh when the pork comes rolling in" (pork as in barrel). Most of the crowd wore black and yellow "Stop the Dams" buttons. There was a skit featuring a wolf in Lamm's clothing.

On April 25 EPA held hearings in the little mountain town of Silverthorne, 75 miles west of Denver. Silverthorne lies immediately beneath Dillon Dam, the largest dam in the Denver Water Department system. Twenty-three witnesses testified for over four hours, some of whom portrayed Denver's water officials as robber barons draining the West Slope of its lifeblood.

More than 400 people wanted to testify so the hearing continued into a second day.

EPA officials explained the agency's position on Foothills. EPA Regional Administrator Alan Merson's skepticism about Foothills has been well-publicized. EPA's Jack Hoffbuhr outlined a four-point water conservation program the agency has suggested as a condition of the dredge-and-fill permit. First: universal water metering. Second: a rate structure that favors those who use less water. Third: restricted summer lawn sprinkling. Fourth: building code changes specifying water-saving plumbing devices (toilets, tubs, etc.). "There is not now," Hoffbuhr said, "a strong water-conservation ethic in Denver."

Denver Deputy Mayor Harold Cook charged EPA with trying to impose a "fanatical conservation ethic on our area" that would make residents "second class citizens." The water department's Ogilvie accused the agency of "unlawful and unwarranted intrusion" into the city's business.

Several issues were explored at the hearing:

—**Water conservation.** None objected to it — in theory. Foothills proponents said, however, that meters are too expensive to install. They also said rate structures favoring water conservation are discriminatory. Environmentalists favored all four points of the EPA proposal but had few additional measures to suggest. The plan, they said, would secure metro Denver's water needs to the mid-1990s.

—**Strontia Springs Dam.** This was the first time the dam had been separated from the 125 million gallons-per-day treatment plant, which no one has been fighting. Environmentalists argued that the dam would be too big for the purpose of serving the plant. Their alternative was a small, 50-foot-high dam and tunnel system. Ogilvie said it would be "ridiculous" to build a facility that wouldn't lend itself to future expansion. Later he said that the water department had not considered non-expandable alternatives.

—**Waterton Canyon.** A number of individuals testified who regard Waterton Canyon, which is about 25 miles from the city, as one of the amenities that makes living in Denver unique and worthwhile. "The state could never re-create a resource like this," said wildlife biologist Pauline Plaza. She also noted several uncommon birds that live in the canyon: pygmy owls, golden and bald eagles, an occasional peregrine falcon. Ogilvie said the canyon has "a mediocre



PICKETS ON THE STATE CAPITOL steps. Other signs read: "No More Pork," "Dam Lamm, not Waterton," and "Save Water, Don't Dam It."

fishery." With Strontia Springs, he said, "wildlife will be better managed, recreational opportunities enhanced, and the fishery improved." Plaza replied, "You don't improve wildlife habitat by putting in a 22-foot-wide road." She also noted that part of the project would be in the middle of the bighorn sheep lambing grounds.

—**Urban sprawl.** Environmentalists expressed their concern that Strontia Springs is a step in a huge building program that would bring more and more water to feed an expanding city that has already spread 26 miles north-south and 24 miles east-west. "The psychological aspects of sprawl are utterly demoralizing," said one young man. "A monotonous, man-made aesthetic is in no way on a par with nature's."

William Coburn, mayor pro-tem of Aurora, an east Denver suburb of 140,000 people, expressed the hope that his city would be "the same size as Denver" by the year 2000.

—**Smog.** Sprawl means a lot of driving, commuting, auto emissions, and Denver's "brown cloud." Boulder, Colo., resident Ann Vickery noted that "national standards (for clean air) are being violated on a daily basis" in Denver. She detailed ill effects on human health and then asked, "Do we value over-watered lawns more than lives?"

Denver Deputy Mayor Cook said his city's smog was something for Detroit auto makers to clean up.

—**Quality of life.** This was the bottom line, according to many environmentalists. Donna Lucero of the League of Women Voters of Denver, said, "We must learn to do more with less, lead a more responsible lifestyle, and use our resource base more efficiently." For her, the good life involves a commitment to living sensibly within the constraints of Denver's semi-arid environment.

For former Denver City Councilman Irving Hook, the good life was tied more to preserving the individual's freedom to use a dishwasher, a garbage disposal, a lawn sprinkler, and a hose to wash a car.

Both supporters and opponents of Foothills see the future of the area as being tied to the Foothills project. "We would be forced to live continually in a desert," said Aurora's mayor pro-tem Coburn, if the project doesn't get going. He said that the majority of Aurora citizens are from the East and would leave. He also brandished the

city's power to condemn agricultural water rights and ruin farmers.

Anthony Richter, mayor of the north Denver suburb of Thornton, predicted that Denver would become "dispirited, and financially and morally bankrupt like New York" without Foothills and succeeding projects. Other prophecies included losing water to other states, unemployed hard hats, water billed to low income folks at the rate of \$1 per gallon, and the ultimate "nationalization of Western water properties."

Environmentalists and other anti-Foothills speakers talked of lost recreational and wildlife resources, of smog, sprawl and a duller, dirtier Denver.

EPA expects to announce its decision on the dredge-and-fill permit by May 8. EPA Regional Administrator Alan Merson has indicated that he will not stand in the way of Foothills, but a non-expandable replacement for Strontia Springs and water conservation for Denver remain distinct possibilities. If the agency recommends either, more debate is inevitable. Already, the Denver Water Board is suing the federal government for delaying Foothills.



DWIGHT FILLEY of the Colorado Open Space Council helped organize the rally. In 1972, he worked closely with Lamm to defeat the Colorado Olympics, but now he says the old alliance is changed.



Western Roundup



Court rejects BLM's request for delay on grazing EIS's

The Bureau of Land Management's request to delay the completion of environmental impact statements on livestock grazing on public lands has been rejected by a federal district judge, Thomas A. Flannery. The Natural Resources Defense Council, Inc. and other environmental plaintiffs in a suit had opposed the BLM's proposal. Instead of adopting the new schedule proposed by the BLM, the court reaffirmed the need to have environmental impact statements (EIS's) prepared as quickly as possible and accepted NRDC's limited revisions of the original schedule.

The original schedule was approved by Flannery following his December 1974 ruling in *NRDC, et al. v. Morton, et al.* He said then that the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 required the BLM to prepare statements that analyze the impact of grazing on specific areas of the public lands. Under the original schedule the BLM was required to complete EIS's covering approximately 104 million acres by the end of fiscal year 1981.

The BLM later argued that it couldn't meet the schedule. According to Paul Leonard of the BLM in Wyoming, the EIS's require a huge inventory of wildlife, soil, and vegetation. "We've already utilized the

contract abilities that are available," he says, referring to BLM contracts with independent firms to conduct inventories both for the grazing EIS's and for coal EIS's, which are being completed at the same time. Once the inventories are complete, a year of planning and 14-16 months of EIS preparation are necessary for each area, he says.

The BLM's proposal, if accepted, would have reduced by approximately one-half the amount of land to be covered by 1981.

In rejecting the schedule changes proposed by the BLM, Flannery criticized the agency's continuing failure to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act and to improve conditions on the public lands. He said the "deterioration has continued while the federal defendants have failed to meet every deadline thus far imposed by this court's Final Judgment."

The court also criticized the new schedule proposed by the BLM. In response to BLM's claim that additional time was needed to obtain resource information, the court said it had been persuaded that "additional data can be collected and the statements prepared in less time than that requested by the BLM."



QUALITY OF RANGE LAND has continued to deteriorate while the Bureau of Land Management has failed to meet its deadlines for environmental impact statements.

40,000 acre DuNoir wilderness proposed

U.S. Rep. Teno Roncalio (D-Wyo.) has introduced legislation designating a nearly 40,000-acre DuNoir addition to the Washakie Wilderness in northwest Wyoming. The proposal would replace the 11,000-acre Forest Service wilderness recommendation and is supported by state conservationists.

The 11,000-acre Forest Service proposal was the subject of criticism at public hearings in Wyoming last month. Roncalio, in proposing the larger area, said the agency's proposal was "totally inadequate." He said that the boundaries were "unrecognizable,

unmanageable, and unenforceable," representing an "arbitrary division of stream drainages and wildlife habitat."

The DuNoir has been the subject of controversy in Wyoming for almost 10 years. The timber industry wanted the land opened for timber harvest instead of declared wilderness. Roncalio says that although the area has a potential annual timber yield of about two million board feet annually, it is less than 1.5 percent of the total annual potential yield from the Shoshone and Bridger-Teton National Forests.



Photo by Dick Randall. Defenders of Wildlife DEFENDERS OF WILDLIFE says that a Utah coyote-deer study was merely another attempt at subsidized coyote extermination.

House committees finish Alaska markup

The House Interior and Merchant Marine committees have given their final approval to the Alaska National Interest Lands legislation, and supporters hope to have the full U.S. House of Representatives vote on the bill as soon as the week of May 15.

The total acreage covered by the bill after the Interior Committee markup was 95.5 million. Wilderness acreage was cut from 82 million to 72 million, and 62% of the wilderness and wilderness study acreage was dropped from southeast Alaska's Tongass National Forest.

The bill has also been cleared by the Merchant Marine Committee, which has jurisdiction over wildlife refuges. That committee did "some good things and some bad things," according to an Alaska Coalition spokesman. The committee expanded

the wilderness in the Arctic National Wildlife Range, which covers 13 million acres. However, 10 million acres of wilderness was cut from various other refuges, and a cooperative management program was established for the Bristol Bay area. The program would create a joint state-federal study of wildlife refuges in the area. The Alaska Coalition opposes this concept because "it holds lands in limbo and does not provide adequate protection of areas that should be part of the refuge system now."

The Alaska Coalition is urging that interested people write to members of the House Rules Committee to expedite action so that the bill can be considered on the House floor. The group is also asking citizens to write their representatives in support of a strong Alaska lands bill.

Mexico mining pollutes Arizona river

Mining operations in Sonora, Mexico, have been causing water pollution problems in the San Pedro River as it enters Arizona. The Arizona State Bureau of Water Quality Control said, "The water is unsuitable for drinking, and caution should be used in considering other uses of the water in its present condition."

The bureau also says, "As a matter of fact, we have written farmers in the area to recommend they limit agricultural use of

the water, especially for livestock." The San Pedro also exceeds state surface water quality standards for wildlife and recreation.

The river water was monitored during most of March, and the analysis revealed excessive concentrations of manganese, iron, copper, and sulfates. The Mexican government has agreed to enforce measures to halt the pollution. The San Pedro flows northward into Arizona from Mexico.

Utah coyote-deer study suspended

A joint federal state coyote-deer study has been suspended in Utah until it achieves, "full compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act and other applicable federal law," according to the Defenders of Wildlife. Defenders said that the study called for "the killing of coyotes to the greatest extent possible on 1.5 million acres of public land... in southeastern Utah and subsequent measurements on

population changes of the deer."

The group said that the study, which was conducted under the auspices of the Utah Agricultural and Wildlife Damage Prevention Board, was "nothing more than a smokescreen to cover another subsidized coyote killing effort." Defenders and eight other national wildlife groups had joined in the effort to halt the research.

14-High Country News
May 5, 1978



Eavesdropper

environmental news from around the world



ORV PLAN RELEASED. The U.S. Interior Department has announced the availability of an environmental impact statement concerning the use of off-road vehicles on public lands. The document recommends only limited closures of public land to ORV use, but it restricts vehicles from areas "determined to be threatened by harmful impacts." This is the second "final EIS" on ORV use. The first, published in 1975, was redone in response to a court order, which directed an intensive examination of management alternatives. Copies are available from the Office of Environmental Affairs, Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service, Room 102, Interior Department, Washington, D.C. 20240.

100 MILES TO THE GALLON. A New Zealander has invented a car fueled with water that gets 100 miles to the gallon, according to the *Washington Spectator*. The invention uses battery-powered electrolysis to decompose water into hydrogen and oxygen. The hydrogen is then burned in an internal combustion engine. "Should the results of this and much other hydrogen experimentation now in progress finally reach the mass production stage, imagine what it could mean..." says water resource consultant Lewis Smith.

COUNTRY CAN'T BE CLEANED. The National Environmental Development Association (NEDA) says that the goals of conservation and industrial development can't be met and that environmental goals should be sacrificed, according to Gannett News Service. At a Washington, D.C., meeting, the group's keynote speaker called the environmental movement "one of the most obvious symptoms of the larger, all-encompassing cancer that eats away at the life forces of the republic — perhaps even of Western civilization." However, pollster Louis Harris told the group that the general populace has "a tough underlying dedication to environmental cleanup." Harris said that a number of surveys indicate that people want jobs and plentiful energy, but not at the expense of excessive environmental damage.

EX-GOV. SEEKS THIRD TERM. Former Oregon Gov. Tom McCall, well-known for his tough environmental stands, is seeking the Republican nomination for a third term as governor. He has been out of office for four years, as mandated by an Oregon constitutional provision that prohibits a governor from serving more than two consecutive terms. While in office, McCall successfully sponsored a bill to ban throwaway cans and bottles, pushed for land use planning, blocked runaway commercial development, and invited tourists to visit Oregon but not to move there. McCall is expected to win his party's nomination and face incumbent Gov. Robert Straub, whom McCall has defeated twice before.

ISOPOD ENDANGERED. The Socorro isopod, a relative of the common sowbug, has been listed as an endangered species by the Interior Department. New Mexico first suggested the species be added to the list. The isopod is one of only two freshwater species in a family that is otherwise entirely ocean-dwelling. The department says the species "offers a great opportunity for increasing the understanding of species evolution and adaptation to environmental change."

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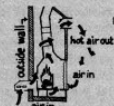
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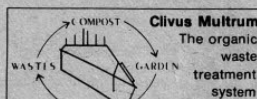


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CANYON COUNTRY GUIDEBOOKS. For a list of 12 guidebooks and maps describing the canyon country of southeastern Utah, write Wasatch Publishers, P.O. Box 963H, Moab, UT 84532.

STAFF OPENINGS. The Dakota Resource Council has openings for two full-time field persons. The DRC is a recently organized citizens organization of farmers, ranchers, and other citizens working on energy and coal development issues in North Dakota. Send resume, writing sample, and references to DRC, P.O. Box 254, Dickinson, ND 58601, (701) 227-1851.

UTAH WRITERS sought by HCN. We are interested in stories from Utah on air pollution, alternative energy innovations, coal development, and people making the news. Pay is two cents to four cents per word for fair, accurate news reporting. One-sided diatribes unacceptable. Contact Joan Nice, Box K, Lander, Wyo. 82520 with story ideas.

FIELD WORK. Volunteers needed to inventory roadless areas in northwest Wyoming. Should be able to read a map, hike, take slides, and prepare a brief written report. Contact Bart Koehler, The Wilderness Society, Box 1184, Cheyenne, Wyo. 82001.

CITIZENS' FOOTRACE. High Country News is sponsoring the Second Annual Lander Citizens' Footrace to be held June 3. (The date has been changed.)

To enter, come to the southeast end of City Park between 5 and 5:45 p.m. The fee is \$1. Starting time is 6 p.m. Classes of competition will be based on interest and number of entries. For more information call Sarah Doll at 332-3929 or Joan Nice at 332-4877. (Classes last year ranged from youth to over-40, including a walking class.)

SHOW YOU CARE. Become a member of National Parks & Conservation Association. For over 50 years NPCA has been a leader in the continuing battle to protect our environment. Join with us today in our fight for a better tomorrow. Members receive our fascinating, monthly magazine. For membership information write to: NPCA, Dept., M, 1701-18th St., N.W. Washington, D.C. 20009.

INTERESTED IN A LIVELIHOOD in appropriate technology? ECOS, Inc., a small, two-year-old company involved in waste (and therefore energy) conservation and organic waste treatment systems (compost toilets), has an immediate need for dedicated, knowledgeable individuals to promote our conservation programs, services, and products. Opportunity for advancement at all levels of the company. Excellent commissions, great bunch of people, exciting, "right livelihood." Call Gail at (617) 782-0002 in Boston.

STAFF PERSON. Colorado Open Space Council Mining Workshop is looking for a staff person to coordinate our work on coal, oil shale, and minerals development with that of Western Slope mining activists and to develop a strong Front Range volunteer base. Applicants should be able to work well with people and should be committed to the environmental movement. Organizing experience would be useful but is not essential. Send resume and writing samples by June 1 to Brad Klafehn, COSC Mining Workshop, 2239 E. Colfax Ave., Denver, Colo. 80206. Telephone (303) 321-6588.



HCN Bulletin Board



-15
May 5, 1978

LOONEY LIMERICKS by Zane E. Cology

Have you heard about the New Right?
They're fighting a glorious fight.
Freedom's their motto
For smokestack and auto.
But breathers? Go choke on the blight.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN AUDUBON CONFERENCE

The Rocky Mountain Regional Audubon Conference will be held in Sierra Vista, Ariz., on June 3 and 4, with field trips scheduled for May 31, and June 1, 2, 5, and 6. The location for the conference was chosen because of the "unique position in the heart of one of America's great ornithological meccas." Southwestern habitat management issues will be discussed. For further information, contact the regional Audubon Society office, P.O. Box 3232, Boulder, Colo. 80307.

ASPEN ENERGY FORUM

Humanistic Choices is the theme of the fifth annual Aspen Energy Forum 1978. Speakers from throughout the country will explore appropriate technology, holistic architecture, alternative energy sources, energy self-sufficient development, and water conservation. Tuition is \$50, or \$30 for students. Write to the Roaring Fork Resource Center, Box 9950, Aspen, Colo. 81611. The forum will be May 26-28 at the Aspen Institute for Humanistic Studies in Aspen, Colo.

WYOMING HIKERS NEEDED

Conservation groups need field workers this summer to do wilderness research in Wyoming on a volunteer basis, Bart Koehler of the Wilderness Society says. Inventory work on roadless areas, particularly in the northwest part of the state, will be required. Volunteers should be willing to hike, take slides, and prepare a brief written report about the area they visit. The information will be used in the Forest Service's Roadless Area Review and Evaluation (RARE II). For more information contact Koehler at Box 1184, Cheyenne, Wyo. 82001.

PREDATOR CONTROL HEARINGS

Hearings on the U.S. Interior Department's predator control policy are scheduled for three Western cities this month. Draft copies of the agency's "Animal Damage Control Policy Study," which examines the livestock industry's need for predator control and the environmental problems associated with it, are available from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (PAO), P.O. Box 25498, Denver Federal Center, Denver, Colo. 80225. Hearings will be May 22 at Boise State University in Boise, Idaho; May 23 at the Ramada Inn in Casper, Wyo.; May 25 in the Houston-Harte Center in San Angelo, Tex.; and May 31 at the Interior Department Auditorium in Washington D.C. Each hearing will begin at 9 a.m. To testify contact Sheila Minor, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240, (202) 343-4945 before May 15. Written testimony is due by May 31.

ALASKA GAS PIPELINE

The U.S. Interior Department is asking for comments on proposed environmental and technical stipulations for the Alaska gas pipeline. Copies of the stipulations will be available May 15 from J. Coan, Bureau of Land Management, 555 Cordova St., Anchorage, Alaska 99501. Comments should be sent to the same address "as soon as possible," according to the agency.

BLM WILDERNESS REVIEW

A four-page bulletin on the Bureau of Land Management's wilderness review program has been prepared by the Sierra Club. Copies are available from John McComb, Sierra Club, 30 Pennsylvania Ave., S.E., Washington, D.C. 20003.

HIGH RISE SOLAR ENERGY

A case study of the installation and operation of a solar water heating system on an existing 16-story apartment building has been published by the Department of Energy. The report may be purchased for \$5 from the National Technical Information Service, U.S. Department of Commerce, 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, Va. 22161.



BUSINESS SKILLS SEMINAR

The Northern Rockies Action Group is sponsoring a Business Skills Seminar on May 18 to 21 in Helena, Mont. Six courses will be taught: financial development; financial management; democratic management and organizational growth; marketing; women in business; and community economic development strategies. For further information contact Patricia Higgins, NRAG, 9 Placer St., Helena, Mont. 59601. Telephone (406) 442-6615.

LOW-IMPACT CAMPING

The University of Colorado Wilderness Study Group is seeking additional information for use in a low-impact camping pamphlet. The group is interested in scientific studies, present regulations, on-going research, and individuals' own ideas. All ecosystems, desert to tundra, will be covered. Send suggestions as soon as possible to Guido Meyer, University of Colorado Wilderness Study Group, University Memorial Center, Boulder, Colo. 80302.

BIKES IN THE CITY

A Study of the Health Effects of Bicycling in an Urban Atmosphere is available free from the U.S. Department of Transportation, Office of Environmental Affairs, Washington, D.C. 20590.

NORTHERN FORESTS SPECIES LIST

The U.S. Forest Service has published an 82-page "Species List" of the birds, mammals, fishes, reptiles, and amphibians in the national forests in Idaho, Montana, and North Dakota. The listing contains more than 367 birds, 136 mammals, 155 fishes, 47 reptiles and amphibians, and 90 endangered, threatened, or special interest animals. Reference copies of the list are available in city and county libraries in the three states.

SOLAR ENERGY TIMETABLE

The Worldwatch Institute has published a study entitled "The Solar Energy Timetable," that says the world can meet five-sixths of its anticipated energy budget with solar power in 50 years. Copies of the report can be obtained from Worldwatch, 1776 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036.

ENERGY FILMS CATALOG

Green Mountain Post Films has issued a catalog of "hard-to-find" films about energy, environment, and social issues. The films listed include "The Last Resort," about the Seabrook nuclear power plant occupation and "Lovejoy's Nuclear War." Rental and sale prices for all films are listed in the bulletin. The catalog may be obtained by writing Green Mountain Post Films, Box 177, Montague, Mass. 01351.

NUCLEAR INFORMATION

For a catalog of pamphlets, books, bumperstickers, buttons, t-shirts, and films on the problems with nuclear power, write to the Environmental Action Reprint Service (EARS) at 2239 E. Colfax, Denver, Colo. 80206. Ask for catalog number nine. EARS offers a special nuclear activist's package that includes a copy of each of their articles and flyers on nuclear power, plus a brief organizer's manual and four bumper stickers.

16-High Country News — May 5, 1978

Montana's nongame wildlife finds friends

by Hank Fischer

Fanciers of long-toed salamanders, hoary bats, long-billed dowitchers, and a host of other Montana nongame animals can take heart — Montana's nongame program is finally getting off the ground. Funding problems, which have long plagued the program, may soon be solved by a federal nongame bill that would place an excise tax on certain recreational items. At the same time, Montana Department of Fish and Game Director Robert Wambach has pledged his full support to a good nongame program and has established a citizens' advisory board for nongame wildlife in Montana.

Nongame wildlife — which include any un hunted wildlife: birds, fish, reptiles, mammals, and amphibians — have long been neglected by wildlife managers. Fish and game departments receive their operating funds from hunting and fishing license fees and through special excise taxes on hunting and fishing equipment. Thus, sportsmen expect their money to be used for game species. While nongame species often benefit from land acquisition and habitat management aimed at game animals, they fail to receive the special consideration they need to insure their survival.

Several Montana nongame species are on the verge of becoming endangered. These species include the burrowing owl, the fisher, the mountain plover, the wolverine, and the ferruginous hawk. Without an effective program, the state may have to institute expensive programs to reestablish these animal populations.

A good nongame program would also address the needs of Montana recreationists interested in nonconsumptive uses of wildlife, such as birdwatching, photography, drawing, and simple wildlife observation. Special areas could be managed for birders, blinds set up for photographers, trails established for hikers. In addition, some areas could be managed to provide a maximum opportunity to see wildlife.

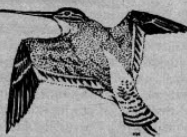
Montana has had a nongame program since 1973, when the legislature passed the



Nongame and Endangered Species Act. Funding was quite limited, however, and the program has limped along with a \$30,000 per year budget and a staff of one person. In short, 99.5% of the department's funds have gone for the benefit of the approximately 75 recognized game species in the state, while the estimated 460 nongame species (not counting reptiles, amphibians, mollusks, or crustaceans, which number in the thousands) have received next to nothing.

FEDERAL HELP

Several federal nongame bills have been introduced in the U.S. House and Senate during the past year, all aimed at providing funding for nongame programs within the individual states. While some nongame bills have proposed a federal appropriation as a funding source, national conservation organizations have been united in insisting that an excise tax on certain items of recreational equipment would provide a more dependable source of revenue. They point out that several programs dependent on Congressional appropriations — including wildlife refuges and endangered



long-billed dowitcher

species — have been typically underfunded.

A bill recently introduced by Reps. Barber Conable (R-N.Y.), Robert Leggett (D-Calif.), and Edwin Forsythe (R-N.J.) — HR 10915 — proposes to fund nongame programs through an 11% excise tax on bird seed, bird feeders, bird houses, some camping equipment, and certain binoculars and spotting scopes. It's estimated that the tax plan would generate between \$20 million and \$30 million annually. The money would then be distributed to the states on a matching funds basis, with one state dollar bringing three federal dollars. The program would be very similar to the excise tax on guns and ammunition that now supplies funds for most game programs. The tax on recreational equipment would not only guarantee a continued source of nongame funds, but it would also have the advantage of asking those people who most directly enjoy wildlife to pay for its upkeep and management. Congress is now considering the legislation.

Although the excise tax would cover the bulk of the nongame tab, each state must have some kind of funding source. Individual states have come up with various programs to raise money, including appropriations from the general fund, personalized license plates, and a checkoff fee on state income tax. Wambach isn't sure how the Montana Fish and Game Department will attempt to finance its program. So, he has established a citizens' advisory committee on nongame wildlife.

The advisory committee will not only investigate means of funding the nongame program, but will also give the Fish and Game Department advice on what type of program the public wants and how it should be implemented. Such committees have proven very valuable in California and Colorado.

Up to this point, citizens in the state have generally been quiet about the nongame program. Much of the progress that has been made is due to the efforts of Wambach and a few citizens. Wambach advises that the time is at hand for citizen involvement. "The program will only proceed

as far and as fast as the public demands it," he says.

For those who can spend a day watching a prairie dog town or a heron rookery, for those who think all forms of wildlife are important, or for sportsmen who find excitement in the chance sightings of the long-tailed weasel or a pygmy owl, Montana's efforts on behalf of nongame species herald a long-overdue approach to wildlife management.

Hank Fischer is the Montana representative for Defenders of Wildlife.

The Defenders of Wildlife is calling for citizen input to help direct the new nongame programs. People interested in nongame wildlife and recreational activities should present their ideas to the Fish and Game Commission. Write to Robert Wambach, Montana Fish and Game Director, Mitchell Building, Helena, Mont. 59601.

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