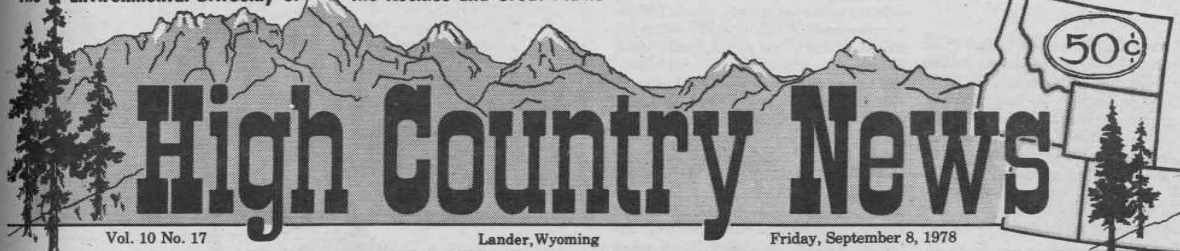


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The Environmental Biweekly of the Rockies and Great Plains



1978, the year the Senate shortchanged Alaska?

by Pam Rich

1978 may not be the Year of Alaska. Although slated to move out of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee by Sept. 15, the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation bill still faces a Senate floor debate and the horsetrading of a House-Senate conference committee — all before Congress adjourns around Oct. 15.

The bill emerging from the Senate committee is significantly weaker than the bill that passed the House in May with a vote of 277-31. Many of the changes appear to be attempts to accommodate Sen. Ted Stevens, R-Alaska, who had threatened to filibuster the bill unless weakening amendments were added.

Virtually all land units proposed for protection in the House bill have been affected. For example, the House's 8.1 million acre Gates of the Arctic National Park was divided into five units by the Senate — two parks totaling 4.5 million acres, a park preserve, and two national recreation areas. The House's 10 million acre Arctic National Wildlife Refuge was reduced to seven million acres. Four million acres rather than 9.4 million acres of the Yukon Flats area was designated a refuge in the Senate bill.

The Alaska Coalition, a conservationist lobby, is working to strengthen the bill on the Senate floor.

If the bill fails to pass Congress this year, the legislative process would start from the

(continued on page 2)



VENT MOUNTAIN in the proposed Aniakchak Caldera National Monument on the Alaska Peninsula.

Dear Friends

The paper is spare this time, offering only coverage of issues that we felt were most timely and essential. A catastrophe has shaken High Country News.

Justas Bavarskis, who had been our news editor since late May and a friend of the paper for several years, was killed in an auto accident the morning of August 27. Three other members of the staff were with him — Marjane Ambler, Dan Whipple and Jazmyn McDonald.

After a concert in Jackson Hole, the four were returning to Lander together in the dark hours of Sunday morning. About 20 miles north of Lander on the Wind River Indian Reservation, Justas swerved to avoid a horse on the road. He skirted the horse, but the car rolled into a steep borrow pit, turned over almost three times and threw out all its occupants except Marjane.

Justas died almost instantly. Marjane was alive, but her leg was pinned by the

car. Dan and Jazmyn were injured, but free of the car. The highway remained deserted for two hours. Finally a woman stopped, then drove to nearby Fort Washakie to call a medical rescue team. The survivors were admitted to the hospital in Lander early Sunday morning. Jazmyn was released the same day with a broken collarbone and bruises.

Dan, who has broken bones in his back, and Marjane, with an injured leg, two dislocated fingers and a broken collarbone, are still in the hospital. Both are mending and do not expect permanent disability. But they each face a long convalescence.

Scarred by our vision of that night, the four of us on the staff who are whole and healthy doubted our ability to put out any paper at all this time. We went ahead because we thought you should know about the accident, and because we saw that some

issues, such as the Alaska bill, may need your immediate attention.

The task became easier when we heard from people who want to keep the paper on its feet, despite disasters, despite the sadness that fills us. Thank you for your offers of help. Thank you most of all for your healing thoughts. We'll make it, we can say with some confidence now. We promise you a normal 16-page paper next time that is as timely and interesting as we can make it.

But Justas is dead and that will continue to haunt us. We hired him as news editor in May. Readers are probably most familiar with the articles he wrote for us as a freelancer on uranium, Agent Orange, 2,4,5-T, alternative toilets and the Sweetwater River.

The few months when he was around on a daily basis were something of a struggle for the paper. In his fierce pursuit of excel-

lence, he sometimes angered both readers and writers. He asked the HCN writing staff to work harder than ever before. He dared to criticize environmental groups. His mission, which he described as "clear thinking and clear writing" left everyone vulnerable. Recent "Letters" columns showed evidence of the discomfort this gave some of our readers. But when reasonable criticism came his way, he was as gracious as anyone on the staff about accepting it.

We turned down manuscripts we might have accepted in more easy-going times. In our struggle to get him interesting angles and precise documentation, our phone bill tripled. He sent almost every writer we had back to the typewriter and the telephone after reading their stories. Sometimes we had to tell him that we just weren't capable of the product he was hoping for — that we

(continued on page 2)

Dear Friends

(continued from page 1)

didn't have the resources of United Press International, the wire service he worked for for seven years before he came to HCN.

Difficult as it sometimes was, most writers were pleased with the results a tussle with Justus produced, however. He doggedly insisted on the human perspective. "How will this affect people's lives?" he'd ask. If you couldn't tell him, you headed back to the books and the telephone. The articles he edited invariably grew longer, not shorter.

On the other hand, he was clever and economical with words. While he filled in holes, he pared away the excesses that stripped power from a story.

He was an aggressive newsman — and somewhat amused by a staff that spent much of its time writing about woods, wildlife and dedicated people. "We've got to dig up some dirt, too," he'd scowl. "Every week." He struggled to give the watchdog bigger teeth.

His toughness was a challenge to the paper. We were inspired by the witty, often profane memos, flawlessly typewritten, that he piled on our desks. He had more good ideas than we even had time to file. With his help, we saw HCN becoming more

timely, comprehensive, interesting and literate.

As we worked with him, our friendship with the wild-eyed, unruly, blonde Lithuanian deepened. Standing solidly before you with one hand in his pocket, head cocked, he listened — without filters — to what you had to say. His scowling spurred us to action. So did his wit. He loved good food, drink, classical music and company. We relished the times we went out for a beer together and the times when he shared stories over delicacies sent from his family's home in Chicago — sausage, rye bread, cabbage soup, herring. He loved canoe trips, backpacking, hunting and fishing, watching the desert. He passed up lucrative job opportunities elsewhere to hang onto the rural West. He was an integral part of the independent spirit of this place, its perennial boom and bust hopes. Yet as much as he loved Wyoming, he seemed separate from it, a cultivated foreigner on a rough frontier.

Surrounded by many close friends, he had listened to a fine performance of his favorite symphony a few hours before he died. He said the work, Beethoven's Ninth, made him feel that the human spirit was capable of any task it might undertake. The lofty aspirations he had for us remain with us.

—the staff



Alaska lands bill . .

(continued from page 1)

beginning in both the House and Senate next year. In the absence of legislation, the interim protective withdrawals on the land encompassed by the proposals will be lifted Dec. 18. All lands under study would be opened to mineral claims, transportation rights-of-way, and possible transfer to state ownership.

Secretary of Interior Cecil Andrus is evaluating ways to protect the lands through administrative action if the legislation fails. He says he could declare all

lands national monuments under the Antiquities Act, withdrawing them by an executive order, or declare them Bureau of Land Management wilderness study areas under the provisions of the Federal Land Use Policy and Management Act.

Sen. Stevens hopes to block the wilderness study alternative by inserting an amendment to the Senate version of the 1979 appropriations bill that forbids any money from being spent in Alaska for the BLM wilderness review. The House version of the appropriations bill contains no similar provision. The chief sponsor of the House-passed Alaska bill, Rep. Morris Udall, D-Ariz., has sent a letter to the

House Appropriations Committee protesting the Stevens amendment.

Pam Rich is the Rocky Mountain and Great Plains coordinator for the Alaska Coalition.

For more information on the Alaska legislation, contact your senators and the Alaska Coalition (202) 543-3663. The coalition offers a recorded report on the status of the bill on its 24-hour-a-day hotline. Call (202) 547-5550.

An attempt to 'choke off' debate?

Water board sues critics of the Foothills project

The Denver Water Board has filed suit in a Denver federal court asking \$36 million in damages and an end to future interference in the Foothills water treatment project. Other plaintiffs in the suit are the Homebuilders Association of Metropolitan Denver, the Lakewood Water and Sewer Commission and six Denver-area water and sewer districts.

Named as defendants in the suit are 17 federal officials in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Departments of Interior, Agriculture, and Army, and 14 environmental groups. The complaint states that illegal interference in the issuance of rights-of-way permits and dredge and fill permits have cost Denver taxpayers \$30 million in increased construction costs, making the estimated cost of the project now total \$135 million.

The 14 environmental groups were named in the suit because their interest in the project was "adverse to that of the plaintiffs." William Haring of the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund calls the suit



"grotesque, revealing, and instructive," an attempt "to intimidate those segments of the public it (the water board) deems 'adverse,' to choke off meaningful debate in an arena where it is fast losing ground, and to reduce the shape and scope of the Foothills controversy to technical points of law."

The suit asks for \$30 million from Jack Horton, former assistant secretary of Interior, Dale Andrus, state director of the Bureau of Land Management, and Curt Berklund, former director of BLM. The three officials are charged with conspiring to "impede, delay, and prevent" the project by illegally requiring the expansion of the Foothills' environmental impact statement. An additional \$3 million is asked for

damages caused by allegedly illegal conditions attached by the officials to project permits.

The complaint also asks for \$3 million from Alan Merson, regional administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency in Denver, and Roger Williams, the deputy regional administrator, who are accused of

illegally interfering with a dredge-and-fill permit necessary for building the project's 234-foot Strontia Springs Dam. The EPA asked the Corps of Engineers not to issue the permit because it said the project would be damaging to Waterton Canyon and was unnecessary in meeting Denver's future water treatment needs.

Clean air briefing for Wyomingites

Proposed state air quality regulation revisions will be the subject of a workshop Sept. 23 in Casper, Wyo. The public is invited to attend the session, sponsored by the Wyoming Outdoor Council. It will begin at 9:30 a.m. in Room 198 of the administration building at Casper College in Casper, Wyo.

States are revising their air quality control implementation plans in response to recent amendments to the federal Clean Air Act. Although Wyoming has some of the strongest air pollution laws in the nation,

Wyoming's overall air quality has decreased since 1972, according to Randolph Wood, head of the air quality division of the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality.

Morning panels at the workshop will cover the Clean Air Act; Wyoming regulations; the impact of air quality control on health costs, consumer and industrial costs; and air pollution damage to vegetation, property and visibility. Afternoon sessions will cover related topics chosen by participants.



BAVARSKIS

Dear HCN,

Though there is little personal contact during the years, it still seems important that during a time of sorrow for the HCN staff, sorrow is shared at least in a fraternally professional way. In that respect we at WOR are no more detached from this sad event than yourselves.

It is always hard to lose talent. Often never recognized in life, at least not in true worth, plaudits seem even more important in death. Justas Bavariskis was a talent. We wish that we could have printed his work for exposure to our readers as well.

It is my hope that Marjane and the others in the accident will recover quickly to give even more meaning to Justas' reasons for writing.

Bob Rogers, editor and publisher
Wyoming Outdoor Reporter

POLICING THE RANKS

Dear Editor:

I was saddened to hear of the terrible thing that happened last week.

The tragedy underscores for me something we all must remind ourselves of constantly, and that is "procrastination is a sin." I intended to write HCN and compliment Justas on the article about racism and elitism in the environmental movement. I was surprised to see the letters that chastized us for "washing dirty laundry in public" and exhorted us to stick together no matter what.

Well, it is my feeling that we must constantly police our own ranks and continually remember that we are human.

Some of us are lucky to live where we can always experience clean air, water and beauty. Our mission should be stewardship for each other as well as the land. One without the other is hollow.

Sincerely,
Carolyn Alderson
Birney, Mont.



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THOROUGH, THOUGHTFUL

Dear High Country News,

This is just a short note to express my sorrow, sense of loss and solidarity with all the staff of HCN.

Although I did not know Justas except through correspondence, I will miss his thorough, thoughtful articles on uranium and other topics.

We are all his survivors. Let us carry on the work that he so ably began.

Dede Feldman
Albuquerque, N.M.

Alaska bill fragmented, illogical

The Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation bill that has emerged from the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee proposes a land management pattern that is fragmented, illogical, and ill-suited to the natural resources to be protected.

It does not meet the critical need in Alaska to design a blueprint that balances conservation of Alaska's unique wilderness, scenic, and wildlife values with an orderly program for development.

It has been a terrible lesson for all of us who care about Alaska to witness the Senate committee's arbitrary parceling out of great land systems with little apparent heed to the significance of what is at stake in Alaska — to watch our last frontier go the way of each of our frontiers before it. We are looking to the Senate as a whole and to the House leadership in the conference committee to protect that wilderness heritage at least as well as the House bill passed earlier this year would have.

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Write Box K, Lander, Wyoming 82520.

Sept. 8, 1978 — High Country News-3

Time to rally for 'Alternative W'

by Bart Koehler
Wilderness Society Wyoming Representative

It's September already — and that means that we have less than a month before the comment period for the Forest Service's second Roadless Area Review and Evaluation (RARE II) is over.

Wilderness supporters here in the Rockies, and elsewhere, bear a heavy burden of proof. The RARE II areas that receive strong public support for wilderness will hopefully be recommended for wilderness or further planning. The areas that don't

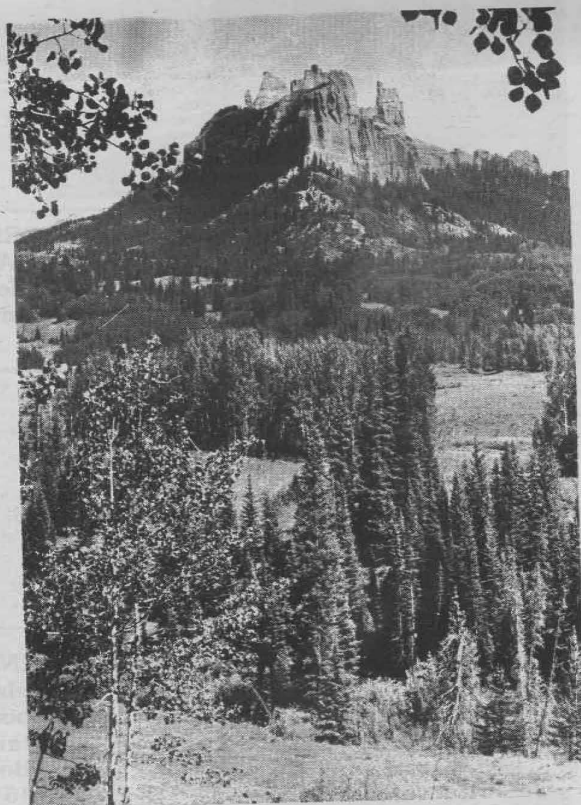
receive support will probably be recommended for non-wilderness uses.

The heart of the RARE II issue is the degradation and loss of existing resource values such as prime wildlife habitat, quality hunting and fishing, undisturbed watersheds, and unblemished scenery. These values are the foundation of our land heritage in the Rockies.

While powerful anti-wilderness forces declare that we "have enough wilderness," wilderness supporters are stressing that the real issue is "how much of our wild country can we afford to lose?"

Conservation groups in the Rocky Mountain states aren't satisfied with the Forest Service alternatives. So they have carefully researched and proposed their own "Alternative W." You can help preserve a part of the Rocky Mountain wilderness heritage by writing your regional forester a letter in support of Alternative W for your state and by specifically endorsing wilderness protection for your favorite wild places. Your letter must be mailed by Oct. 1st.

Edward Abbey once wrote that, "The wilderness needs no defense. It only needs more defenders." RARE II is the best chance for all of us to vigorously defend the wild places we love.



U.S. Forest Service photo

TIME IS RUNNING OUT for public input on the Forest Service's Roadless Area Review and Evaluation (RARE II). Comments are due Oct. 1. Mill Creek Castles in Gunnison National Forest in Colorado, shown in the photo above, is one of the many areas around the country that are the focus of the production versus preservation debate.



THE CLIMBERS are on top of North Arapaho Peak (13,502 feet), the spine of the Continental Divide.



INDIAN PEAKS, from a plane over the southern border of Rocky Mountain National Park. Boulder, Colo., is only 15 air miles from the peaks.

After 70 years of debt



PAIUTE PEAK is one of 17 mountains ranging from 12,000 to over 13,000 feet in elevation that make up the Indian Peaks area. The photo was taken from Gourd Lake Trail in the Arapaho National Forest.

PAWNEE LAKE, after an autumn snowstorm.

one last hurdle for Indian Peaks Wilderness

by Kent Dannen

After almost seven decades of dispute about the best way to manage the Indian Peaks area northwest of Denver, strong local support for wilderness designation has emerged.

U.S. Reps. James Johnson, R-Colo., and Timothy Wirth, D-Colo., have co-sponsored legislation to set aside 70,000-acre Indian Peaks Wilderness in Roosevelt and Arapaho National Forests. The bill also creates a 32,735-acre Arapaho National Recreation Area on the west edge of Indian Peaks. Colorado's senators, Floyd Haskell (D) and Gary Hart (D), are sponsoring corresponding legislation in the Senate.

When naturalist Enos Mills began lobbying for the establishment of Rocky Mountain National Park in 1909, his proposal included Indian Peaks. However, rumors of exploitable minerals kept Indian Peaks out of the park that was created in 1915.

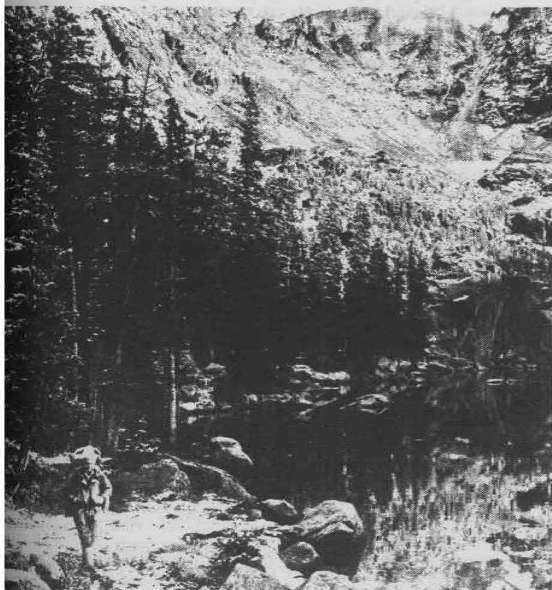
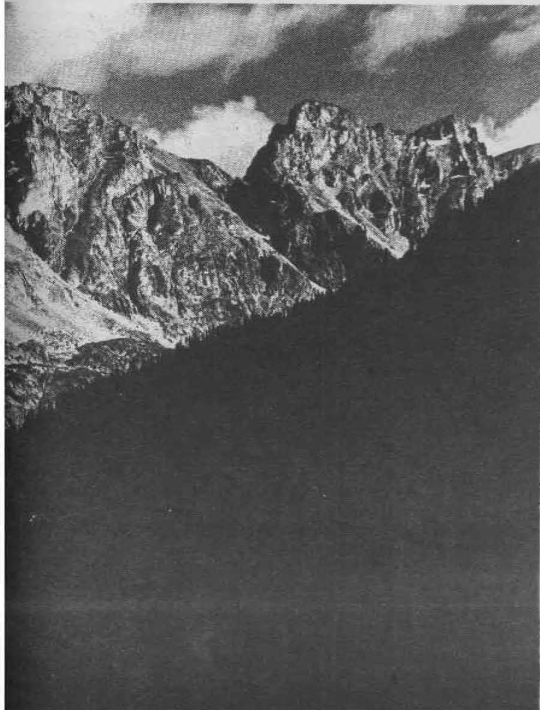
Efforts to add Indian Peaks to the park were frustrated in the 1920s and '30s by mining interests, water developers and transmountain highway proponents. After the Wilderness Act of 1964 was passed, efforts to include Indian Peaks in the National Wilderness Preservation System were blocked by Colorado Rep. Wayne Aspinall (D) and the Forest Service. A 1975 wilderness and park expansion bill was opposed by small eastern slope mountain communities who feared that park status would draw more crowds.

Fortunately, during these decades developers' dreams failed to materialize because of economic barriers. The passing years also saw a huge growth in public sympathy, particularly in urban areas, for wilderness preservation. A large number of wilderness enthusiasts in the Denver area, who are only a 90-minute drive away from the peaks, have kept on the pressure to create a wilderness area.

Through the organization of an Indian Peaks Advisory Committee, people from Denver joined with people from small mountain communities and other parts of the state to discuss, sometimes heatedly, Indian Peaks' future. After the dust and smoke from these discussions had settled, a consensus that eventually shaped the legislation emerged — to push for wilderness designation. The new national recreation area attached to the proposal, with a \$10 million appropriation, assured support from nearby western slope communities.

Now, after 70 years of debate, it seems that only Congress' inability to find time to pass the legislation could block the latest preservation effort.

(Ed. Note: The Indian Peaks bill has passed out of the House Interior Committee and is expected to come up for discussion on the House floor the week of September 11. Sen. Floyd Haskell (D) is expected to introduce the bill in the Senate. Despite Congress' hectic end-of-the-year schedule, an aide to Rep. Tim Wirth, D-Colo., is optimistic about the bill's chances of passage. "Nothing has happened in subcommittee or committee to indicate any opposition at all," he says.)



**HCN****Bulletin Board**

6-High Country News — Sept. 8, 1978

**RED DESERT TOUR**

The Citizens for the Survival of the Red Desert will hold a motorized tour Sept. 16-17. Tour leaders will emphasize the wilderness, wildlife, and geologic values of Wyoming's Red Desert. Participants should meet at the Tri-Territory Monument turnoff sign on U.S. 187 north of Rock Springs at 8 a.m. on Sept. 16. A sturdy truck or a four wheel drive vehicle is mandatory. Bring camping gear for an overnight and food for the weekend. For more information call Jack Pugh at (307) 875-6239.

INHOLDING ACQUISITION HEARING

A public hearing on the National Park Service's new proposed policy on acquisition of private lands will be held in Denver Sept. 11. The 31-million-acre National Park System has about 32,000 private property owners within its boundaries. The policy was printed in the Aug. 11 *Federal Register*. The Denver hearing will begin at 7 p.m. at the Holiday Inn at 14707 West Colfax. Written comments will be accepted until Sept. 20.

GLACIER PARK MINERAL SURVEY

The National Park Service has released an environmental assessment of a six-year geological study of Glacier National Park in Montana proposed by the U.S. Geological Survey. Comments will be received until Sept. 28. Copies of the assessment are available from the Park Superintendent, Glacier National Park, West Glacier, Mont. 59936.

APPROPRIATE TECHNOLOGY STUDY

The National Science Foundation is holding a series of public workshops to gather information for a report to Congress on appropriate technology. **West Coast Forum:** Sept. 21; for Ariz., S. Calif., Nev., Utah; held in Tucson, Ariz.; call (602) 884-1955. **Midwest Forum:** Oct. 6; for Colo., Iowa, Kansas, Mo., Neb., N.D., S.D., Wyo.; held in Kansas City, Mo.; call (303) 399-9957. **Southwest Forum:** Oct. 6; for Ark., La., N.M., Okla., Texas; held in San Antonio, Texas; call (512) 691-4318. The Northwest Forum for Montana and the Pacific Northwest was held in Eugene, Ore. on Sept. 8-9.

SOLAR WORKSHOP WORKSHOP

Teams of do-it-yourselfers interested in learning how to organize and conduct solar greenhouse construction workshops will learn basic skills at two training sessions sponsored by the Department of Energy. Three-person teams from approximately 10 groups or agencies will be trained. Sessions will be near Santa Fe, N.M., on Sept. 19-22 for northern states teams and Oct. 9-12 for southern states teams. The work-



WILD AND SCENIC CLARKS FORK RIVER. The U.S. Forest Service is studying the Clarks Fork River in northwest Wyoming for possible inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. A public workshop to review management alternatives will be held at 8

p.m. on Sept. 11 in the Student Center Cafeteria, Northwest Community College, Powell, Wyo. A final environmental statement on the proposal will be prepared by Aug. 1, 1979.

Photo by Jack Richard Photo Studio

shop is free for those teams that are accepted.

The workshops will be taught by Bill Yanda and the New Mexico Solar Sustainance Team — authorities on low-cost solar greenhouses. Teams interested in applying should call Susan Yanda at (505) 455-7550 immediately.

A BENEFIT HOO-RAH

for the Injured High Country News staff • At Art's Bar, Lander, Wyo. Mon Sept. 11, 8:00 p.m. • Music by Buffalo Chips.

GREYS-SALT RIVER PLAN RELEASED

A draft environmental statement and land management plan for the Greys-Salt River management unit of the Bridger-Teton National Forest has been released for public review. About 90% of the unit is being studied for wilderness under the RARE II program. The entire 471,000-acre unit has been leased for oil and gas. The

unit includes the entire Greys River and the entire Salt River Range in western Wyoming. Copies of the statement are available from the Bridger-Teton National Forest, Jackson, Wyo. 83001.

BLM ADVISORS SOUGHT

The Bureau of Land Management is seeking nominations to serve on its National Advisory Multiple-Use Council. The 15-member council makes recommendations on national policies and programs for the public lands administered by BLM. Representatives are needed in the following interest areas: water resources, wilderness, livestock, forest management, mining, Alaska-at-large, historic and cultural resources, environmental quality, wildlife, outdoor recreation, energy minerals, wild horse and burro, land economics, land use planning, public-at-large, and elected general-purpose government. Anyone submitting nominations should identify the interest or discipline the nominee is proposed to represent and include a resumé. Send nominations by Sept. 22, 1978, to Director (230), Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.

Herschler proposes tax burden shift

Wyoming's Governor Ed Herschler has announced a legislative proposal designed to head off any possibility of a California-style taxpayers revolt in his state. He wants a new five percent severance tax on all minerals, coupled with a 33 percent reduction in property taxes. The additional severance tax could bring in an estimated \$102 million, while the property tax reduction would amount to only \$85 million, he says. The excess would go to a mineral trust fund for future generations.

Wyoming's severance tax on coal, the most stiffly taxed mineral, is now 10.5 percent. Montana taxes coal production at 30 percent.

Herschler's plan calls for local governments to determine their financial needs, and raise two-thirds of that amount through a mill levy. The state would then reimburse the remaining third from severance tax funds.

Feds to approve four states to watchdog stripping

Thirteen months after the enactment of the federal strip mining act, the Secretary of Interior appears ready to approve four western states as the primary authorities to regulate surface mining on federal lands. Donald Crane, the Regional Director of the federal Office of Surface Mining (OSM), says that lengthy negotiations between Interior and the states of Utah, Wyoming, Montana and North Dakota have resulted in agreements that will be

signed "within a month."

The Surface Mining Act became law on Aug. 3, 1977. It provided that states would be the primary regulatory authority within their borders, so long as they adopted reclamation laws and regulations at least as stringent as the federal act. Unclear in the act, however, was whether states would regulate mining on the vast acreage of federal land in the West. In

Wyoming, for example, approximately 80 percent of the coal is under federal lands.

In 1976 Wyoming Gov. Ed Herschler filed suit against the Interior Department on the question of jurisdiction over federal lands. The judge ruled that Wyoming should be the primary regulatory authority, in cooperation with the U.S. Geological Survey.

"As long as we maintain cooperation, our

role will be to supplement, not supplant the states," Crane says.

Some observers had feared the coal mining industry would go unregulated while the states and federal government argued over jurisdiction. Walt Ackerman of the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality says, "My job is to address the land, not a bunch of bureaucratic paper work. Now I can get back to it."

ays one environmental statement is enough

Judge nods to Piceance Basin shale development

Proponents of oil shale development in Colorado won a major victory in U.S. District Court Aug. 25.

District Judge Sherman Finesilver rejected arguments by three conservation groups — Environmental Defense Fund, Colorado Open Space Council and Friends of the Earth — and held that development could proceed on two federal oil shale leases in the Piceance Basin of Northwest Colorado.

The groups had argued that the National

Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) required that environmental impact statements be prepared on detailed development plans and applications for rights of way for the two lease tracts.

The Interior Department and the leaseholders — Gulf Oil Corp., Standard Oil Company of Indiana, Occidental Oil Shale and Ashland Colorado — argued that a 1973 impact statement on the oil shale leasing program in Colorado, Utah

and Wyoming was sufficient.

Finesilver ruled that the government had gone "above and beyond" the requirements of NEPA and that additional impact statements were unnecessary. The conservation groups have filed a notice of appeal.

Kevin Markey, Colorado representative for Friends of the Earth, says the judge "neatly sidestepped a lot of the key issues" in the case.

"The judge ruled that the 1973 EIS (environmental impact statement) on the leasing program was sufficient, but the EIS acknowledged that several impacts could not be adequately evaluated or mitigating measures proposed until site specific mining plans had been submitted," Markey says.

Detailed development plans for the Colorado leases were approved last year — four years after the leasing EIS was approved.

"A new EIS should look at the changes in

plans and changes in technology since 1973," Markey says.

"The hypothetical off-tract facilities postulated in the 1973 EIS bear little resemblance to the lessees' actual proposals," he says. "For example, the EIS projected a 40-mile pipeline from tract C-b to Rangely, Colo. But recent plans call for a 240-mile pipeline from C-b to Casper, Wyo. This is the kind of major change that needs to be dealt with in a new EIS."

The government argued that changes in development plans since 1973 were covered in a document prepared by the oil shale program supervisor.

Markey says the document does not meet the requirements of NEPA, "and that's something we'll have to deal with in our appeal." He says the document was based on lessee data, did not evaluate cumulative impacts, was kept secret and not released until the time of the suit, and was never subjected to public review.

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WHALE CENTER helps to save whales. Donate \$1 for Whale Gift Catalog, 3929 Piedmont Avenue, Oakland, CA 94611.

POSITION. The Alternative Energy Resources Organization (AERO) is in dire need of an office manager — administrator. Our projects are threatening to overwhelm us!

Duties would be: Handling of office routine, including volunteer help. Coordinating of special projects. Handling of communications between AERO's main office and affiliate groups.

Pay will start at \$400 per month. Contact Kye Cochran, AERO, 435 Stapleton Building, Billings, Mont. 59101. (406) 259-1958.

WANTED: a dedicated person to work out of the Wyoming Outdoor Council's new Lander office. A challenging opportunity to affect resource and conservation issues at both the local and the statewide level. Job starts as soon as possible with a short orientation time in the Cheyenne office. For details and a job description, write or call Bill Sperry, WOC, Box 1184, Cheyenne, Wyo. 82001. (307) 635-3416.

WRITERS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS sought by HCN. We are looking for articles and photographs of alternative energy and other appropriate technology projects in the Rocky Mountain region (Wyoming, Montana, Colorado, Idaho and Utah). Pay is two to three cents per word for fair, accurate news reporting. \$2 to \$4 for black and white photographs. Contact Joan Nice, Box K, Lander, Wyo. 82520, with story ideas.

Group protests shift in coal leasing plans

The Western Colorado Resource Council, based in Hotchkiss, Colo., has brought an appeal against the Colorado office of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The appeal involves a 1977 revision of the North Fork Planning Unit's Management Framework Plan (MFP). The appeal charges that the document was changed to allow more coal mining after it was presented to the public.

The North Fork Planning Unit consists of 246,000 acres in west central Colorado. The landscape is dominated by the North Fork of the Gunnison River. There is some mining in the area now, but the economy is based on agriculture. Products include

fruit, livestock, grain and hay. The population of the area is sparse — approximately 5,000. Public interest in coal development is high, as farmers are concerned with pro-

tecting the irrigation water vital to their operations.

By July of 1976, 15 units of land totaling 35,000 acres were nominated by the coal industry for mining development under the Department of the Interior's Energy Minerals Activity Recommendation System (EMARS). By August of 1977 studies were completed on the tracts, and the resultant minerals revision of the MFP was presented at a public meeting. This plan recommended three tracts be leased for mining in the near future — one new mine and two extensions of existing mines. Two tracts were recommended for future leasing, while the remaining 10 were rejected.

According to Mark Welsh, staff researcher for the Western Colorado Resource Council (WCRC), the plan was well received by citizens at the meeting, who were led to believe the proposal was complete.

The following month the BLM state director, Dale Andrus, approved the plan, but only after changing the classification of nine of the ten "rejected" tracts to "deferred." The deferrals vary from tract to tract, but are, for the most part, for a minimum of five years "or until need and demand is such to warrant re-evaluation." This change has not been presented to the public, and WCRC, in its appeal, calls this a violation of the BLM's own public participation policy.

The BLM state office denies that any change was made. Welsh says this is in direct conflict with the BLM's own documents, including the MFP.

In addition, WCRC says that the Department of Interior has not justified the need for additional leasing. Production from the mines now operating in the area is expected to increase fourfold in the next eight years, resulting in a boom situation.

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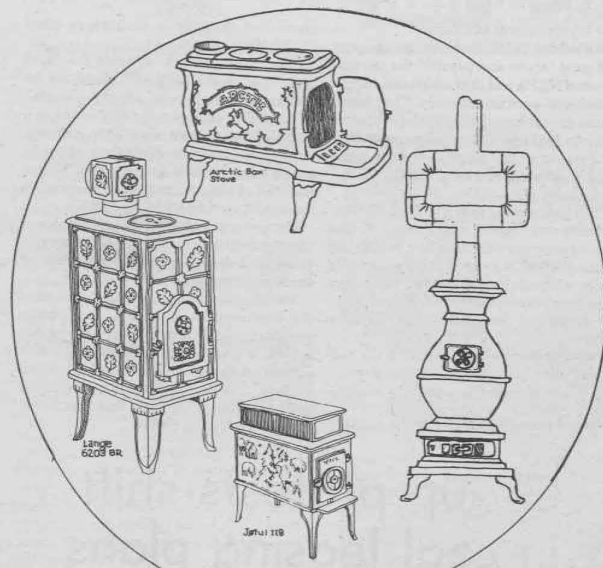
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Modern and Classic Woodburning Stoves



— drawings from Modern and Classic Woodburning Stoves

by Bob and Carol Ross, Overlook Press, Woodstock, New York, 1978. \$4.95, paper, 158 pages. Illustrations.

Review by Peter Wild

Heating a house—or even just a room—with wood may mean an initial outlay of several hundred dollars. For a small further investment, this guide can insure that the new system will be efficient, safe, and esthetically pleasing, as well as pay for itself in a few seasons.

The conversion to wood is not complicated. Yet it is not one to make on impulse.



To dash out in a rage after receiving the first fuel bill of the winter and buy the charming stove displayed in the local hardware store window may not be the best way to choose one of the most essential appliances in the home. For instance, the traditional American cast iron stove that

our grandparents used readily sparks nostalgia, but it probably will prove woefully inadequate. The design allows 75% of the potential heat to escape up the chimney.

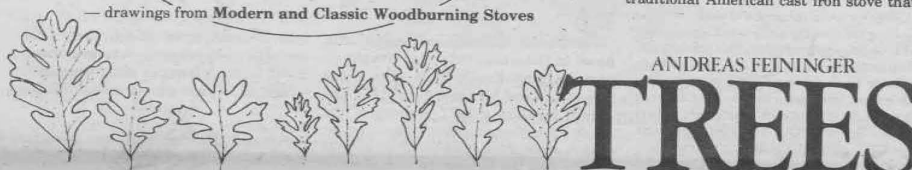
The beauty of this book is that the authors outline the many good alternatives, as well as the unexpected pitfalls, of heating with wood. The most helpful chapter is "Selecting a Stove." Here the writers' practical experience and attention to detail is sure to help the buyer bring home a stove that will be a friend of the family rather than a refractory nuisance.

The chapter surveys foreign and domestic products, with emphasis on imports: the Jøtul 602, Chappee 8033, and the stylish Lange 6203BR. The Rosses' intimate knowledge of the various pros and cons of the models is the reader's payoff. For example, they point out that the top of the Norwegian Jøtul 118 warps in a small percentage of cases. This in itself need not be a reason to avoid the model. It does mean, however, that customers should make sure that free top replacements are available locally. All of which emphasizes the wisdom of choosing a reliable dealer.

Similar attention to detail characterizes chapters on installing and operating stoves, selecting firewood, and constructing chimneys. The authors take the time to mention that round flue pipes are better than standard rectangular tiles, since they offer less resistance to spiraling gases. More wide-ranging are sections explaining the compatibility of wood and solar systems and describing four houses designed to be heated with wood.

All is clearly illustrated and told with the sense of delight of two people obviously enjoying their commitment to a simpler way of life.

Though it's published by a small press, there should be no problem in getting a copy of *Modern and Classic Woodburning Stoves*. Distribution is handled through The Viking Press, 625 Madison Avenue, New York, New York 10022.



ANDREAS FEININGER

TREES

text and photos by Andreas Feininger, Penguin Books, New York, 1978. \$9.95, paper; \$25.00, hard cover, 116 pages.

Review by Peter Wild

"What gall! What chutzpah!" I said to myself as the book fell out of its envelope from Penguin. "In their belief that anything will sell these days, the publishers have put forward another oversized book on an amorphous subject. This one not only is on the breezy subject of 'trees,' but it was first published some 10 years ago. Next will be the full-color but thin fare of *Knees, Bee, and Fleas*—all destined for dentists' offices, where anxious patients will half-heartedly flip through the pages."

Then thumbing through the book, I spied some pictures of saguaros sandwiched between pages of conifers. A little further were Mojave yuccas. Now, as desert tourists quickly learn, despite its tree-like appearance the saguaro is a cactus and the Mojave yucca little more than a big lily twisted weirdly out of shape.

Sitting down to look for more smoking pistols, I came away hours later with an entirely different impression. For what first seems to invite condemnation of the jerry-built format book in reality is the careful probing by an accomplished naturalist and photographer of a vision earned through years of study. Through Feininger, the trees we hardly notice in our daily lives invoke the wonder of scientific complexity and mystery.

Feininger avoids the clichéd sentiment of Joyce Kilmer by knowing intimately and

from every angle the things he praises. For the most part, the text is a substantial and straightforward discussion of trees in general, taking in the history of forestry conservation in the U.S., the wide economic importance of trees, their evolution, chemistry and structure. There is little stunning in the wide approach, but it can mean rediscoveries. For me, the review of the roles that xylem and phloem play and the strange workings of chloroplasts brought back the wonder first experienced through a microscope in a high school botany class.

The book does take occasional excursions—for instance, into the bizarre punishment the ancient tree-loving Germans prescribed for anyone injuring a sacred grove or the reason why northern oaks, having migrated from the South, keep their dead leaves through the cold months. And the author mentions some of the mysteries—why all the winter buds on a tree spring

for our wonder. Seen in this way, individualized, shaping themselves it would seem with an esthetic sense of their own, the trees begin to take on god-like qualities. By the end of the book one fears one could become a worshipper of the cottonwood down by the creek.

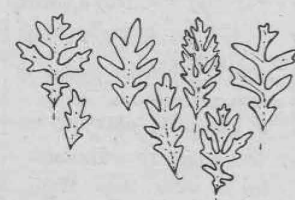
Feininger places the 14 photo portfolios at the ends of chapters to illustrate the subject matter of each—for example, leaves, trunks, roots. Some might find this annoying, since the arrangement means skipping back and forth between text and photos. For the benefit of devotees, full notes on the photographs appear at the back of the book.

So, what about the saguaros and the Mojave yuccas? The author explains that, taxonomy aside, they fit into the configurations of trees. He goes on to apologize, "I included these because they are big, beautiful, and unique." I think we can forgive his enthusiasm.

Seen in this way, individualized, the trees begin to take on god-like qualities. By the end of the book one fears one could become a worshipper of the cottonwood down by the creek.

open on the same day—that scientists have yet to fathom.

All this, though, is mere background for the trees themselves as revealed through Feininger's camera. In accordance with his respect for his subjects, there is little stagnation here—no fog-enshrouded behemoths or rainbows disappearing into beech forests—just the trees speaking for themselves. He presents the swirlings of bristlecone wood or the bridge-like structure of the mangrove tree as its own justification



In The News

Alaska

land conservation bill in trouble.

1

Indian Peaks

the wilderness beside the megalopolis.

4

Oil shale

developers win in Colorado.

7

Thanks to the people whose generosity and concern made this issue possible. You gave us strength through your calls, letters and visits. And thanks to those who helped with office work: Lynn Dickey, Mike Weber, Ron Shaw, Pam Rich, Colleen Kelly, Mike McClure, Mary Morehouse and former staff members Mary Margaret Davis, August Dailer and Bruce Hamilton. We are also grateful to part-time staff members Jacque Shaw and Sarah Dell, who shouldered full-time responsibilities this issue, and to office manager Jazmyne McDonald, who ignored her injuries for us.