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Stout-hearted Hornaday waged a war for wildlife

©1978 by Peter Wild

"Just what is the nature of the next raw deal that the Furies have in store for the harassed game of this nation, only the devil knows," railed William T. Hornaday in a typically acid outburst. "Perhaps it will be the wholesale slaughtering of game en masse with poison gas. Perhaps for masses of ducks and geese at rest it will be a sportsmanlike form of the Lewis machine gun. Quien sabe?"

Patient, polite and steady prodding by reasonable men and women have characterized decades of environmental progress, but not all conservationists reflect the gentleness of a John Burroughs or the liberal refinement of a Carl Schurz. Under some circumstances a warlike approach is the only one that works. Militancy reached its full expression during the years following Rachel Carson's revelations about pesticides in the early 1960s. But its forerunner was a man who had been dead and largely ignored for 30 years, and a man not wholly admirable.

With William Temple Hornaday one learns to accept the good with the bad. He divided the world into two categories: friends and enemies. Friends were those who agreed with him absolutely. All others

—including those who questioned even the fine points of his programs — were prey to be hunted down, cornered and verbally cut

to pieces with the ruthlessness of one who perceives himself as the hero of a sacred battle. The self-righteous stance appealed to that large segment of the public wishing to see causes in simplistic terms.

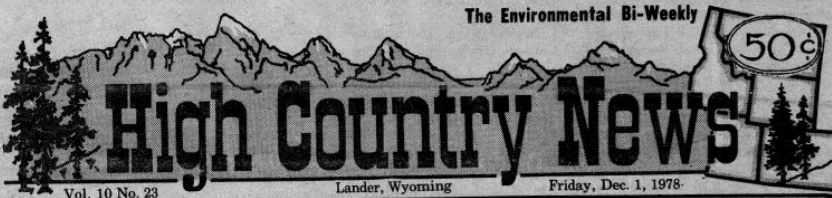
Yet conservation issues, as numerous as they were, couldn't absorb all of Hornaday's bounding energies. He thundered against aliens, Jews, Germans, Bolsheviks and drinkers of alcohol.

Conservation's leaders blushed at his overzealous and often unjust attacks. They breathed easily only after his death in 1937, whereupon they allowed him to slip into an obscurity that fails to credit his substantial contributions, some of them cornerstones of conservation and natural history.

Hornaday made an 83-year career of bragging. Born in 1854 amid humble circumstances on an Indiana farm, at an early age he traveled by wagon to the family's new homestead on Iowa's prairies. To hear him recount his life, Providence had led him down the "corridor of time" to create "masterpieces" of stuffed birds and buffalo, then to become the director of the famous Bronx Zoo, whose collection of animals was not merely "the largest in the world" but also a kind of "earthly paradise."

Entering Iowa State College, the clodhopping farmboy soon became "crazy," as he put it, to learn how to mount animals. But the course offerings were limited at the school, so he decided to seek professional

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TVA to be first at cleaning up old uranium site

by Jeanne Koster

NRC says mill at Edgemont, S.D. must be demolished

Shiprock, N.M., Tuba City, Ariz., and a score of other Western towns should be watching Edgemont, S.D. These 22 towns have the same problem as Edgemont — defunct uranium mills and millions of tons of mill tailings. The people in the towns share the possibility of more cancer and birth defects and generally decreased life

expectancy due to radiation from tailings piles.

Fortunately, remedial action has begun in Edgemont. The uranium mill there will probably be the first in the country to be decommissioned and have its tailings buried.

Cleanup of tailings in other states was stalled this year while Congress debated what percentage of the cost of decommissioning should be paid by the federal government.

Before adjourning in October, Congress finally decided that, since all the uranium at the 22 sites was milled under contract with the Atomic Energy Commission, the government should bear 90 percent of the cost of cleanup. States in which the mills are located will bear the remaining 10 percent.

Meanwhile, answers to the questions of how to clean up a uranium mill site and how much it will cost are emerging in South Dakota. Edgemont is a town of 2,000 in Fall River County in the southwestern corner of the state. Mines Development Corp. milled uranium there from 1956 to 1972 for Susquehanna Western, owner of the mill. Susquehanna Western, in turn, sold the uranium to the Atomic Energy Commission for use in atomic weapons. The operation generated some 2.3 million tons of tailings.

In 1971 the Environmental Protection Agency asked that measures be taken to stop the tailings from contaminating the Cheyenne River on the mill site's northern boundary and Cottonwood Creek, which is a tributary of the river running through the site. EPA also recommended stabilization of tailings piles to prevent windblown contamination.

Because the mill is perched on the eastern boundary of the town, the agency reasoned, sand tailings were apt to be blown into homes, schools and businesses. Cottonwood Community, a neighborhood of homes and trailers housing about 75



RESIDENTS OF COTTONWOOD COMMUNITY are being exposed to blown tailings and radioactive radon gas.

Pictured is a home in Cottonwood.

Sioux Falls Argus-Leader photo

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SOUTHERN UTAH IS LOST

Dear HCN & readers:

I had to laugh a bitter laugh when I read Peter Wild's review of Robert Redford's book, *The Outlaw Trail*, in the Nov. 3 issue of HCN. Wild noted that: "A couple of years ago he (Robert Redford) teamed up with Ed Abbey and others to block construction of the Kaiparowits power plant. This technological gift to southern Utah would have blessed pristine wilderness with a permanent and noxious cloud."

Fact is, while Mr. Redford, et al, have been exulting over winning that battle, and assuming that all is now well in southern Utah's "pristine wilderness," the war

to save this unique region's air clarity and magnificent vistas has been irretrievably lost. But only those pitiful few of us who live here AND CARE seem to know this. The rest of the environmental elite are too busy off somewhere else to come here and take a good, hard look at the futility of their "victories."

What's happening? Why, lots of "little power plants" are doing what big, bad Kaiparowits failed to do. The accumulated aerial crud from several modest coal burners—each of them in compliance with the law, of course — is adding up to air over southern Utah's national parks that in no way could be called "Class I."

The Navajo plant at Page is one contributor. The Four Corners plant at Shiprock is another. The two Utah Power & Light plants near Huntington add large amounts, and the two UP&L Emery plants now under construction will make a bad situation still worse.

Yet, all you well-meaning folks who don't live in southern Utah think air pollution is under control here.

It isn't! The canyons and valleys and fantastic vistas of Capitol Reef, Arches and

Canyonlands national parks are almost constantly befouled with thick, gray power plant smog from September through February and suffer intermittent "gray-outs" during periods of still or slow-moving air for the rest of the year.

Sometimes the visibility is reduced to mere hundreds of yards in the lower canyon bottoms. I know, because I live here, and as a professional outdoor photographer I have all too often had to stop taking color pictures for lack of visibility and balanced sunlight. The smog absorbs the red end of

the solar spectrum, and sometimes obscures the sun completely.

I can't decide which bothers me most — the smog that now shrouds this region so much of the time or your smug assurance that all is well in canyon country, now that "Big K" is dead.

Disgustedly,

F.A. Barnes
Moab, Utah

A suggestion for a meaningful gift

Tired of exchanging neckties and knickknacks at Christmas? Give a donation to an environmental organization in your state in honor of a friend or relative. Let your friends know what you're doing before they go on their shopping spree, and maybe they'll try it, too.

Here's a list of some groups who need money to protect this region; we're sure we've missed some, but maybe you know who they are. Many of these groups are primarily involved in trying to affect legislation and so can't depend upon tax-deductible donations.

Colorado Open Space Council,
1325 Delaware, Denver, Colo. 80204

Idaho Conservation League, Box
844, Boise, Idaho 83701

Idaho Environmental Council,
Box 1708, Idaho Falls, Idaho 83401

**Northern Plains Resource
Council,** 437 Stapleton Bldg., Billings,
Mont. 59101

**Environmental Information
Center,** Box 12, Helena, Mont. 59601

Montana Wilderness Association,
Box 635, Helena, Mont. 59601

**Alternative Energy Resources
Organization,** 435 Stapleton Bldg.,
Billings, Mont. 59601

Dakota Resources Council, Box
254, Dickinson, N.D. 58601

United Plainsmen, c/o Randolph
Nodlund, Dunn Center, N.D. 58626

S.D. Resources Coalition, Drawer
G, Brookings, S.D. 57007

United Family Farmers, c/o George
Piper, Carpenter, S.D. 57322

**N.M. Citizens for Clean Air and
Water,** 113 Monte Rey Dr. N, Los
Alamos, N.M. 87544

**Southwest Research and Informa-
tion Center,** Box 4524, Albuquer-
que, N.M. 87106

Wyoming Outdoor Council, Box
1184, Cheyenne, Wyo. 82001

**Powder River Basin Resource
Council,** 150 W. Brundage, Sheridan,
Wyo. 82801

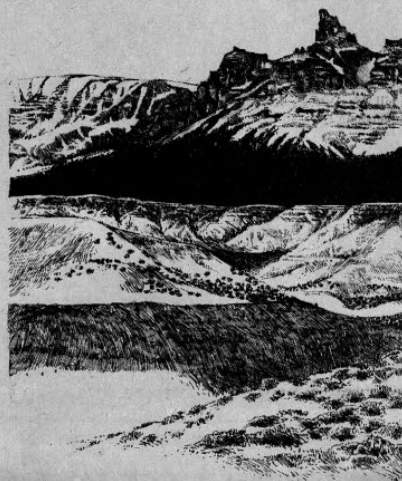
The following national groups have
offices in this region:

Sierra Club, 530 Bush St., San
Francisco, Calif. 94108

Friends of the Earth, 124 Spear St.,
San Francisco, Calif. 94105

The Wilderness Society, 4260 E.
Evans, Denver, Colo. 80222

National Wildlife Federation,
1412 16th St., N.W., Washington, D.C.
20036



Ramhorn, near Dubois

Dear Friends

It's time to sell the paper. We are always trying to sell the paper, of course — to more readers. But we are particularly excited about plans for our latest campaign.

You overwhelmed us with your response to the letter sent out to raise money for the HCN staff members injured in an auto accident in August. You sent \$32,000 to cover medical expenses of \$12,000.

So we have money for a change, and we want to share with you our thinking on the most judicious ways to use it. We've earmarked about \$4,500 of it to cover the cost of health insurance for the next three years or so for staff members. We didn't provide it before the accident; now we are convinced that we must do so.

We have decided that it is equally important to embark on a larger promotion campaign than we've ever been able to afford before.

In earlier campaigns we have concentrated on the friendly pursuit of mem-

bers of conservation groups. We've sent out thousands of sample copies to them and tried some limited advertising in their publications. This time, we intend to pursue some other groups as well. Four groups we'd like to test are:

--soft-technology buffs, homeowners and other people who aren't content to talk about the energy crisis but are trying out home-based solutions — people who will use us as a catalyst for practical ideas.

--professionals in the natural resources field who work for private firms — consultants, data gatherers, administrators, lawyers and their ilk — people who will use us to put their own efforts in context.

--natural resource specialists in government — politicians and bureaucrats grappling with the energy crisis, water shortages and other thorny environmental problems — people who will use us as an aid to decision-making in the public interest.

--students and teachers — people who could use us as a fact source and a

thought provoker.

To embark on a promotion campaign of this scope involves commitment from us — and as uncomfortable as we feel tooting our horn, in a dignified manner, we're going to try. It also begs the readers' patience — we may not be able to put out any extra sections for a few months. We'll be too busy starting the campaign.

With the help of other staff members, Jazmyn is coordinating the effort. We are looking for the right conferences and meetings to send stacks of samples to, key spots for advertising, good mailing lists and other ideas for reaching the groups we've mentioned. We want to make sure that money is spent in the right places; we may not have another chance like this again. If you have suggestions, please, send them along.

We'll let you know how we do. We're hoping that the money you sent to bail us out will go beyond our misfortune to strengthen us — to make us a healthy business that will reach a wider audience than ever before.

— the staff

Guest opinion

House ignored plight of eagles, wolves, falcons

The most painful battle
of the 95th Congress

by Elizabeth Kaplan

The reauthorization of the Endangered Species Act was one of the most painful battles of the 95th Congress for environmentalists. Despite an avalanche of mail to the Congress asking for no weakening amendments, the House blithely chewed the act up in little pieces and spit it in the President's eye by voting an automatic exemption for two notoriously bad water projects, the Tellico Dam in Tennessee and the Grayrocks Dam in Wyoming. The ugly mood of the House was at least partly attributable to its inability to defeat the President's veto of the Public Works Appropriations bill a few weeks before.

Another amendment accepted by the House would have redefined species to eliminate protection for subspecies and separate populations. There went protection for the American bald eagle, the east-

ern timber wolf, the alligator and eastern peregrine falcon, to name a few, all of which are protected as subspecies or separate populations. Such was the level of concern for our endangered species on the House floor that day.

The irresponsibility of the House was snocking indeed, even to veterans of the fight. One of the more discouraging aspects was the behavior of many of the "environmentalist" legislators. Congressmen Ottinger, Tsongas, Beilenson, Kastenmeyer, Seiberling, Udall, McCloskey and Burton were conspicuous by their absence or silence despite their assurances that they would help fight it out on the floor. Congressmen John Dingell (D-Mich.) and Gerry Studds (D-Mass.) held the field, defending the committee bill against its attackers with help from some unlikely allies, principally David Bowen (D-Miss.) and Ed Forsythe (R-N.J.).

Because the bill was so controversial, House Majority Leader Tip O'Neill almost refused to bring it to the floor because he didn't want to use up precious time on a bill he considered to be of secondary importance. He finally agreed to let it go to the floor on the understanding that there

would not be a lot of roll call votes, which use up considerable time. Thus, the merchant marine committee leadership was forced either to accept amendment after amendment on voice votes or see the bill pulled by O'Neill, which would mean no more endangered species program at all. If the representatives had been forced to reveal their votes by roll call, most of the amendments would have been doomed.

Sen. John Culver (D-Iowa), widely criticized by conservationists, including this one, for weakening the Senate version of the act, played a critical role on the conference committee in deleting or repairing much of the worst language in the House-passed bill. Recognition should also go to traditional conservatives such as Sen. Malcolm Wallop (R-Wyo.), who would not support exemption for the Grayrocks project and who refused to hop on the bandwagon to gut the act.

Forsythe played a similar leadership role in the House. Bowen had weakened the bill when it was in the merchant marine committee. But once it went to the floor, he consistently championed it against further weakening amendments.

The conference committee was able to

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Guest editorials do not necessarily represent the opinions of the staff of HCN.

restore the original House language, giving protection to subspecies, and to provide the two dam projects with an expedited review by the new cabinet-level extinction committee rather than with automatic exemptions.

The final version is a seriously weakened Endangered Species Act, which is at the same time a masterful salvage job from the House attack. It remains to be seen how the amendments will affect the act's effectiveness. Hopefully the exemption procedure will seldom be invoked. But now that private parties as well as federal agencies have access to exemptions, it is very possible that there will be heavy pressures for exemptions.

Guest editorial

Bridger-Teton — more than slow-growing timber

by Bart Koehler

The Bridger-Teton National Forest in Wyoming is nationally known for unsurpassed wildlife, scenic, recreational, watershed and wilderness resource values. Nevertheless, in a proposed timber management plan, the Forest Service is proposing to cut timber on this forest "at full potential" in important roadless areas in the Gros Ventre, Palisades, Grayback, Salt River Range, Commissary Ridge, and Bridger Wilderness additions areas.

Timbering should only play a minor, supportive role in this part of Wyoming. Timber employment only amounts to two to three percent of the total employment of the dependent counties, and the growth rate of timber within the roadless lands scheduled to be cut is very low — less than 50 cubic feet per acre per year.

Large timbering operations should have no place in this region. Small mills have been a part of our history in this region and should continue to exist.

The Wilderness Society and others have proposed an "Alternative W" to the Forest Service timber management plan. Our proposals include:

- no timbering in key roadless areas that have been proposed for wilderness by the Wyoming Wilderness Coalition in the Second Roadless Area Review and Evaluation (RARE II). Most of these lands are marginal or non-productive lands, so with a few exceptions, there should not be any real conflict;

- emphasize the protection of key values of wildlife, watershed, scenery, recreation and wilderness;

- more emphasis on small business sales for small local mills;

- release of a "proposed sale map" to the public before approval of the plan. Even though maps of proposed timber sales are included in other forest management plans in Wyoming, the Bridger-Teton plan keeps the public in the dark about sales.

Please write to Forest Supervisor Reid Jackson today. Ask him for a copy of the

draft timber management plan (which covers 10 years) and the five-year action plan (which targets timber sales for the next five years). Then write him a letter in support of Alternative W and add your personal comments. Send letters to: Reid Jackson, Supervisor, Bridger-Teton National Forest, Box 1888, Jackson, Wyo. 83001.

Bart Koehler is the Wyoming representative of the Wilderness Society.



Photo by Robert Hilgenfeld
THE BRIDGER-TETON NATIONAL FOREST in Wyoming. Timbering should only play a minor, supportive role here, says Bart Koehler of the Wilderness Society.



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Write Box K, Lander, Wyoming 82520.

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Stout-hearted Hornaday...

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training in taxidermy at Ward's Museum in Rochester, N.Y.

A GLORIOUS ORGY

There Professor Henry Augustus Ward made good use of his new student's developing talents and frothy enthusiasm. In 1874 the professor sent him on a series of world collecting tours. Hornaday ignored the an-

Hornaday made an 83-year career of bragging.

noyances of disease, glum native helpers and headhunting tribes. Often alone, still in his early 20s, the youth plunged into the jungles of South America and Asia on "a glorious orgy" of shooting elephants, pythons and tigers. He emerged several years later with crate on crate of "zoological riches," as he described them. They indeed formed one of the most comprehensive collections of the day. Raised on the fictional success stories of Horatio Alger, the public thrilled as it read through 10 editions of *Two Years in the Jungle* (1885), Hornaday's enthusiastic reportage covering but one portion of his adventures.

It was the beginning of a long career marked by self-generated fame and practical accomplishments in several fields. Often the two went hand in hand. Hornaday's budding renown won him a position as chief taxidermist of the National Museum in Washington, D.C.

The realities he faced contrasted with his youthful vision. Museum-related studies languished in ignorance and hidebound tradition. Despite the efforts of Professor Ward's school, at the time perhaps only 20 men in the entire nation could mount specimens with anything approaching artistry. In contrast to the airy and informative institutions of today, museums were warehouses crammed helter-skelter with dusty artifacts. The few zoos that existed kept their arbitrary selections of despondent animals in small iron cages.

Ambitious Hornaday set out to rejuvenate the whole field, to make museums and zoos lifelike, useful and accessible to the general public. He created three-dimensional displays of animals in natural settings that were a "verisimilitude of free wild life." Reflecting on Hornaday's contributions, one of his colleagues praised the innovations as "perhaps the first of the great habitat exhibits" that now grace America's museums.

His work in starting a department of living animals at the National Museum so impressed members of the Smithsonian Institution that they asked Hornaday to oversee planning for a zoological park. Congress appropriated nearly \$300,000 for the new enterprise, but as the blueprints worked their way through the bureaucratic mill, others altered Hornaday's concepts. In 1890 he resigned in a huff.

For the next six years Hornaday sold real estate in Buffalo, N.Y., but he couldn't get museums out of his blood. In Buffalo he wrote a badly needed text, *Taxidermy and Zoological Collecting* (1891). A few years later the New York Zoological Society offered him the prospect of creating a zoo from the ground up, and he took the job.

This time he had a free hand in "the greatest effort of my life—at imperial New York," the "wonder city of the world." He went on to rhapsodize: "the size of the New York Opportunity of 1896 was sufficient to inspire one anew, one more chance to bring the lives and personalities of thousands of interesting wild animals within reach of millions of people! And that was the Big Object."

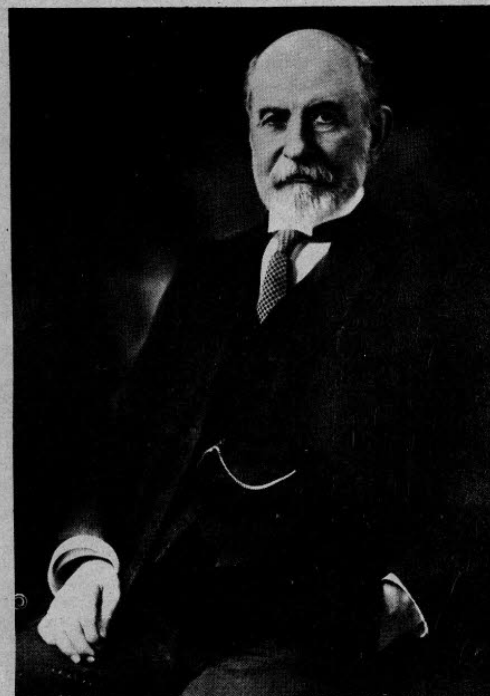
Turning his dreams of grandeur into realities, Hornaday developed the Bronx Zoo. He laid out buildings and grounds for the maximum education and comfort of the public—which in turn had the pleasure of viewing a spectacular variety of healthy wildlife in natural surroundings. As the director observed without a hint of humility, "The New York Zoological Park is an object lesson of which many American cities may well take heed." For once, Hornaday underestimated his achievement. The vision that he worked to improve until his retirement in 1926 set a standard not only for similar institutions in the United States but for those around the world.

FROM 'MUSEOLOGY' TO CONSERVATION

Granted his stamp on the developing science of "museology," as Hornaday liked to call it, his accomplishments in conservation were far greater. The country's first forester, Gifford Pinchot, dominated the movement at the turn of the century with his efforts to create a vast system of national forests. Aggressive Pinchot, however, had a blind spot, one shared by many other activists of the time. He dreamed of government-managed forests producing timber ad infinitum. But for all the board feet of timber that crowded Pinchot's vision, he couldn't see the wildlife that lived in his woodlands. For him the birds, bear, deer and lions hardly existed.

Thus even as the national forests were taking shape, wildlife populations dropped. Still believing in the myth of abundance, Americans hunted for the last remnants of the buffalo, wolf, grizzly bear, elk and several species of bird life. At the same time, the government was turning federal lands over to private ownership for

"A man of elegant appearance, with clipped beard and flashing eyes, Hornaday was a forceful speaker and persuasive writer, the ideal crusader type. In his makeup, there was no room for compromise, and he regarded any concession, even to logical argument, as a sign of weakness."



New York Zoological Society photo

WILLIAM T. HORNADAY: His colleagues blushed at his overzealous and often unjust attacks, but he nevertheless made a substantial contribution to conservation and natural history.

exploitation. Citizen organizations had begun setting aside wildlife preserves in the East, but their efforts were on a small scale. Urged by President Theodore Roosevelt, the government established a number of refuges in the West, but they fell far short of the need. Through overhunting and habitat loss, the nation was losing its wildlife.

As often happens, a reaction set in at the height of the crisis. Farmers once shot wild animals as pillagers of their crops. Moved by Hornaday's many books and educated by programs of the federal Biological Survey, some of them changed their minds.

Citizen organizations gave political muscle to the movement.

Contrary to what he liked to think then, William T. Hornaday did not single-handedly inspire the enlightened policies coalescing in the first decades of this century, though he did become the "most active and, at times, most acrimonious of American wild life conservationists," as the *New York Times* wryly put it. If the first purpose of the New York Zoological Society was scientific collecting and study, "the protection of our native animals" ran a close second. In hiring Hornaday as director of its zoo, the society sparked into action a campaigner who not only made the Bronx Zoo a showplace for the world. He also threw himself into conservation with a zeal that produced much heat and light—and often an obscuring smoke.

A RALLYING POINT

Hornaday became a rallying point. Because of his lack of temperance, his penchant for drama and overstatement, a ready public followed him. Historian of the conservation movement, James B. Trevelyan, sums up the reasons for the museum director's success: "A man of elegant appearance, with clipped beard and flashing eyes, Hornaday was a forceful speaker and persuasive writer, the ideal crusader type. In his makeup there was no room for compromise, and he regarded any concession, even to logical argument, as a sign of weakness." Many citizens felt there had been disastrous concessions enough—concessions responsible for the downward wildlife spiral. Hornaday's flashing eyes and forceful preachings embodied their determination.

His brand of lively rhetoric consistently delighted reporters. Trevelyan says that

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Hornaday "received more newspaper publicity than any other conservationist of his time."

Yet public support and stirring speeches aren't always enough. The Zoological Society depended on private fortunes for much of its support, and the zoo's director made good use of his contacts there. To finance his campaigns, in 1910 Hornaday created the Permanent Wild Life Protection Fund — an organization essentially with one active member, William T. Hornaday. With their generous checks, the wealthy — who often harbored sentimental if mostly passive concerns for nature — could enlist in the ranks of "the Army of Defense."

The result, in Hornaday's words, was that "money in good, round sums instantly began to flow." At the end of just one year, the fund overflowed with \$51,980. All of it, as stated in the bylaws, was to be spent at the discretion of one man: William T. Hornaday. He was the envy of other conservationists struggling to keep their organizations afloat with nickle-and-dime contributions.

Hornaday knew how to keep the money flowing. His biennial statement heroized supporters. They had saved America from becoming "as barren of wild mammals as the Sahara Desert!" To top off the flattery, the report featured full-page photographs of the largest donors, praised as holding the "firing line" against the "enemies of wild life." There were political advantages to Hornaday's fund raising. Congressmen not swayed by Hornaday's revivalist urgings received a compelling message when they opened their complimentary copies of the statement to see the powerful industrialist Andrew Carnegie glowering at them. Soon not only did bird-loving Henry Ford jump in with his check for \$5,000; he ordered one of his chief advertising men to forget about selling Model T's for awhile and head for Washington, D.C., to lobby for Hornaday-supported legislation.

All the while, the zoo director kept beating the drums for popular conservation support with such informative, if at times frenetic, books as *The Extinction of the American Bison* (1889), *Our Vanishing Wildlife* (1913), and *Thirty Years*

War for Wild Life: Gains and Losses in the Thankless Task (1931). The latter featured reproductions of awards, certificates and medals lauding the savior of

Hornaday was "the most active and, at times, most acrimonious of American wild-life conservationists" in the first decades of the century.

America's wild creatures, William T. Hornaday.

Due largely to Hornaday's busyness, the federal government launched a crash program to save the American bison. The success of the Wichita Wildlife Refuge in Oklahoma led to the creation of other preserves urged by Hornaday.

By 1910, commercial hunting was about to push Alaska's fur seal into oblivion when Hornaday pounced upon the Department of Commerce with such violence that its secretary begged the Zoological Society to call off its director. Hornaday, of course, only paused long enough to sink his teeth in a little deeper. A few months later the United States signed a treaty with England, Russia and Japan outlawing the slaughter. Such Hornaday coups encouraged less bold activists to step from the wings and advocate other wildlife causes in desperate need of support.

Yet surprisingly, the fire-and-brimstone Hornaday concentrated most of his energies not on championing the larger mammals — the bears and lions that approxi-

mated his own personality — but the bird species about to follow the passenger pigeon into extinction. In his often one-track mind, the villains of the crisis were hunters, "the Benedict Arnolds of conservation." He thundered to a public as eager as a lynch mob for retribution that an army of 7,500,000 — larger than the combined military forces of the entire world, he somehow calculated — marched out each year to blast away at the helpless creatures.

Himself a hunter with an impeccable code of sportsmanship, he branded others "game hogs." In his estimate the greedy and ignorant class belonged to the "10 percent of the human race (consisting) of people who will lie, steal, throw rubbish in parks and destroy wildlife whenever and where ever they can do so without being stopped by a policeman and a club." Having said that, he appointed himself chief constable and set about passing laws aimed at the unscrupulous element.

His efforts coincided with the passage of state and federal regulations in the first two decades of this century that established the main outlines of today's wildlife laws. Among them are the Lacey Act, the Federal Tariff Act of 1913 and the McLain Bird Protection Bill, also known as the Migratory Bird Act. Such legislation scientifically designates open seasons, sets bag limits, outlaws the sale of game and protects certain species from all hunting. Hornaday was not solely responsible for the new laws or for the public attitudes that demanded their passage. But he does deserve large credit for his successful lobbying and for much of the watertight language in the regulations.

For all his accomplishments, did Hornaday do more harm than good? Often his rage blinded him to good sense. There is

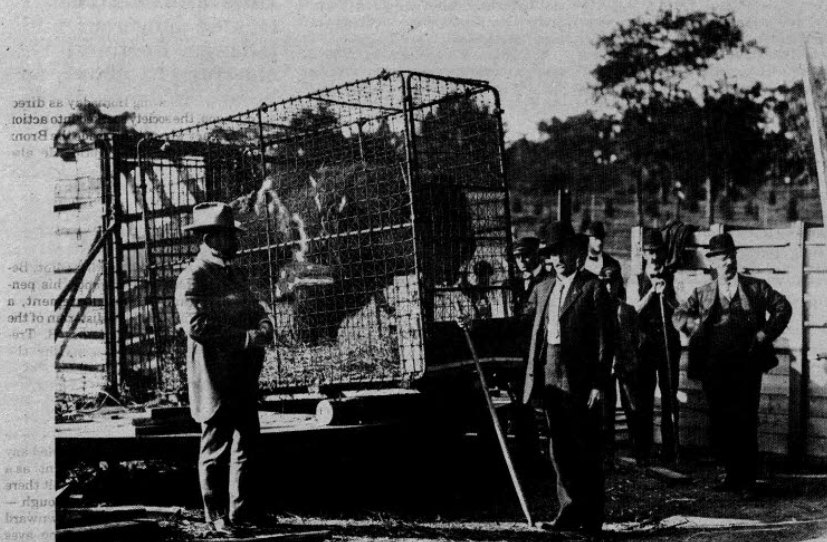
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little doubt that unrestrained shooting took a toll, but especially in his later years Hornaday glossed over the far more critical factor of habitat loss. His hatred of human enemies spilled over into the animal world. Predators — the golden eagle, coyotes, hawks and owls — were Saracens to be eliminated with religious fervor. With what strikes many today as a sad lack of foresight, he said that the gray wolf "should always be killed. No danger of his extermination." Though many people at the time shared his division of the animal kingdom into "good" and "bad" species, the mistake is less excusable in zoologist Hornaday.

Besides his own Permanent Wild Life Protection Fund, Hornaday founded or helped support many organizations: The Boone and Crockett Club, the American Bison Society and the Camp Fire Club. Yet his overbearing personality alienated many members, and his uncompromising positions caused internal furors that split an emerging conservation movement in need of unity. Along with other staunch wildlife supporters, George Bird Grinnell of the American Ornithologists' Union eventually threw up his hands after years of trying to work with Hornaday. "He delights in a row," moaned Grinnell.

On the other hand, *Science* magazine reminded readers at his death that "behind the hundreds of admirers who attended his final services stand the mute inhabitants of our forests and uplands, who found in him a stout-hearted and able defender." Some situations call for a cantankerous personality such as Hornaday's to raise the more disagreeable questions — and to insist that they be addressed — an extremist who can stir up the public. Whatever might be said of the campaigner's excesses, he got results when reforms were badly needed. Perhaps anything less than the stormy Hornaday would not have been enough.

"Behind the hundreds of admirers who attended his final services stand the mute inhabitants of our forests and uplands, who found in him a stout-hearted and able defender."



New York Zoological Society photo

HORNADAY INSPIRED a crash program to save the American bison. Hornaday (at left) is sending a bison to the Wichita Wildlife Refuge in Oklahoma. The success of

the Oklahoma refuge led to the creation of other preserves urged by Hornaday.

be daring...

...This holiday season, give HCN to your favorite environmental ignoramus, whether it's your son who always forgets to turn out the bathroom light, your mother who insists on 78 degrees indoors, your uncle who drives that gas-guzzler, the chairperson of your board, or your co-worker who wonders why you bicycle to work.

We'll send a card for you, along with the gift. Enclosed is \$12 for 25 issues.

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S.D. uranium. . .

(continued from page 1)

people, is bordered by mill property on three sides. All of Edgemont's inhabitants, but especially those in Cottonwood, were being exposed to blown tailings and radioactive radon gas from the tailings piles and ponds.

The EPA noted that one shifting, eroding tailings pile had invaded the backyard of a house near the mill property. The agency photographed a child's sled parked on the white, sandy slope of the pile.

Susquehanna Western had limited success in establishing vegetation on three of 11 tailings storage areas, but the work was dropped in 1974 when Susquehanna West-

population is older than the state's average population, so more cancers can be expected. The population has been somewhat transient, and no one knows the health history of the many people who have come into the area and then left.

Nevertheless, Chloupek told the NRC it was unthinkable that the Edgemont mill reopen without detailed study of the effects of such an operation on the people nearby.

Finally the NRC said that the Edgemont site, despite the fact that it is not quite inactive, would nevertheless get a full radiation hazard survey. In addition TVA would be required to promptly prepare a full environmental impact statement on reopening the mill.

The study began in August 1977 and was carried out by Ford, Bacon & Davis Utah, a Salt Lake City consulting engineering firm. Results, published in May 1978, show the present mill is too radioactive for workers and must be either decontaminated or dismantled and buried. The study also says alpha and gamma radiation from the tailings constitute a health hazard to both mill workers and Edgemont's populace.

Alpha radiation consists of streams of particles emitted by unstable heavy radioactive elements as they break down into lighter elements. Alpha rays are considered an internal hazard; that is, they pose danger only when the radioactive material is inhaled or ingested. They cannot enter the body through the barrier of the skin. Gamma rays are streams of electromagnetic energy emitted in the radioactive decay process. Gamma rays are an external hazard, capable of penetrating the skin and damaging the whole body. In addition, both alpha and gamma rays can damage the genetic material in cells, causing cancer, birth defects and premature degeneration. Although alpha rays are less penetrating than gamma rays, they can cause serious damage when alpha emitters trapped within the body subject organs to constant radiation.

Ford, Bacon & Davis listed five ways in which mill workers and the general population could be exposed to radiation from the mill site. The major exposure is from inhaled radon gas and radon "daughters." Radon, which diffuses from mill tailings, is a decay product of the radium contained in



Sioux Falls Argus-Leader photo

TVA PLANS uranium mines in this vicinity, near Burdock, S.D.

A state health department report shows a higher rate of cancer deaths in the county containing the uranium mill than in other counties in the state.

ern sold the mill to the Tennessee Valley Authority. TVA, a giant federal utility, was buying up Western mineral rights and uranium milling facilities to supply its nuclear power program.

That same year, Atomic Energy Commission functions were taken over by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the Energy Research and Development Administration. The NRC announced that it would fund engineering assessments for 22 inactive uranium mills throughout the West in order to investigate safe storage alternatives for the hazardous mill tailings.

To the chagrin of the South Dakota governor's office, the state health department and the South Dakota Department of Environmental Protection, Edgemont was not on the list of sites to be assessed. Although no milling was going on there, it could not be considered inactive because TVA had purchased the mill, along with a valid license to operate it.

HIGHER RATE OF CANCER

In 1976 South Dakota Gov. Richard Kneip, Dr. Allyn Lockner of the state Department of Environmental Protection and the state's congressional delegation petitioned EPA, the NRC and the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy to have Edgemont placed on the NRC's mill site study list. By this time a state health department report that cancer rates in Fall River County were higher than in the rest of the state gave urgency to their pleas.

The author of the report, epidemiologist Robert Chloupek, studied cancer deaths in the county over a 16-year span from 1960 to 1975. Dividing the 16 years into three periods (1960-64, 1965-69, 1970-75), Chloupek found a marked increase in cancer deaths in the last period alone. The time from the mill's opening in the mid-50's to the beginning of the last period he studied was about 15 years, roughly the amount of time that ordinarily have to expire before the appearance of cancers associated with a radiation exposure.

Most of the increased deaths were caused by respiratory cancer, precisely the kind of disease that would be expected as a result of radon gas given off by the unstabilized mill tailings.

Chloupek's study cannot be considered conclusive, however. Fall River County's

the mill waste. The radon daughters are long-lived gaseous decay products of radon which, because they are heavier than air, can lurk for long periods in cellars and rooms, undisturbed by normal ventilation currents. Radon and its daughters are alpha emitters, primarily affecting the lungs.

The investigation showed that as far as seven-tenths of a mile from the mill, the level of radon is above the level that would naturally occur as "background" radiation. Edgemont's downtown and main street are only about four blocks from the mill site.

The second type of exposure is gamma radiation from the tailings and contaminated mill structures. Gamma rates reached background levels one-tenth of a mile south and west of the site but were still twice background one-third of a mile southeast of the site where windblown tailings have drifted.

A third type of exposure is due to inhalation and ingestion of alpha radiation from radium and thorium in the windblown tailings. The report said this was a hazard for

mill personnel and residents of Cottonwood Community.

A fourth possible means of exposure noted was from contaminated water. Little if any actual water contamination due to tailings was measured during the study period, however. The study did turn up excessive radium in Edgemont's drinking water but did not connect the problem with the mill or tailings. Rather, the report attributed the drinking water contamination

Twenty-two Western towns have the same problem as Edgemont, S.D.: defunct uranium mills and millions of tons of dangerous mill tailings. Fortunately, cleanup is about to begin. Edgemont is probably first on the list.

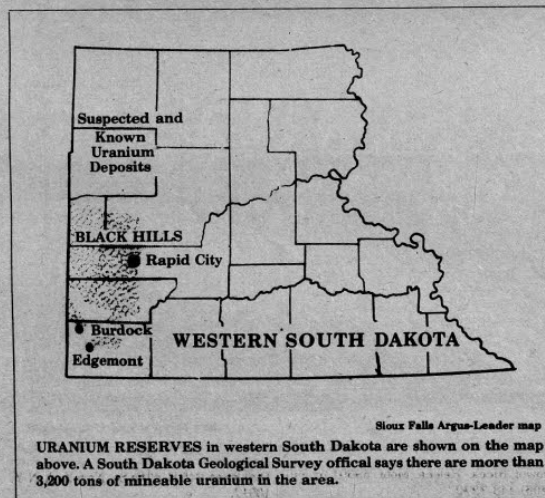
to the water's source in a uranium-bearing aquifer, the Fall River formation.

Finally, Ford, Bacon & Davis noted the possibility of internal radiation hazard due to uptake of radioactive elements by plants and animals. Analysis of a tomato plant grown in Cottonwood Community showed radium concentration. The area to the east of the mill is cattle grazing land, and windblown tailings could enter the food chain through cattle that eat the grasses. Cattle concentrate in their own bodies the radioactivity of all the individual contaminated plants that they eat in their lifetime. Humans would, in turn, concentrate radioactivity in their systems by eating radioactive beef and produce.

SIX ALTERNATIVES

The study concludes with a description of six alternatives, costing from \$6.1 million to \$19 million, for dealing with the hazardous situation. All six assume demolition of mill structures since decontamination

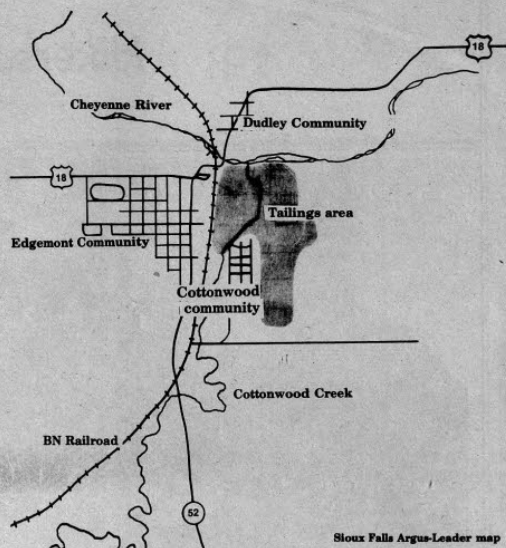
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Sioux Falls Argus-Leader map

URANIUM RESERVES in western South Dakota are shown on the map above. A South Dakota Geological Survey official says there are more than 3,200 tons of mineable uranium in the area.

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Sloux Falls Argus-Leader map

would be too costly to be practical. All six alternatives would reduce direct gamma radiation to essentially background levels and radon to twice background, thus meeting government standards for releasing at least some of the site for another use.

Two alternatives call for burial of tailings and demolition of structures on the mill property. The on-site disposal alternatives are the least expensive, but they have substantial disadvantages. They would require some of the property to be perpetually restricted; they would leave the tailings close to a populated area; and they would leave the possibility, though remote, of contamination of Cottonwood Creek and

the Cheyenne River, according to the report.

The four remaining alternatives provide for removal of all tailings and contaminated materials to sites ranging from 2.5 to 12.4 miles from town. Two of these sites are near the old Burlington Northern Railroad station of Burdock. According to Lockner of the Department of Environmental Protection, even though these two are the most expensive alternative, they are likely to be chosen, because the sites are near where TVA may build another mill to process uranium from the 99,000 acres on which it holds mineral rights in southwestern South Dakota and eastern Wyoming.

Establishment of a tailings disposal area near Burdock could serve TVA's future

Edgemont residents seem unconcerned

The town of Edgemont, S.D., seems unconcerned about its controversial neighbor — a Tennessee Valley Authority uranium mill site that has been declared a health hazard to both workers and townspeople by the consulting engineering firm, Ford, Bacon & Davis Utah.

When interviewed three months after the firm's report had been published, most Edgemont officials, including the mayor and a public health nurse, said they hadn't heard of it.

"We don't feel it's anything to get in a panic over, largely because the former mill operators and the present operators are not the types of people who let things get out of hand," says Marlin R. McKown, publisher of the town's weekly newspaper.

Edgemont mill superintendent Gary Cummings says he has heard of the report but doesn't know much about its contents. The 37-year-old man has spent his entire career at the Edgemont mill. When told of the report's assessment of radiation danger there, Cummings said, "They can have their opinion. I don't feel, personally, that I've been exposed to a hazard."

Kent Hudson, a former superintendent of the mill, says the Edgemont tail-

ings are far less radioactive than those from many other uranium mills because at Edgemont the slimes, containing most of the radioactivity, were separated from the sand tailings. "We had the AEC on our backs constantly down there, so it was not a loose ship," Hudson says.



Edgemont Herald-Tribune staff photo

MARLIN R. MCKOWN, publisher of the Edgemont Herald-Tribune, says, "We don't think it's anything to get in a panic over."

plans as well as helping get rid of the ghost of the past.

TVA, which must supply three nuclear reactors at Browns Ferry in Alabama and 14 more units under construction, has agreed to submit a decommissioning plan and environmental report to NRC. The utility has also agreed to bear the total cost of decommissioning the Edgemont mill site and of cleaning up windblown tailings from the Edgemont area.

South Dakotans now have good reason to put stock in the biblical saying that the last shall be made first. The Edgemont mill, which did not even make the original list of 22 mill sites to be studied for cleanup, has

been called to the head of the list. Not only will Edgemont probably be the first uranium mill in the nation to be decommissioned, but the job will be done without cost to the state.



Jeanne Koster is a member of the South Dakota Resources Coalition and a "refugee" from the East Coast. The coalition can be reached at Drawer G, Brookings, S.D. 57007.



HCN Bulletin Board



SEVEN LAKES PLAN

The Bureau of Land Management has released a management framework plan for the Seven Lakes Area of southern Wyoming, an area rich in minerals and wildlife and heavily used by livestock and wild horses. The plan calls for some new fences and for small decreases in cattle grazing in some areas. The wild horse population will be reduced by more than two-thirds. For the benefit of wildlife, oil and gas exploration will be restricted in some areas during certain months of the year. Since 90 percent of the area has already been claimed for uranium, the whole area will remain open for uranium development. The plan says that much of the mining will be strip mining and the "surface disturbance will conflict sharply with the Red Desert open space and remote area concept." Coal exploration will also be encouraged. For copies of the plan, write to the BLM, Rawlins District, Box 670, Rawlins, Wyo. 83101.

NO BOSSES HERE

A manual on working collectively has been published by Vocations for Social Change. It is based on the organization's six years' experience as a collective and on contacts with other collectives. Write to Vocations for Social Change, 107 South St., Boston, Mass. 02111 and send \$3.50 (\$4 to institutions). Ask for No Bosses Here.

ENERGY SHOW JOBS

The New Western Energy Show needs three renewable energy technicians and several actors-teachers for 1979. The technicians will be responsible for maintenance of vehicles for the traveling troupe, leadership, design and research. Salary is \$500-\$600 a month. Contact David Nimick. The actor-teachers will be involved in programs for schools and communities on two Indian reservations near Billings, Mont. Salary will be \$575 per month. Contact Shaun Taylor or Maggie Konet. To apply for any of these jobs, write to the New Western Energy Show, 226 Power Block, Helena, Mont. 59601 or call 406/443-7272.

ART AUCTION

An art auction featuring some of Wyoming's best artists will be held in Cheyenne Sunday, Dec. 10, to benefit the Wyoming Outdoor Council. Proceeds will be used for WOC's 1979 legislative effort. Artists who have donated artwork include several who are familiar to HCN readers, including James Bama, Laney Hicks, and Hannah Hinchman. The auction will start at 2 p.m. at the Hitching Post in Coosh Room C in Cheyenne. Viewing will be from 1 p.m. until 2 p.m.

LAND USE HANDBOOK

The Natural Resources Defense Council has prepared a book on land use controls currently available in the United States. These include laws and local programs as well as discussions of how citizens can affect the development and implementation of those laws. **Land Use Controls in the United States** is available for \$7.95 from Dial Press, 245 E. 47th St., New York, N.Y. 10017.

FREE DRYER DESIGNS

Two plans for the design and construction of a solar food dryer are available free to Wyoming residents from the Wyoming Energy Extension Service. The dryers require a minimum of tools and skills and can be constructed from new materials for about \$50. To order the plans call the WEES Energy Hotline, toll-free, at 1-800-442-6783.

ENDANGERED SPECIES

The Committee on Rare and Endangered Species of Wyoming was recently formed, consisting of volunteers who are experts in some field relating to endangered, threatened, unique, or rare animals or plants in the state. Their goal is to make the public and government agencies more aware of these organisms. Contributions are needed to cover the cost of printing a book next summer. Checks may be made out to "Committee on Rare and Endangered Species of Wyoming" and sent to Tim Clark at Box 2705, Jackson, Wyo. 83001.

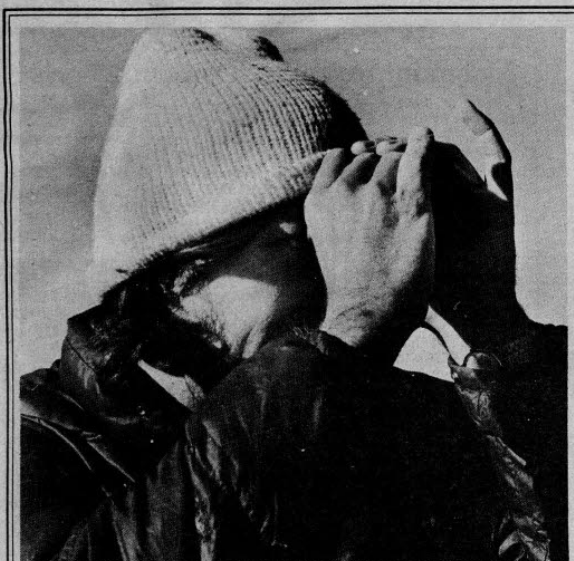
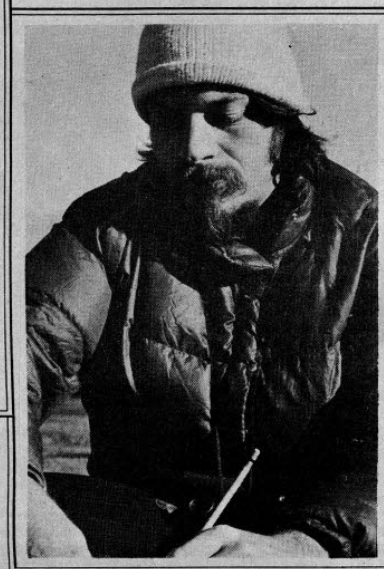


Photo by Ann Schimpf
THE HAWK MAN, Steve Hoffman, watches for migrating hawks from his perch high in the Wellsville Mountains.



Hikers watch



A MARSH HAWK soars 100 feet over their heads as Mark Resetarits and Pam Camp watch.

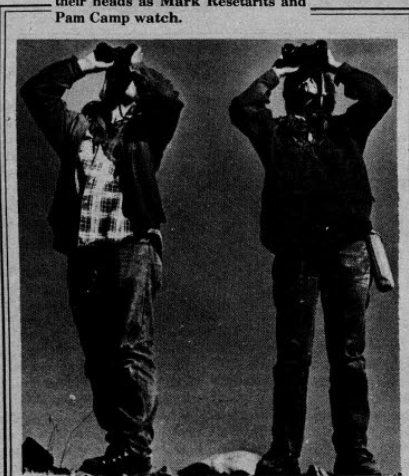


Photo by Ann Schimpf

AN AUDUBON SOCIETY group made the five mile, 3,000 foot climb to watch the hawks migrate by at eye level.



watch Utah hawk spectacle — at eye level

by Ann Schimpf

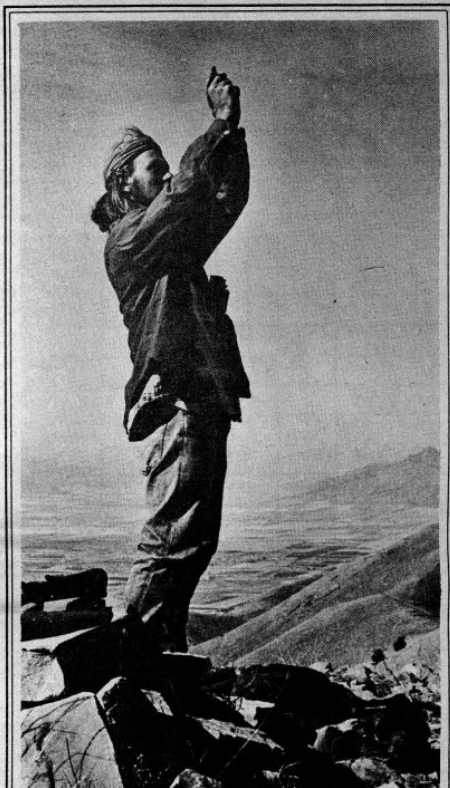


Photo by Ann Schimpf

MEASURING WIND SPEED with an anemometer, Mark Resetarits stands silhouetted high above the plains.

Elevation: 8,585 feet

Visible: the Raft River Mountains, Salt Lake City and Star Valley

Population: one birdwatcher, occasionally joined by others.

From his scenic perch on the north end of the Wellsville Mountains, Steve Hoffman spent more than 30 days during the fall of 1977 and 1978 watching hawks migrate.

Not a bad occupation, eh? He gets superb exercise as he has to hike the five mile, 3,000 foot climb to arrive at his lookout. He looks out over miles of spectacular scenery, and he has the thrill of seeing hawks fly by at speeds of up to 55 miles per hour.

However, there's one catch. For Steve Hoffman it's not an occupation, it's a labor of love. He has dedicated most of September and October these past two years to his hawk-watching pursuit for no better reason than to satisfy his curiosity.

"Any time you have the chance to do pioneer research, you shouldn't pass it up," Hoffman explains. "Hardly a thing is known about the Western migration of hawks. Besides, I just really dig being up there."

Hoffman's hawk-watching efforts are totally unrelated to his Utah State University thesis topic, but they have enabled him to deliver two papers at scientific meetings — not to mention the interest he has generated among local bird watchers.

Observations of migrating hawks from such famous Eastern lookouts as Hawk Mountain in Pennsylvania and Hawk Ridge in Duluth, Minn., have been going on for dozens of years. In fact, Easterners set their calendars by the passage of the hawks.

Why, then, the dearth of information on the movement of hawks from Canada and other points north along the backbone of the Rocky Mountains to Mexico and the southwestern United States?

"There are several possible explanations for the absence of information," Hoffman says. "Hawks like to migrate along waterways and mountain ranges so they can take advantage of the air updrafts. Out East, the Mississippi and the Alleghenies are the most obvious and direct routes south. Out West we have hundreds of isolated mountain ranges in Nevada, Wyoming, Montana, you name it.

"Secondly, people can drive to logical hawk migration points back East. The logical hawk migration points (mountain tops) out West are basically accessible only on foot," Hoffman says. "And that isn't a very efficient way to collect data."

However, thanks to Hoffman, interest is increasing locally.

"I never thought I'd see 60 people on top of the Wellsvilles at one time," Hoffman said after a recent Audubon trip to the lookout. "Everyone from fifth grade kids to grandparents made it to the top."

During 1977, which was the first complete year of observation, 70-80 persons assisted in observations. This fall more than 250 persons made it to the top for at least an hour of serious looking.

During two months in 1978, 3,020 hawks were sighted, an average of 11.7 birds per hour.

The statistics are not very impressive when compared to Eastern lookouts, where as many as 33,000 birds pass over in a single day. However, as Hoffman says, "Granted, we'll never be famous like the Eastern lookouts, but we have a quality experience. A lot of Eastern birds are in masses miles above your head. We see the birds one at a time, often at eye level. Besides, nothing in the world compares to sitting on top of the Wellsvilles."

When talking about his many hours of observation, Hoffman instantly becomes animated and rattles off a long list of things that were "so neat, just so neat."

"This year on the day before that big September snowstorm I was sitting up there all alone and the clouds were just thick around me. Every 10 minutes or so I'd catch a glimpse of a little ghost flitting through the clouds. A couple of times they almost flew into me, but veered off just at the last moment.

"The single most memorable experience, though, was watching a golden eagle dive 1½ miles from above the Wellsvilles to the Bear River where he just missed catching a snowy egret. I'd never suspect that they were capable of hunting from those heights."

The only thing that excites Hoffman more than telling about things he saw on the mountaintop is talking about the implications of the data he has gathered over the past two years. Though he is largely responsible for the effort, Wayne Potts in 1977 and Mark Resetarits in 1978 deserve special mention for their numerous trips to the summit.

"Our big day in 1977 was 264 birds on Sept. 28. On one day in 1978 we saw a whopping 358 birds," Hoffman says. "That amounts to over 50 birds an hour or about one every minute. You can't even get the data on the recording sheets fast enough."

"1977 was a drought year. No one has ever documented the effect of drought on raptor reproduction, but I hope to in analyzing my data this year."

In 1977 60-75 percent of our birds were immatures, which is normal for raptors. However, in 1978 only 50 percent of the birds in such species as sharp-shinned and Coopers hawks and kestrels were immatures. In those species in 1978 the mortality based on the 1977 drought showed."

In short, Hoffman speculates that a fair number of immature hawks perished during the drought of 1977 due to lack of adequate food supplies. Since 1978 was a good reproductive year, presumably 1979 observations will see a return to a more normal percentage of immature birds.

When asked if he plans to continue this effort, Hoffman said, "I feel sure this is my last year in terms of making any kind of complete count. Next year I'll have finished my thesis and will hopefully be employed somewhere, but I'd sure like to do a complete count again in 20 years or so just to see how the changes in land use have affected the 15 species we're observing up there."

Hoffman may not make it to the lookout in 1979, but others will. His willingness to share his excitement over his findings has established the lookout as a major point of interest for all Utah birdwatchers.

Reprinted from the Logan Utah Herald Journal.



Photo by Paul Carter

High Country News — Dec. 1, 1978

DOE looking for applicants for appropriate technology grants

A program for Joe Blow
from Kokomo

More than 7,000 requests for applications have been received by the Department of Energy in Region X alone for its appropriate technology grants. DOE is giving the grants to encourage the development of small-scale, energy-related technologies.

Individuals, non-profit organizations, small businesses, state and local agencies

and Indian tribes and native corporations are eligible for the grants, which range from \$100 to \$50,000.

Ella Kjonsvik of the Region X DOE office says, "The response has been overwhelming. People say they never would have believed such a thing would be available to them — that they would have a chance to compete with corporations for federal money.... But this is intended for the small-scale projects. The large-scale technologies have enough big bucks. This program is for Joe Blow from Kokomo."

The small-scale technologies that the grant program is designed to assist are referred to as "appropriate technologies" be-

cause they are suited to local needs, skills and energy resources. They make maximum use of renewable resources and do not require a large financial investment.

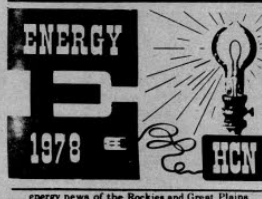
Kjonsvik says the program does not cover conventional applications of commercial equipment, such as a commercial solar collectors. Examples of projects that may be funded include biomass conversion, solar energy, wind energy, energy education, energy conservation, recycling, energy use in appliances, agriculture, buildings and transportation.

The deadline for Region X, which includes Alaska, Idaho, Washington and Oregon, is Dec. 22. Kjonsvik says the deadline is somewhat flexible, however. After

screening by a technical evaluation committee, a citizens review board and by the department, the successful applicants will be announced in April. The toll-free number for more information in Region X is (800) 426-0662.

The application period for Region VIII opens in February. Region VIII includes Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming and Colorado. Contact Tom Newell at DOE, Box 26247, Belmar Branch, Lakewood, Colo. 80226 or call (303) 234-2165.

The grant program is funded for two years, but Kjonsvik says that with such an overwhelming response, Congress may decide to continue funding longer.



energy news of the Rockies and Great Plains

WESTERN COAL LEASING MESS. Public coal resources in the Western states are being exploited because of "grossly maladministered federal and state lease programs," according to a study prepared by the Council on Economic Priorities. CEP says that efforts to correct the federal leasing program have been ineffective and that Western states have done even less to improve their own leasing programs. The report says that only North Dakota and Montana have successfully reformed state leasing procedures, while Utah and Wyoming "have failed to even attempt reform." A moratorium on federal coal leasing between 1973 and 1977 did not affect coal production, the report found, because production from federal land tripled during that period. CEP also says that while recent federal changes in the coal lease system are an improvement, the program is still "incomplete and misguided." The report also supported a contention by environmentalists that coal production goals can be met without an increase in federal coal leasing.

WESTERN OIL LEASE CONTROVERSY. Interior Department Associate Solicitor John Lesly has urged Interior Secretary Cecil Andrus to refuse to lease any more oil and gas acreage on the Overthrust Belt until it can be done competitively, according to **Public Lands News**. The Overthrust Belt is a very promising petroleum area in Wyoming, Utah, Idaho and Montana, which also lies under several million acres of roadless lands. Leasing is currently done on a lottery system by the Bureau of Land Management. Competitive leasing can only be done on "known geological structures of a producing oil and gas field." That definition does not fit the Overthrust Belt area, so Interior would have to seek congressional action to allow competitive leasing. Lesly has recommended that the department consider such legislation and refuse further non-competitive leasing.

IPP IMPACTS FIVE WILDERNESS AREAS. The Bureau of Land Management says that the proposed 3,000 megawatt Intermountain Power Project in Utah will impact five potential wilderness

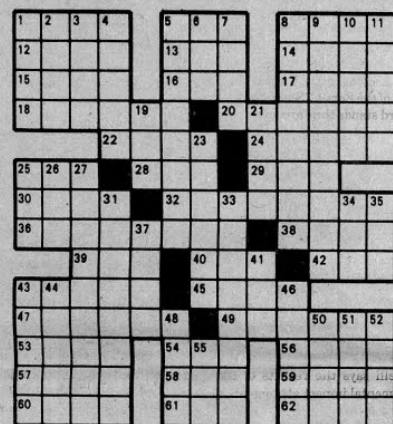
areas containing about 210,000 acres. BLM studied roadless areas that potentially would be crossed by power lines from an IPP site at either Lynndyl, Utah, or Salt Wash, Utah. The five areas listed by BLM that could be affected are Howell Peak, Notch Peak, King Top, an area south of Dixie National Forest and an area surrounding the Virgin River Gorge on the Arizona border, according to the **Deseret News**.

808 WESTERN ENERGY PROJECTS. A U.S. Bureau of Mines report says that there will be 808 new energy projects in the 25 states west of the Mississippi. Colorado would get most of these, 141; followed by California with 85; Texas, 81; Utah, 80; Wyoming, 74; New Mexico, 53; and Montana, 26. However, the agency says that many of the projects are small-scale and tentative. The forecast for Colorado calls for 31 strip coal mines and 46 underground coal mines producing a total of 52 million tons of coal annually. In addition, the state would get 30 uranium mines and 10 new power plants. Wyoming would get the bulk of the new coal production, with 27 new mines producing 167 million tons annually, and New Mexico would get 12 new uranium mines producing more than 12,000 tons of ore per day.

END COAL TAX GRANTS. The vice-chairman of the Montana Legislature's Coal Tax Oversight Committee says that most of the costs of coal boom impact have been met and that grants to communities in coal impact areas should be stopped. Republican state Sen. William Mathers says that the grants are subsidizing at least two counties — Rosebud and Big Horn — which have unusually low general property tax levies. Coal board chairman Jack Cohn, who administers the grants, told the Associated Press, however, that while there is currently a lull, additional impacts could be expected. He also says that many of the grants have gone to cities or counties that have reached or have nearly reached their legally allowable tax maximum. Montana's grants to impacted communities are funded by the state coal severance tax.

SPUR SHALE OIL REFINING. Undersecretary of Energy Jack Gourad predicts that federal tax credits under the new energy act will spur commercial development of oil shale resources in three Western states. The **Deseret News** reports that Gourad says Wyoming, Colorado and Utah will reach oil shale refining capacities of 50,000 to 100,000 barrels daily by 1985 and will double or triple those rates in the five following years. Gourad says that oil shale technology is now "proven" and that environmental considerations are the only stumbling block.

Conservation Crosswords



Feathered Friends by Philip White

ACROSS

1. This bird's young are called cygnets
5. Large, legendary bird
8. Big man at the Ponderosa
12. ---mel: ancient Greek beverage
13. Lady sheep
14. High (Sp.)
15. ---bow Bridge
16. ---matologist
17. Zeal: a----
18. Piscivorous divers: merg-----
20. Garden pest
22. Glut
24. Relative
25. This institution's mascot is the falcon (abbr.)
28. Friend
29. Oolong
30. Attaches sole to upper
32. Shape of avocets bill
36. This forest bird feeds while moving headfirst down tree trunks
38. Animal fluids
39. B&O, AT&SF, UPRR (abbr.)
40. Lapsang Souchong
42. ---cockaded woodpecker
43. Farewell (Sp.)
45. Sonic boomers (abbr.)
47. South-Texas, long-toed shorebird
49. Rufous-sided, green-tailed or Abert's
53. Throw off
54. ---Gogh
56. Infinitesimal amount
57. Spirochete Society of America & Europe (abbr.)
58. Australian bird, world's second-largest
59. Mr. Domino

DOWN

60. Informed
61. Drunk
62. Fulvous ---- duck
1. One of the rails
2. Stop nursing
3. Coal-black, thick-billed, grackle-like birds
4. Ninth day before the ides
5. Fly-catching warbler
6. I --- You
7. Protuberance at base of parrot's bill
8. Slim, long-tailed hawks
9. --- World ----- finches
10. Phlegmatic
11. Bilko, to his men
19. Rip---
21. African ethnic and linguistic group: B----
23. Chooses
25. Bristle on grass spikelet
26. Fire (Fr.)
27. Killdeer chicks are precocial; robin's are -----
31. Black ----- blue warbler
33. ----- sided warbler
34. Before
35. Family member
37. Association (abbr.)
41. Fraternity
43. "Life is ----; and all things show it. I thought so once; but now I know it." My Own Epitaph-John Gay
44. ----- Asiatic plum
46. Canyon flyer
48. Birds form the class ---
50. ---frost
51. Diminutive suffix
52. Facility
55. ---, amas, amat, ...

DOE selects top eight technologies

Representatives of six of the nation's leading environmental organizations have praised the Department of Energy's list of the eight energy technologies that it will concentrate on developing.

The groups were most pleased with the fact that some of the least economic and most environmentally-degrading technologies — such as oil shale, coal liquefaction and high Btu coal gasification — were not on the list.

Included on the list were passive solar energy, solar hot water, wood combustion and several conservation devices.

Coal gasification, coal liquefaction and oil shale were among the 17 technologies studied by the Department of Energy Commercialization Task Force. "This is the first time DOE or its predecessors (the Energy Research and Development Administration or the Atomic Energy Commission) did an environmental study on a technology that didn't end up saying it was great," according to David Masselli of Friends of the Earth. "Some people in DOE took hard stands that are in our favor," he says.

"This is a major departure from the traditional (federal) approach of grandiose, expensive and environmentally disastrous solutions to the energy problem... Instead of promising us a magic elixir to cure our energy ills, DOE is giving us something with a chance of working," Masselli says.

The task force was asked to identify technologies that could be commercially feasible soon. The department says technologies on the list will be the subject of "immediate and intense" commercialization efforts.

Masselli says the results of the mini-environmental impact statements done on each technology will be very useful in dis-



Sandia Labs photo

PASSIVE SOLAR ENERGY was included on the Department of Energy's list of eight promising, unconventional energy technologies. Above is a passively solar heated house in Los Alamos, N.M.

couraging some of the worst technologies in the future.

The chosen technologies are: enhanced oil recovery, unconventional gas recovery, industrial fluidized bed coal combustion, low head hydroelectricity, passive solar

energy, solar hot water and industrial process heat, wood combustion, and four conservation products (oil-fired heating equipment, high-efficiency motors, air-fuel combustion control and automatic ignition devices).

Eavesdropper

environmental news from around the world



LOONEY LIMERICKS

by Zane E. Cology

There once was a house with a heater
That burned up the fuel by the liter.
They plugged up the holes
From air leaks and moles
And life in the house was much sweeter.

IN TUNE WITH TAXPAYERS. A conservationist group called the Coalition for Water Project Review has compiled a list of "12 turkeys" — what it considers wasteful water projects funded by Congress. These budget-busting water projects are so economically wasteful and ecologically destructive, they can only inflame the taxpayer revolt now spreading across the country," says Elvis J. Stahr, president of the National Audubon Society. "President Carter's fight against inflation would be greatly aided by the elimination of such wasteful government spending," says Howard Brown, director of the American Rivers Conservation Council. Three Rocky Mountains-Great Plains region projects are on the list: the Central Arizona Project, the Central Utah Project and the Garrison Diversion (North Dakota).

WATER POLICY SHAPERS. A conservationist group and a development group, the National Wildlife Federation and the Water Resource Congress, have been chosen to help shape standards to implement President Carter's new water policy. Both

groups will receive \$10,000 to pass along their views on water — and those of their allies — to the administration.

CLEANING UP CONGRESS. The League of Conservation Voters, a national campaign committee that raises money for outstanding environmental candidates, had 14 of 24 of its candidates elected. LCV was most pleased with the re-election of Rep. Jim Weaver (D-Ore.), a strong proponent of wilderness and sound forest management. Among LCV's biggest disappointments was the loss of Sen. Floyd Haskell (D) to Rep. William Armstrong (R) in the Colorado U.S. Senate race. Another group, Environmental Action, defeated only two of the 12 members of Congress with the worst environmental records — "the Dirty Dozen." Only Rep. Ted Risenhoover (D-Okla.) and Rep. Garry Brown (R-Mich.) were defeated. A big win for conservationists was the re-election of Rep. Morris Udall (D-Ariz.). Udall was under heavy attack from the mining industry because of his stands on wilderness and preservation of Alaska lands.

FROM SEA TO SHINING SEA. Six years of federally-mandated clean-up of the nation's rivers is apparently working, according to the Environmental Protection Agency. EPA says that the \$74.3 billion spent on water pollution since the passage of the 1972 Clean Water Act has improved some rivers. Atlantic salmon are returning

up the Connecticut River to spawn, where they haven't appeared since the middle of the 19th century. Oil spills on the Detroit River are no longer killing large numbers of ducks, and the once-dead river now has populations of walleye, muskellunge and coho salmon. Even the muddy and polluted Potomac River near Washington, D.C., is showing signs of revitalization.

Abandoned mines ruin Colo. streams

Abandoned mines in Colorado are causing serious pollution problems in nearby streams and groundwater, according to a Colorado Department of Health study, "Water Quality and Mining."

In some cases the pollution makes the water too dirty for fish and for human drinking supplies. The study says 25 watersheds and approximately 450 miles of streams are polluted by mines.

No one is certain who, if anyone, should be held responsible for cleaning up the abandoned mines. Often the present mine owners aren't the operators who caused the problems.

Ruth Wright, a member of the state Board of Health and Water Quality Control Commission told the Denver Post, "It will take a long while before we've got the problem under control."

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The HCN
Hot Line

energy news from across the country

COAL LEASING POLICY. The Interior Department's final coal leasing policy won't emerge until next spring, but at least three preliminary decisions have been made, according to Public Lands News: 1) A company should obtain the consent of the surface land owner before mining. 2) Eight regional environmental impact statements should be written. 3) The department has selected 20 criteria for determining lands that are unsuitable for mining.

A draft programmatic environmental statement discussing all the department's preliminary decisions on leasing should be complete by Dec. 1.

NO TO NUKES. Austrians have voted not to turn on the country's first nuclear power plant. Plant opponents argued that nuclear power generation is not safe. The 700-megawatt plant south of Vienna was completed several months ago. Anti-nuclear forces won by a very slim margin, with 50.5 percent of the votes cast. The U.S. has 68 nuclear plants operating and 94 under construction.

TAX CREDITS FOR CONSERVATION. Taxpayers who have spent money since April 20, 1977, on some form of solar, wind or geothermal energy device for their homes may claim a tax credit of up to \$2,200 this year. The new energy tax law also authorizes credits of up to \$300 for other energy conservation expenditures, such as insulation. A special form for energy credits will be included in the 1978 government tax form 1040.

NUCLEAR WASTES POLICY. A federal task force has completed a draft report on disposal of nuclear wastes that says the public's confidence is essential. It recommends establishing a council with federal, state and local officials to develop specific waste policies. While some environmental groups said the report represents an "honest appraisal" of the problems, others said the report was just a maneuver to conceal the facts. For copies, call the Department of Energy's Inter-Agency Review Group at (202) 252-5877. Ask for both the draft and the final version of the report. For the Energy Policy Information Center's analysis, send \$2.50 to EPIC, 3 Joy St., Boston, Mass. 02108 or call (617) 523-0376. The comment period is 30 days.



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Bureaucrats burn midnight oil to protect Alaska

by David Crosson

As day-long darkness descends in Alaska, pro-environmental forces within the Carter administration are burning the midnight oil in a frantic effort to bolster legal protection for about 120 million acres of Alaska wilderness — an area about two-thirds the size of Texas.

The lands are protected under Section d-2 of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act — but that expires Dec. 18. Since Congress failed to pass an Alaskan lands bill this session, the administration wants to prevent the lands from being claimed by the state, staked by miners and possibly opened to development while Congress is shaping a new bill.

In an effort to block the administration, the state of Alaska has filed a lawsuit. The state suit claims that when the d-2 withdrawal expires, only the protection afforded by the Native claims act's d-1 provision should be in force. Section d-1 would prevent development until the lands are reclassified, but Interior says "prudence" dictates additional administrative actions.

Fearful that the state suit might lead to an injunction preventing administration action, Interior Secretary Cecil Andrus has already withdrawn 110 million acres from development by invoking Section 204 (e) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976.

Andrus' move — one of five evaluated in a recent Interior Department supplemental environmental statement — prohibits for three years any new, significant environmental impact on d-2 lands. This would protect most of the areas in the House-passed Alaska bill, with the exception of national forest lands in southeast Alaska. Secretary of Agriculture Robert Bergland, who oversees national forests, is reviewing up to 11 million acres in Alaska for similar protection.

The five options for d-2 lands evaluated in Interior's statement include: designation as national monuments under the Antiquities Act of 1906, designation as study areas under the wilderness provisions of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, withdrawal from any use under FLPMA, withdrawal as compensation to the public interest for lands selected by native villages under the native claims act, and a combination of the above.

The Alaska Coalition, a group of conservation organizations working for passage of a strong Alaska lands bill, is urging Carter to use the Antiquities Act option. While the coalition applauds Andrus' emergency withdrawal action, it says the lands still may be subject to claims by the state. The

group is also concerned that the withdrawal expires in three years and that "the most threatened area of the state" — the southeast forest land — was not withdrawn.

Perhaps the most serious potential negative impact of the options evaluated by Interior's statement involves the possible loss of "subsistence lifestyles" practiced by as many as 12,000 of 60,000 Native Americans in Alaska. The impact on Natives could range from "minimal to severe," according to the statement. If the lands are designated national monuments, hunting, fishing and gathering might be banned. Interior Department attorney Jim Pepper says, however, that the statement considered the worst possible case. Since publication of the statement, it seems likely that subsistence activities would be allowed — even in national monuments, he says.

GRAVEL CREATED EMERGENCY

The Interior Department asked the Council of Environmental Quality for a special dispensation to reduce the comment period for the required environmental statement to 25 days, and CEQ agreed. Interior's haste in formulating its protective strategy resulted from last-minute torpedoing of Alaska National Interest Lands legislation by Sen. Mike Gravel (D-Alaska). The legislation had been tagged the highest environmental priority of the Carter administration and was intended to earmark d-2 lands for inclusion in various national conservation systems, such as national parks, wildlife refuges, forests and wild and scenic rivers.

The state's suit, which has been joined by Citizens for Management of Alaskan Lands, "covers the waterfront," according to Pat Pourchot of Gravel's office. Not only

does the suit contest the validity of Interior's environmental statement, including the length of the comment period, but also, Pourchot says, it questions the legality of Interior applying any of the options it analyzes, including the action already taken — the use of Section 204(e) of FLPMA.

The suit also disputes the authority of Secretary of Agriculture Robert Bergland to protect Forest Service lands.

Alaska lost the first round in the court battle last week. A federal district court judge in Alaska refused to stop the federal government from taking action while the case is being heard.

Alaska was also unsuccessful in its recent attempt to negotiate an out-of-court settlement with the Interior Department. In the wake of nominating 41 million acres of land, including nine million acres within d-2 boundaries, to complete land selections authorized by the Alaska statehood act, Alaska sent its attorney general, Avrum Gross, and its commissioner of natural resources, Robert LeResche, to Washington, D.C. LeResche offered to defer legal action for one year if Interior would not invoke the Antiquities Act as part of its d-2 protective strategy.

President Carter rejected Alaska's offer, and in the course of negotiations, Andrus managed to exact a promise from Alaskan

Gov. Jay Hammond (R) that the state's selections on d-2 lands would be withdrawn. A Justice Department official says that if Hammond keeps his promise, it may do harm to Alaska's suit, since the state will no longer have an interest in the d-2 lands.

Cynthia Wilson, an assistant to Andrus and a former Audubon Society Washington representative, heads the Alaska planning team of 42 in what she calls a "high drama" that includes a steady diet of 16 hour days. The Wilson team maintains that while the d-1 protections in the native claims act are adequate to protect d-2 lands until Congress acts, taking any one of the other steps increases the likelihood of congressional action on Alaska.

So the Alaska issue appears headed back into the congressional hopper. Congressional aides expect that an Alaska National Interest Lands Act will be the first thing considered by the Senate Energy and Natural Resource committee in the 96th Congress.

An aide to Sen. Cliff Hansen (R-Wyo.) says, "This is a major piece of legislation — not just a little exercise. A hell of a lot of land law applies here. You know, I watched the strip mine bill take seven years and that was not nearly as significant as this."



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Western Roundup



Dec. 1, 1978

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Foresters may shrink Bridger-Teton cut

The U.S. Forest Service has proposed a reduction in the annual timber cut from the Bridger-Teton National Forest in Wyoming from over 38 million to over 25 million board feet per year.

The agency says the cut is necessary because new data shows that some areas can't produce as much as foresters previously thought and because some areas have had restrictions placed on timbering since the agency's last plan, which was issued more than 10 years ago.

Bob Baker, who runs the Louisiana-Pacific timber mill at Dubois, Wyo., says the new plan doesn't represent a major change for his company. "The new plan just reflects the way we've been operating for the last several years. It's a relief to have a 10-year document that gives us a basis for planning," he says.

Despite the reduction, the proposed cut is still too large, says Wilderness Society Representative Bart Koehler. Koehler says the plan threatens important roadless areas, including parts of the Gros Ventre, Palisades, Grayback, Salt River Range, Commissary Ridge and proposed Bridger Wilderness additions.

"Roads are probably the biggest threat to wildlife and watershed values in the forest," Koehler says. The plan involves constructing 260 miles of permanent roads and 200 miles of temporary roads over the next 10 years.

Baker calls fears about roads "pure emotionalism."

"Under good management there is no reason that timbering should be a risk to wildlife, watersheds or anything else," he says.

Comments on the Forest Service's Draft Environmental Statement for the "Timber

Management Plan, Bridger-Teton National Forest" are due Dec. 29. For a copy of the plan, write to: Reid Jackson, Bridger-Teton National Forest, Box 1888, Jackson, Wyo. 83001.

Groups fight Heritage Mountain resort

Two groups and an individual have filed administrative appeals challenging the Forest Service's decision to grant a special use permit for the Heritage Mountain Ski Resort near Provo, Utah, formerly known as the Four Seasons Resort proposal.

Brian Beard of the Utah chapter of the Sierra Club says the development, which is proposed to include 4,500 acres of public land, would have detrimental effects on the watershed of Provo and would destroy needed deer habitat.

Another group, the Committee for the Protection of the Provo Area Taxpayers, questions procedures by which state land was transferred to the developers, a firm known as Wilderness Associates. The committee questions whether state officials promoted the transfer of the property, whether city Provo taxpayers were properly protected when the property was transferred from the state through the city to the developers, and whether a fair price was paid.

The taxpayers' group asked for a stay of all construction or other development until the appeal is decided, but the Forest Service denied the request. Jeff Sirmion, deputy regional forester, said that ordering a halt in construction would place a tremendous financial burden on the developer since more than \$12 million has already been spent on the resort.

A Brigham Young University botany professor, W.R. Liechty is also appealing the permit. Liechty owns property in the resort vicinity.

Beard charges that the Forest Service is allowing changes from the conditions stipulated in the final environmental impact statement for the project that would have serious impacts on water quality for the city of Provo and on wildlife habitat.

Because of the soil conditions, there is also a high potential for mudslides if the area is developed, according to the impact statement.

Beard says, "I've never seen so many letters from within the Forest Service that are critical of a decision made by the agency."

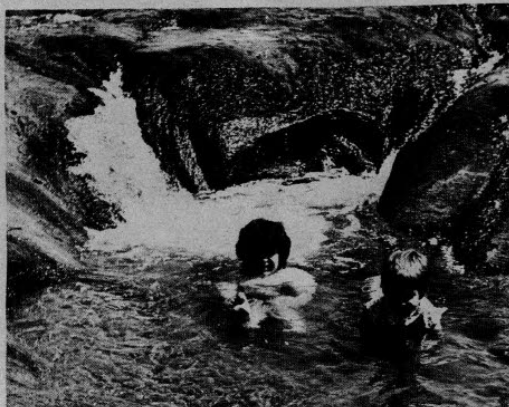


Photo by Jack McLellan

KEEPING WATER IN THE ESCALANTE RIVER and other Southwestern water courses is the aim of a suit filed against the U.S. Interior Department by the Sierra Club. Applications to use water in the Escalante exceed the flows in the river, according to the club. The photo above shows a refreshing pool in Deer Creek in the Escalante wilderness.

Suit would force Interior to protect water in canyon country

By suing the U.S. Interior Department, the Sierra Club hopes to force the federal government to protect stream flows in southern Utah and northern Arizona. The suit asks Interior to use the federal reserved water rights doctrine to protect the Escalante River, Paria River, Kanab Creek and Johnson Wash.

The projected water demands for coal mining, power plant construction and other major developments in the region pose "real and immediate threats" to the water courses.

"For example, on the Escalante River there are applications for far more water than flows in the river," says a club spokesman. "If flows are significantly reduced or periodically stopped it will diminish and possibly destroy the natural values of this outstanding scenic and recreational region."

Some of the federal preserves associated with the four water courses mentioned in the lawsuit are Glen Canyon National Recreation Area, North Escalante Canyon Outstanding Natural Area, Paria Canyon Primitive Area and Grand Canyon National Park.

"Under the laws regarding federal reserved water rights, the United States holds rights in the waters of these rivers and streams to fulfill and carry out the preservational and recreational purposes of the federal lands involved," says Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund attorney Tony Ruckel. "Except for infrequent and desultory appearances, the United States has not participated nor moved to protect its rights."

The federal water reservation doctrine allows the government to claim enough water to go along with each federal land reservation (national forest, national park, Indian reservation, etc.) to carry out the stated functions of the reservation. In the past the courts have granted Indian tribes enough water to irrigate their reservations, for instance. However, the most recent Supreme Court decision on federal reserved water rights denied the Forest Service the right to reserve water on national forests for fish and wildlife. (See HCN 7-14-78, page 1.)

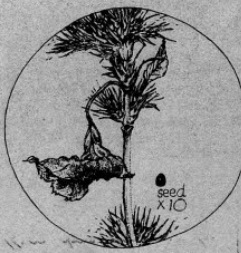
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TRANSMISSION ENGINEER Energy Division, Montana Department of Natural Resources, needs a transmission engineer to conduct studies of power transmission systems, including the analysis of statewide and regional power grids. Applicant must have a B.S. in electrical or power engineering and three years equivalent qualifications. Position is located in Helena, MT. Starting salary, \$16,596 — \$20,808, commensurate with experience. Forward resume to Personnel Officer, DNRC, 32 So. Ewing, Helena, MT 59601.



ROMCOE rewards conservation deeds

Lynne Bama, a Wyoming photographer and writer has won the 1978 Rocky Mountain Center on Environment (ROMCOE) award for her articles in Wyoming News. Dr. Beatrice Willard, a member of President Nixon's Council on Environmental Quality and a professor at Colorado School of Mines, won ROMCOE's Edward Hobbs Hilliard, Jr., Memorial Award for her work "to improve the environmental management capabilities of corporations."

ROMCOE's citizen-organization award went to the students of Western State College in Gunnison, Colo., who issued a national energy conservation challenge to see who could save the most energy. The challenge was accepted by more than 200 schools, businesses, communities and industries in 48 states.

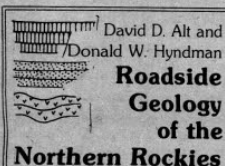
Other ROMCOE award recipients are Paul Rokich, an environmental technician at Kennecott Copper Corp. in Salt Lake City; Mountain Bell, for its attempt to achieve zero energy growth within the company; Delwin E. Benson, an assistant professor of wildlife biology at Colorado State University; the Colorado Rocky Mountain School at Carbondale, for its environmental and energy conservation projects; and the Colorado Department of Highways, for its work on the construction of Interstate 70 over Vail Pass.

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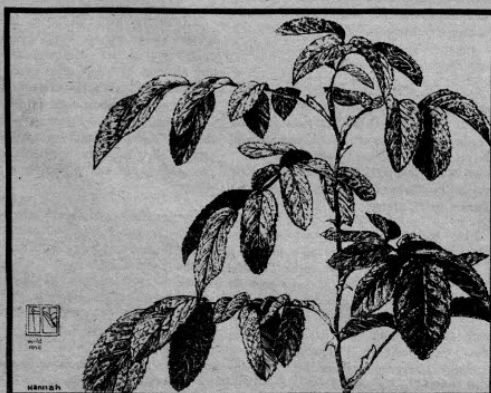
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NON-ELECTRONIC FUN

by Myra Connell

My young friend asked recently about recreation at the central Wyoming ranch and farm where I grew up. Before 1925 families were large; I had five brothers and three sisters. My friend asked whether I was ever bored; what did we do for fun?

If I was bored, I was unaware of it. However, I believe some members of the family were sometimes lonely due to the isolation.

Our activities depended on the weather and season, as it ever has been with those living on the land. Spring, of course, was a joyous time.

We had more than 400 acres over which to roam, and sometimes we got through the fence onto the open range, besides.

First on the spring agenda was digging and eating our fill of segos lilies and wild garlic, as soon as leaves appeared.

Many of our wanderings led us to birds' nests. It was a big thrill to find one. We were taught just to look, never to touch. However, we gathered armloads of wild flowers, bouquets for Mother. I doubt our gatherings depleted the wild flower supply appreciably, not nearly as much as sheep grazing later.

About a mile from the house was a single lone pine tree, the mecca for many expedi-

tions. It grew amid a fantastic outcropping of rocks — castles to us, of course. Another rock formation resembled male and female African lions, complete with saddles — just right for riding. Not many people have ever ridden on a lion!

Life wasn't all play. We drove the milk cows to pasture on the free range outside the fence. At evening we had to locate them and bring them in to be milked. We helped with milking and also with planting, weeding and irrigating the big garden and potato patch. We girls had household chores, while the boys chopped wood, cared for livestock, crops and irrigation ditches. All of us carried water. There's nothing quite so effective as work as an antidote for boredom!

In mid-summer when the dry range offered scant feed, we had to herd the cows along the irrigation ditches where sweet clover grew in profusion. We might have become bored at this job had we not whiled away the hours with a good library book as we sat on our horse watching the cows. In all seasons reading was one of our most important forms of recreation. Mother saw to it that we had plenty of library books and a few magazines.

During winter evenings we often had games as well as reading — bean porridge, Rin-tin-tin, Quaker meeting, Ouija board, checkers and cards. We had music, too — the older brothers practiced on violins or we sang together. Often we practiced our songs, "pieces" or plays for the school entertainments.

Outdoor winter fun was mostly sledding. We had wonderful hills. Our snowmobiles

were gravity-powered down hill and kid-powered up hill. Sometimes if weather was mild, we went sledding by moonlight.

In hot weather we invited neighbors in on Sunday afternoons for homemade ice cream. In the cool of the evenings we played run-sheep-run until after dark. We paddled in the muddy irrigation ditches to get cool. We went on horse-and-buggy journeys to pick wild berries or to the warm artesian well to swim.

Both winter and summer we went with

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our parents to neighborhood dances, usually held at the schoolhouse. Later we went with our beaus or best girls.

Our parents took us into town to Fourth of July celebrations, county fairs and circuses. Just after World War I we occasionally went to a movie — silent, of course. All trips to town were special.

How would we have found time for boredom?

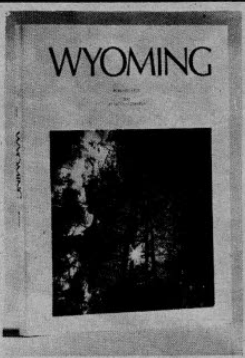
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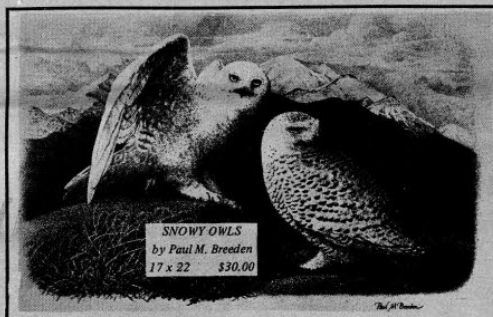


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16-High Country News — Dec. 1 1978

Environmentalists are claiming victory in the public comment portion of the Forest Service's Second Roadless Area Review and Evaluation. They say that most of the areas they cared about received significant pro-wilderness votes, and most areas included in Citizens Alternative W, an approach recommended by wilderness advocates, were backed for wilderness designation by a majority of the comments.

While individual areas received strong support for wilderness, wilderness in general lost on the Forest Service vote tally. Environmentalists say this is because general comments were skewed by the efforts of commodity interests. These interests distributed "response forms" among employees and encouraged them to send the forms to the Forest Service. A "response form" is the Forest Service designation for a pre-printed mailer on which a person checks a box either favoring or opposing wilderness.

The Citizens for North Idaho Wilderness charges that "the timber industry staged a highly-organized, expensive campaign to flood the Forest Service with biased response forms, dummy letters, petitions and coupons opposing wilderness or further study."

However, the wilderness group engaged in some organized campaigns of its own. Ralph Maughan, a spokesman for the group, says it sent in about 500 form letters urging wilderness for individual roadless areas. "If we'd had an extra week, I think we could have beaten the timber industry at its own game," he says.

While response forms tipped the balance in many states against wilderness in an overall count of pro- or anti-wilderness "votes" they were not applied to the count on individual areas unless they specifically mentioned them. However, letters that supported Alternative W were counted as a vote for each of the areas listed in a state's alternative. Consequently, while the general sentiment expressed in the RARE II comments was anti-wilderness (see HCN 11-3-78), comments on individual areas show a preponderance of pro-wilderness sentiment in many places.

Maughan says "In general, on the specific roadless areas, we had a pretty good victory. In Idaho, only one area in Alternative W did not get a majority for wilderness or further planning (Bear Creek, which split 50 percent for and against wilderness.)" In RARE II, all roadless areas will be recommended for one of three categories: wilderness, non-wilderness or further planning.

One section of the region of major concern to both environmentalists and the oil industry has been the Overthrust Belt, which may contain major oil and natural gas deposits as well as wilderness. In all Idaho RARE II areas in the Overthrust Belt except two — Bear Creek and Caribou City — more than 50 percent of the respondents favored either wilderness or further planning. In Wyoming, three of four major areas in the Overthrust Belt received heavy pro-wilderness support — Gros Ventre, 82 percent pro-wilderness; Grayback, 78 percent; and Commissary Ridge, 72 percent. The fourth area, Salt River Range, received 56 percent for further planning, which was the option recommended by conservationists in Alternative W.

Paul Driessen, a spokesman for the Rocky Mountain Oil and Gas Association, says, "We're generally pleased with the public response that came out of non-wilderness groups. It indicates to me that people don't want to lock up minerals with-

Environmentalists claim many RARE II victories



Photo by David Sumner
PART OF THE APPEAL OF ROADLESS AREAS lies in the opportunity they provide for quiet, non-mechanized recreation. These skiers are exploring the San Miguel Roadless Area in the San Juan National Forest in Colorado.

out knowing what's there and without getting mineral values out of the land."

In Colorado, where there was not a large, organized anti-wilderness campaign by commodity groups, there were 76 "consensus" wilderness areas in the state. The Forest Service is considering 85 percent or more of the respondents in favor of any single alternative to be "consensus."

In Utah, there are 130 inventoried roadless areas. The Forest Service says that on about 90 of them, 70 percent or more of the respondents opposed wilderness. Of the 52 roadless areas designated by Alternative W only 16 received a majority vote in favor of wilderness designation.

A cause for concern among environmentalists is whether the Forest Service will give greater weight to personal letters than to "vote counting" of the many anti-wilderness response forms and petitions it received. The agency is currently being very secretive about its evaluation procedures, but in the past it said that it would evaluate personal letters more highly.

Rose Kapelczynski of the Colorado Open Space Council, says, "We're really pleased with the outcome in Colorado, but we're not sure what it's going to mean. It appears

that the first cut will just be a vote count. We're disappointed in that because we really urged our people to write letters and express their views."

Information on personal letters was compiled by Utah Wilderness Society representative Dick Carter. His data show that personal letters supporting wilderness outnumbered personal letters opposed to wilderness for every area in Alternative W in Utah, and never by less than a two-to-one margin. Often letters favoring wilderness outnumbered opposing ones by as much as eight-to-one.

Maughan says, "I was most disappointed in the intransigence of the timber industry. They opposed all wilderness, not just wilderness for the roadless areas that had significant commercial timber. It's hard to compromise in the face of that kind of opposition."

Larry Blasing of the Inland Forest Council, a Montana-based group, says that the industry opposed all wilderness because it was difficult to come up with a timber industry plan. He says, "An area of interest to one company may not be of interest to another."

Maughan also says, however, "All of the public comment will be undercounted or overcounted by politicians of various persuasions. Those that are opposed to wilderness will read what they want, and those favoring it will read what they want. In the long run, it will come down to politics."

No one is sure how Congress will treat the recommendations made in the final RARE II impact statement. Capitol Hill staff members are worried that RARE II "will be dropped in their laps and that each area will have to be reviewed in tiny detail," reports Public Lands News.

Regional Forest Service officials met with the agency officials in Washington Nov. 13-14 to present their recommendations. A final environmental impact statement is scheduled for completion by Dec. 31. This statement could still become embroiled in further controversy, because the Environmental Protection Agency, in a letter sent to the Forest Service in September, said that the RARE II process was deficient in several ways.

An EPA spokesman says, "There is a need in the process for additional decision criteria, and environmental sensitivity should be one. The selection criteria, as they currently stand, appear to be biased toward developing the extractable resources rather than the environmental and recreational resources."

EPA has left open the possibility of asking the Council on Environmental Quality to mediate the dispute. This could hold up the Forest Service's recommendations to Congress for several months.

Two congressional leaders have already stated their intention to have Congress decide not only which areas should be wilderness, but also how the rest of the roadless areas in the national forests should be used. Sen. Frank Church (D-Idaho) and Sen. Mark Hatfield (R-Ore.), two ranking members of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee that will take up RARE II next year, say they want to model congressional action on the

Gospel-Hump plan in Idaho. In the Gospel-Hump case, environmentalists and industry representatives who objected to a Forest Service plan worked out a compromise that was approved by Congress. The compromise designated some areas wilderness but also had Congress trespass on traditional Forest Service turf by declaring some non-wilderness lands open to logging.

"Those who say we ought to treat all of RARE II in the same manner that we treated Gospel-Hump don't understand what went on at Gospel-Hump," says Doug Scott of the Sierra Club. Scott, one of the leaders in the compromise, says all parties tried to reach a consensus which was then approved by Congress. However, this won't work with RARE II because in most cases there has never been an attempt at reaching a consensus acceptable to all interests. "RARE II started out as an attempt to reach consensus, but it notably failed to do it," Scott says.

Forest Service Chief John McGuire told the Gannett News Service that the Church-Hatfield plan could cause significant delays in federal timber sales by holding them up until Congress acts. The Forest Service had hoped to start selling timber in some RARE II lands prior to congressional action. Hatfield disagrees, saying the Forest Service "can't take action on its report until Congress has a chance to review it." Such a review could allow the public a chance to comment on the Forest Service conclusions, Hatfield told Gannett.

Hatfield and Church want to see Congress legislate non-wilderness as well as wilderness so that RARE II administrative actions aren't held up in the courts. "We have to put the controversy to rest," says Church. "We can't do it with Forest Service regulations. We must do it with laws."

New figures look better for preservation

High Country News has received several letters from readers complaining about inaccuracies in reporting the wilderness vote count in the Forest Service's Roadless Area Review and Evaluation story published Nov. 3. Figures presented were obtained from the Forest Service and were checked before publication. Nevertheless, the Forest Service's final figures are different from those it gave us for the earlier article. HCN apologizes for the confusion and is presenting the corrected figures below. In each case, the changes mean more votes for wilderness designation.

Several readers blamed the Salt Lake Tribune for the inaccuracies in the Utah figures for Mt. Naomi roadless area. However, both the Tribune and HCN obtained figures directly from the Forest Service.

Corrected figures are: Mt. Naomi, 59 percent pro-wilderness, 19 percent opposed; Palisades, 63 percent pro-wilderness, 37 percent opposed; West Slope of the Tetons, 67 percent favoring wilderness, 33 percent opposed; DuNoir, 80 percent pro-wilderness, 20 percent opposed; Huston Park, 59 percent pro-wilderness, 41 percent opposed.