SOCIETY FOR THE CONSERVATION OF BIGHORN SHEEP

The Sheepherder

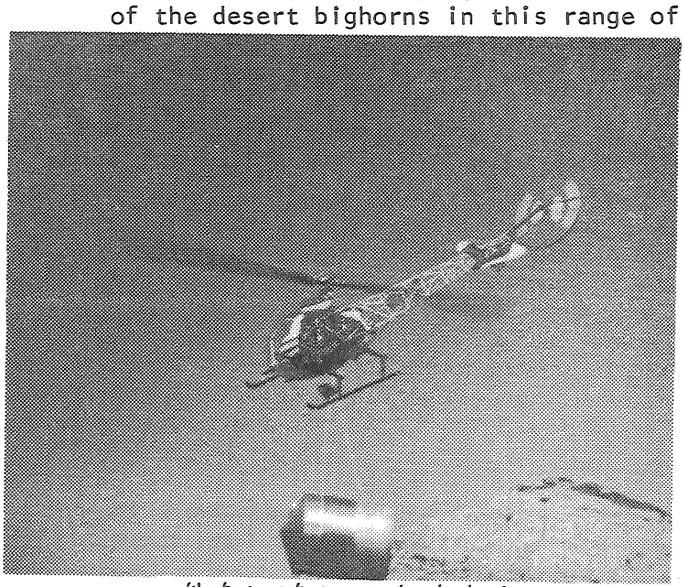
office
401 North Garfield
Alhambra, California 91801
213 284-5113

editor
LEWIS E. CARPENTER
815 W. Gettysburg
Fresno, Ca. 93705
(209) 227-9140

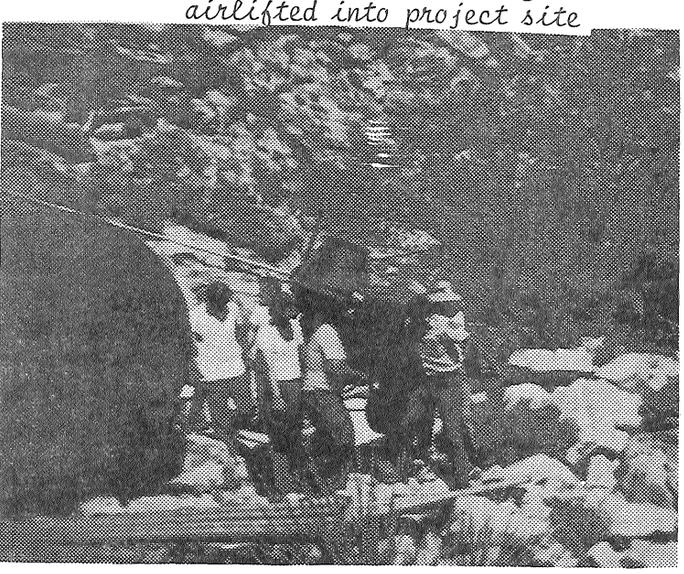
JULY - AUGUST 1976

CHEMEHUEVI MOUNTAIN WATER FOR WILDLIFE PROJECT

The Chemehuevi Mt's lie approximately 14 miles to the south of Needles, in California, and between the California - Arizona border and Highway 95 south. Here a remnant population of desert bighorn sheep, *Ovis canadensis nelsoni* are struggling for survival against an increasing number of feral burros. This competiton for water withthe burros coupled with the long-term drying trend of scarcer rainfall makes the outlook for the survival of the desert bighorns in this range of mountains very bleak.



Water storage tank being airlifted into project site



Work crew carrying cement mixer to work site

It is hoped that the installation of this big game guzzler will be of benefit to the bighorns and other wildlife of the area, once it is in operation.

In order for the project to become operational there must be sufficient rain or thunder showers above and in back of a diversion dam. This run-off trapped by the dam is piped to three-fifteen hundred gallon steel storage tanks. The water is then metered, in a drinker, by use of a float valve, on demand by the bighorns and other wildlife of the area. The entire project is within a burro exclosure. In order to safeguard this water project for the native wildlife of the area it is necessary to exclude the feral burro from the facility. Note: a few years ago efforts were made to exclude burros from the Woods, Mt. Spring. However, it was not built strong enough to withstand the incessant pawing of the burro, having been built out of only 2" steel pipe. Burros will have water available to their use, but at a distance too great for bighorns to travel away from their escape cover of rough and rocky terrain.

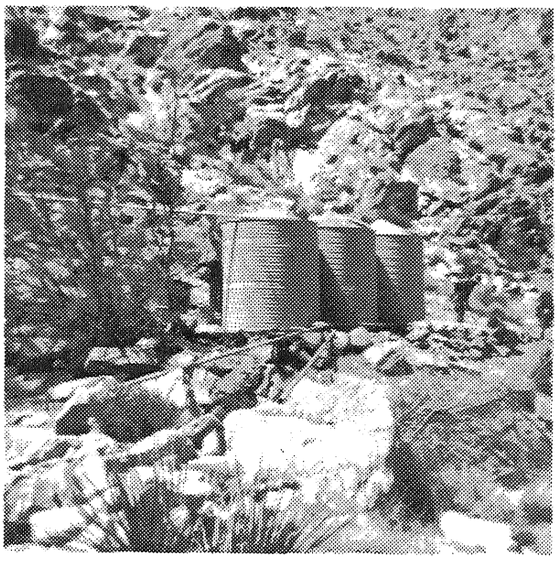
By 6:00a.m. on April 21, 1976, all equipment and material had arrived at the site chosen for the helicopter air-lift, 20 miles south of Needles. The distance the material and equipment had to be air-lifted was less than 300 yards. All lifts---48 in number were completed before 9:00 a.m. This airlift was, without doubt, the largest amount of material and equipment that has been assembled for any of these desert projects. There were 3 15 kw. generators, two gas operated cement mixers, one electric powered pipe threading machine, one gas powered compressor and paint spray gun, 2 gallons of paint primer and 2 gallons of desert beige paint, one electric chipping hammer, 3 electric sidewinder drills one electric hand drill, 3 ---1500 gallon galvanized steel tanks, 6 --55 gallon drums of water, one fibreglass float-valve drinker; 10 gallons of gasolene; 15 gallons of drinking water; 100 --95 pound bags of portland cement; 700 feet of 2" galvanized steel pipe ; 105 feet of 1" pipe;

DATES TO REMEMBER:

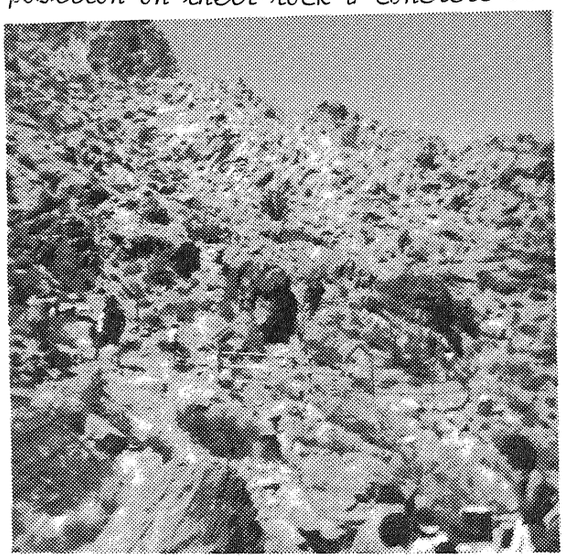
Waterhole counts if not done over the July 4th weekend, should be taken care of during the month of July, if possible-----Send your reports to Glenn Sudmeier. IF YOU CANNOT COUNT IN JULY ----THEN DO IT IN AUGUST, ALSO A GOOD MONTH.

Labor Day Weekend in the Death Valley National Monument--waterhole count, *see page eight.*

October 2nd --at Michael's ---Annual Dinner of the Society in southern California.



The three storage tanks are in position on their rock & concrete slab



The steel pipe fence around the installation is seen above and below rather indistinctly

19 - 7 foot lengths of 4" steel pipe together with all types of pipe fittings; shovels, mattocks; buckets, tool boxes, extension cords and of course one Johnson pick-up strainer-screen to install on the upstream face of the dam.

During the evening of April 23rd, the volunteers began to arrive at the camp site, fifteen miles south of Needles on Highway 95. Here the Department of Fish and Game had brought in a double chemical toilet with wash basins and running water and also two hundred gallon tanker of water for the volunteers

At 7:00 a.m. the next morning the 24th of April the volunteers were loaded into four-wheel drive vehicles for the seven mile shuttle into the Chemehuevi Mountains. They arrived at the helicopter lift area about 7:30 a.m. and from there, a short hike took them to the project site. The work party was composed of fifty-two volunteers and five members of the Department of Fish and Game personnel.

As is usual on these projects the work party divides itself into separate units or crews. One crew began work on the dam, which was to be constructed across the middle of a thirty foot dry waterfall. Several holes were drilled in the bedock to accept the steel reinforcing bars. A length of 2" pipe was anchored in place at the base of the dam. A bucket brigade was needed to hand the buckets of concrete down along the side of the rock wall of the dry waterfall. The footing was at best precarious. When completed the dam had a crest length of nine feet; a height of three and one half feet and a base thickness of about four feet . The Johnson pick-up-screen was then installed on the upstream side of the dam and covered with small rock for protection and also to help filter out sediments.

A second crew were busy at work preparing an eight foot by twenty food pad or platform of rock covered by five inches of concrete to hold the three fifteen hundred gallon storage tanks. These were set in place while the concrete was still wet.

A "Paint crew " had during this time primed the exteriors of the tanks and then afterwards had given them the final coat of desert-beige colored paint.

The "pipe-crew" laid out and joined the 2" pipe from the dam to the tanks; connected the tanks togetherat a point four inches above their bases using 2" pipe one of which contained a reducer to one inch; eighty feet of one inch pipe was connected to the float-valve drinker installed in cement and rock at the base of a large rock outcropping near the center of the burro exclosure. Pipes are put underground wherever possible; where this is not possible , and where ever else it is possible the pipes are covered with rock for protection. This is important in order to protect the pipe from possible pawing and subsequent breakage by the burros. The weakest part of a pipe is, of course, at the many connections.

The burro-proof fence or exclosure has an approximate two hundred foot perimeter. One hundred thirty feet of this perimeter is formed by nine-seven foot long-four inch galvanized steel pipes embedded sixteen inches in concrete and rock, set ten to twelve feet apart. There are three, onehundred thirty foot - two inch pipe railings, spaced twenty inches apart and bolted to the four-inch pipe posts. In the upper northeast corner of the exclosure where there was a possible burro entrance, this was closed off with a twelve foot section of fence constructed in the same manner as the other. This fence forms a semicircle around the drinker to complete the exclosure and the project.

The project was completed by 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, April 25, 1976.

After the construction of the project was completed the area was cleaned up and all unused material and equipment was put in lift chutes, or had cables attached to them and made ready for the air-lift by helicopter out of the project the following Monday.

The Allen Rossman Motion Picture Productions from Van Nuys, California crew arrived early Wednesday morning, April 21 to film the helicopter air-lift of material and equipment into the project site. Ralph Young of the Department of Fish and Game, Region 5, was present to take pictures for the Department. These men were also on hand on Saturday the 24th to film the construction and installation of the Water For Wildlife Project.

Many different organizations, as usual, were represented on this project. These were: Society for the Conservation of Bighorn Sheep: Bud Wiedeman, Glenn Sudmeier, Kimberly Kirkpatrick and Don Johnson; Explorer Scout Post 621X: Eric Strand, Michael Hein, Robert Garcia, Eddie Avadekian, John Lowery, Jeff Hein, Matt Lowery, and Mario Sanchez; Donald Douglas Sportsmen's Club: Jerry David , Dale Johnson, Rex Foland, Wayne Frankforter, Bob Smith, Bradley Ebert, and Bruce Ebert; Peirce College: Kaia Pointer, Ellen Goldstein, Mark L. Schuster, Bobbi Heise, Jim Rusch, Bill Baierski and Jack Placclie; Panorama Sportsmen's Club represented by: Dale D. Pearson, Dave Pearson, Chuck Kerr, Eric C. Pond, Susi M. Sanders, Bill Taft, Gene Kessinger and Jerry Kessinger. Those not representing any organization were: Dave Sauceda, Alan J, Smith, Hal G. Johnson, Dave Brown, Sarah C. Gould, Thomas J. Gould, Cynthia Lynn Gould, Robert W. Crane, Richard O. Broos, and Jim Lavravote; Southern Council of Conservation Clubs: Bob Juergens, Dee Wheeler, and Donna Wheeler; From the Sierra Club : Teresa Crane, and Gerald Campbell: Loaner Associated PSC: Robert Leslie; Permaseal Laboratories: Robert E. Crane; the Department of Fish and GAme: John Massie, Wildlife Habitat Supervisor and his assistants Les Coombes and Bob Hamilton, Season Aide Rick Sixkiller and Gordon Gould, Wildlife Biologist for the Southern Desert.

The Society for the Conservation of Bighorn Sheep does wish to express its sincere appreciation to the Southern Council and it's member clubs an to all the other organizations and individuals who did participate on this project. A special THANK YOU to the Boy Scouts of Explorer Post 621X who furnished 60% of the work force during the second day of work on Sunday the 25th, and of course to stalwarts Bob Juergens, Jerry David, and Bud Wiedeman who worked for two full days on the project. The latter trio very seldom if ever miss any work project or any phase of the project.

IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOTE: Funding for the necessary materials and services to install this water for Wildlife Project in the Chemehuevi Mountains, was made possible through the Governing Board of the Shikar Safari Club International

Report and pictures courtesy of Bud Wiedeman.
Note: There is just no-one who participates on more water projects than Bud Wiedeman. Ed.
****

EDITOR WISHES TO EXPRESS THANKS

There have been many people who have said that the Society has a good newsletter. The quality of the newsletter is so very dependent on the information made available to the editor----who then puts it together. I have been so very lucky in having so very many people send in articles of interest about our bighorns. This is so gratifying to me. I then have a problem of trying to get everything into the eight pages. Sometimes I get information over the telephone and do not hear something correctly and make an error, such as the one on page one of the May-June issue where *I gave Marvin Wood credit for having been honored by the Hunting Hall of Fame Foundation. Marvin has corrected me on this error. Although Marvin is a Life Member of the Hunting Hall of Fame Foundation, he is not an honoree. Marvin did want that made clear, as there is a great deal of difference.*
****

WATERHOLE COUNT - COW CANYON -SAN GABRIEL MOUNTAINS -----BILL PHIFER

Photo by the editor

HAVE YOU EVER TAKEN AN EIGHT MONTH PREGNANT WIFE AND TWO YOUNG GIRLS AGES 6 & 8 ON A SHEEP WATERHOLE COUNT? WELL, I DID THE FIRST WEEK OF MAY 1976. RESULTS YIELDED ONE EWE AND LAMB DRINKING AT A WATERHOLE. This report is submitted in an attempt to get the various members of the Sheep Society off of their chairs and out into the field to observe sheep. This count was the first for my wife Linda, and my daughters Leigh and Sarah. Linda and Leigh saw the two sheep but the youngest daughter, Sarah, was unable to use the spotting scope properly and could not see the mountain much less the sheep. Anyone who has never seen a Desert Bighorn and lives in the L.A. area might call Bill Phifer at 333-6252 and join up with him.

Thanks, Lew----Bill.

****

SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEET

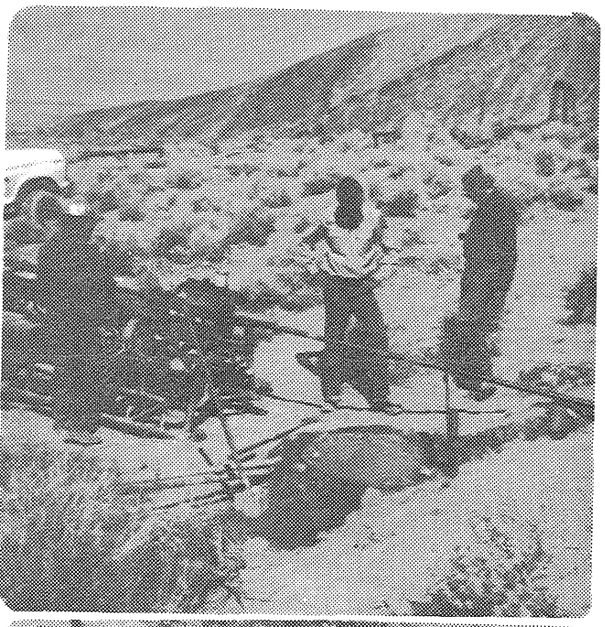
The regular quarterly meeting of the Board of Directors of the Society met at the Sportsmen's Lodge in Cedar Glenn, near Lake Arrowhead June 5th. The proposed change in By-laws which would raise the number of Directors from seven to nine was ratified. The two new Directors are: Dr. Charles W. Jenner, D.V.M., 11381 Loch Lomond Road, Los Alamitos, California. 90720; and Ronald D. Vickery, 13831 Stratton Avenue, Sylmar, Ca.91342

THE BOARD ALSO REQUESTED THAT THE EDITOR REMIND THOSE WHO HAVE NOT PAID THEIR MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR 1976 TO PLEASE SEND THEM IN TO THE TREASURER--John E.O. Larronde, P.O. Box 395, Malibu, Calif. 90365

HORIZONTAL WELL DRILLING A SUCCESS

Report by John Massie, Wildlife Habitat Supervisor, Department of Fish and Game.

Above and below the hydralic horizontal well drilling equipment on a hillside location



A closeup view of the drilling equipment at work.

The letter from John says in part: "Warden Wolters has also reported the poor condition of the unit in the Cady Mountains. I don't think it has been rained on since it was installed.NOTE: March 1972. The large wash down canyon from it has run on several occassions though. The only saving grace about that guzzler is that sheep tracks are seen near it virtually every time anyone checks it.

Did you see any water in the tinaja around the corner from it? (No--I did not know there was one). We are happy to report that we are getting a trmendous flow from Agua Alta Spring where a horizontal well was drilled this month. Nearly 500 gallons per hour are coming through the pipe .

South Fork Spring also was drilled on and 60 gallons per hour are being made there. Both of these sites are in sheep and deer habitat in Martinez Canyon southwest of Palm Desert.

Also we finished another very successful explosives engineering job east of Bishop at the Buckley Ponds complex where we cut over 2,000 feet of level ditch into the solid stands of cattails. Fish and water associated wildlife will benefit from this work. We watched nuptal flights of cinnamon teal during the work.

We have identified four guzzlers that are in need of serious maintenance work. As Glenn can attest they are: Piute Range, Chuckawalla, W eavernoy and Cady Mountains (Needs water hauled). Work parties are needed for all of these jobs. No dates have been set yet.

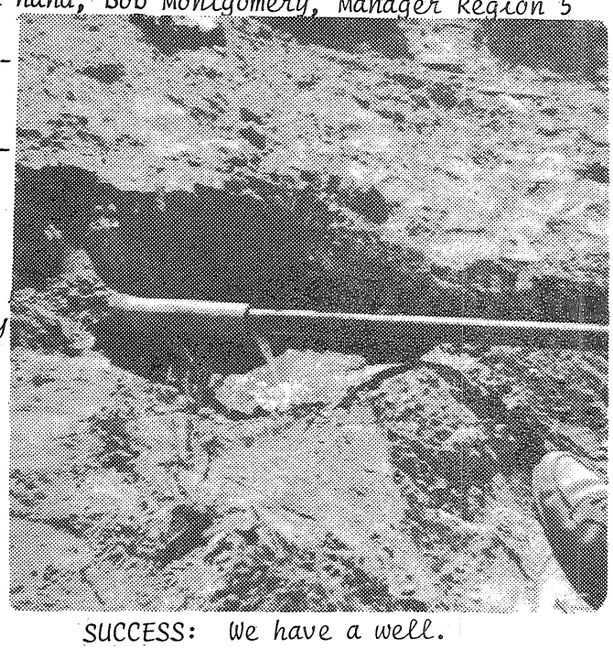
October 9th, 1976, has been chosen for work at the Kingston Peak guzzler site.

Again, good to hear from you and I hope that Mr. Tennesen had a good trip with the desert flowers cooperating.

Note:the editor had taken Michael Tennesen, who did the article BIGHORN ON THE RUN for National Wildlife last fall, into the Cady Mt. Project so that he might see one of the Society's projects, first hand. Vegetation in the mountains was almost non-existent. But, out on the flats there were quite a lot of evening primrose, verbena and white thistles in bloom.

****

Editor's note: This report from John Massie about the successful well drilling operation is very gratifying. It has taken alot of spade-work by a number of people concerned with trying to find some solution(s) to the water shortage problems of our desert wildlife. Carl Mahon, of the Bureau of Land Management, Utah, did provide us with background information . Past-Director of the DFG- G. Ray Arnett, now President of the National Wildlife Federation and the present Director E.C.'Charlie' Fullerton gave a hand, Bob Montgomery, Manager Region 5 DFG has given all possible assistance, and has now provided Massie with a full drilling crew. John Massie took the bit in his teeth and ran with it. Dr. Lutz, President of the Society was the laisson to the Southern California Safari Club who then purchased for nearly $9,000. a Hydralic horizontal well drilling machine and an extra drill bit from Albert W. 'Bud' Smith, and then deeded this equipment to the Department of Fish and Game. The editor is pleased to have had apart in this project.

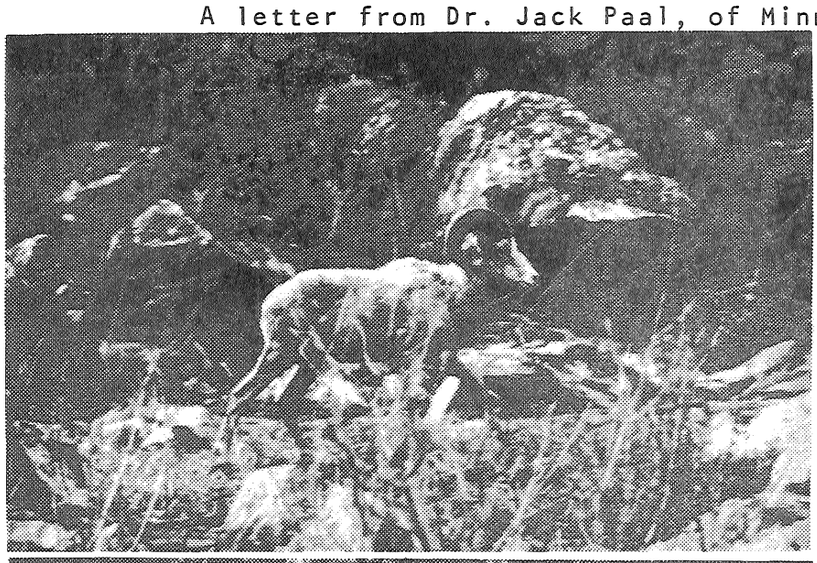


SUCCESS: We have a well.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF JOHN MASSIE AND LES COOMBES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME.

SHEEP SIGHTED ALONG THE SALMON RIVER

A letter from Dr. Jack Paal, of Minneapolis was recently received.



Jack had been on a spring bear hunt along Idaho's Salmon River. Jack Said, in part, "As for bear hunting, it was not a very satisfactory hunt. They cruise up and down the Salmon river in jet boats, stopping frequently to glass the mountain sides for bear.....I believe that if we could have packed into a high tent camp with horses we would have had a better chance to glass more country and perhaps spot a trophy bear. However the trip was exciting in that we did see a lot of game. We saw goats climbing not too far up a ridge. There were many elk and mule deer nearby and we were able to get quite close to the deer....I saw a blue grouse drumming for the first time . Also a large river otter playfully floated down the fast current of the river for about 100 yards and then would swim up stream. He kept repeating this performance and seemed to enjoy showing off for us.
T he most exciting of all were the bighorn sheep. We saw many, lots of scattered ewes and yearlings. But greatest of all was a band of 20 rams. We saw them on two different days and the second time we saw them they were bedded down right on the bank of the river. We were able to get within a stone toss of them with the boat. Taking photos from a rocking boat on a cludy day with a telephoto lens doesn't produce the greatest of pictures. But, I really had a field day and shot about 25 exposures. Enclosed are a few which I thought you might enjoy."

Note: Thank you Jack. The pictures of the sheep in the spring do show that winter is a very lean time for the bighorns. To get any type of usable pics under those conditions is a real feat.

I do hope that other members will send in articles of interest for use in THE SHEEPHERDER. IT IS YOUR PUBLICATION.

Photos to the left were taken by Society member Jack Paal along Idaho's Salmon River this spring.

****

REPORT ON THE OLD WOMAN MOUNTAIN--Some news is good--some is bad. Report by Marvin Wood

Marvin reports that he had been into the Old Woman Mountain, of which he is the team Captain, on June 18- 19 -& 20. The Danby Tunnel Spring---on the north end, has very little water. It is,of course, completely in the shade. This reduces evaporation to a minimum. The Surveyor Spring project on the southeastern side ----here the tanks are completely dry. The Sheep Camp Spring, on the southwestern side----the tanks are also dry. The Old Woman Monument Spring project----here the tanks are full and project is in operation. This is an area of good habitat--at 4,500' elevation. There is always fresh sheep sign in the area and on occassions sheep are seen . To quote from Marvin's report: Dr. Paul Murphy of Hanford, Ca. and I met with Glenn Sudmeier and Jim DeForge who were accompanied by six college students, at the suggestion of glenn. This work force cleared the Dripping Spring(in Carbonate Gulch --western side of the mountain), of the rock and sand, which had filled the catchment, some time ago. The heavy rains of February last had caused the rock overhang to crumble and obliterate the spring from view. A great deal of broken rock, sand and gravel had to be removed from the site. Dripping Spring is now operating at full storage capacity.

These college students, namely: Ellen D. Goldstein, Kaia Pointer, Jack Placchi, Tom Murphy, Paul Murphy, and Mark Schuster have helped on other projects in the DESERT WATER FOR WILDLIFE PROJECT. Their contributions are most welcome and are appreciated.

After the next FLASH FLOOD I shall check to ascertain if this overhanging rock continues to crumble into the spring. If it does then the construction of some kind of divergence will be necessary to prevent refilling the spring with debris."

Dripping Spring is an historic water for bighorns. Many years ago miners did dig out the spring and build a redwood box within it and then piped the water away from it for their convenience ---but they still left the spring open and usable for the wildlife of the area.

****

PRESENT STATUS OF THE FERAL BURRO

The U.S. Supreme Court on June 17, 1976 handed down their decision No. 74-1488. Arguments had been heard on March 23, 1976, as previously reported here in THE SHEEPHERDER.

It must be noted that the Supreme Court does not discuss the merits of Public Laws such as P.L. 92-195 as to whether or not the law is one that is justified, needed or in the best interests of that which is effected by the law. Their function seems to be to determine whether such law is within the framework of the United States Constitution. The U.S. District Court in New Mexico had held the Act unconstitutional and enjoined its enforcement. The Synopsis of the Decision states: "Held: As applied to this case, the Act is a constitiutional exercise of congressional power under the Property Clause of the Constitution, which provides that "Congress shall have Power to dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory or other Property belonging to the United States." Art. iV,(3), cl. 2..... Federal legislation under the Clause, overrides conflicting state laws. And here, though the Act does not establish exclusive federal jurisdiction over the public lands in New Mexico, it over rides the New Mexico Estray Law insofar as that statute attempts to regulate federally protected animals." On page 17 of the decision the final paragraph states: "For the reasons stated, the judgement of the District Court is reversed and the case is remanded for further proceedings consistent with this opinion. *It is so ordered.*

****

IN THE CONGRESS

H.R. 13777 - The Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 had been sent out of the Subcommittee on Public Lands (May 13th) to the full House' Interior and Insular Affairs Committee. This Committee on May 15th, 1976 then sent the bill to the floor of the House of Representatives for their consideration. Sec. 213, is titled: MANAGEMENT OF CERTAIN HORSES AND BURROS does contain nearly all of the language of H.R.2935 and H.R. 11539 both authored by the Honorable G. William Whitehurst of Virginia in his efforts to assist in the protection of the desert environment and its flora and fauna. Other parts of H.R. 13777 do offer assistance to the Bureau of Land Management as it strives to administer the National Resource Lands under its Jurisdiction. Probably action on this bill will not be taken until August by the House.

IN THE CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE:

State Senator Howard Way of Exeter authored both S-2077 and SJR-55. SJR-55 has been passed out of the Senate to the Assembly. This bill memorializes the U.S. Congress to actually get busy and solve the desparate problems engendered by the so-called Wild and Free-Roaming Horses and Burros. Resolutions of this nature have no real efffect upon the formation of laws other than to express to the Congress the very deep concern of the California Legislature for solutions on the National level. S-2077 was passed out of the Senate's Committee on Natural Resources and Wildlife without dissent. No opposition had been given by any Senator to any committee. Therefore Senator Way had asked that the bill be presented before the Senate Finance Committee which was hearing bills that had had no opposition to that time. At this time Senator Walter Stiern of Kern County stated that there was a lot of opposition in his district to the management of feral burros, and that he was opposed to the passage of the bill, although he had stated a few days before the hearing that he would support its enactment. Because of the rules under which the Senate operates during the closing hours of a session, this positon taken by Senator Stiern killed the bill for the present session of the Legislature. A few years ago Senator Stiern joined forces with the now Lieutenant Governor Mervyn Dymally in defeating a bill to manage the numbers of feral burros under the thesis that this would be destroying the Democratic Party Symbol.

Present hope for relief of the problems of the feral burro, now seems to rest with the Congress in Washington----now on recess.

****

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD APPROVES HABITAT PURCHASES

The California Wildlife Conservation Board has approved proposals to acquire 10,206 acres of bighorn sheep habitat. Included in the bighorn sheep habitat acquisition under a 1974 Bond Act program are 17 parcels of land in the Santa Rosa Mountains southeast of Palm Springs in Riverside County. The WCB last year purchased eight parcels totaling 4,742 acres in the area.

The $974,372 purchase will help tie up a site, threatened by development, that contains the largest number of rare peninsular bighorns in the state. Of the total, $307,292 will be provided by WCB funds from the Bond Act, the balance by the Federal government from the Land and Water Conservation Fund Program.

Recreational uses planned for the area are nature study, hiking, horseback riding, and primitive camping. The Department of Fish and Game which has nearly 365 acres of land in the area, will manage the complex under cooperative agreements with the Federal Bureau of Land Management, which owns large blocks of property there.

This blocking up of these lands of the Santa Rosa Mountains into the ownership and control of the Department of Fish and Game has been a prime project of the Society for the Conservation of Bighorn Sheep for over the past five years. Beginning with the purchase of the option on the 4,742 acres in the Martinez Canyon of the Santa Rosa Mountains. It has been a hard won goal of the Society and one that we can be very proud to have achieved.

DO SOME BRAGGING ABOUT THE SOCIETY'S ACHIEVEMENTS TO YOUR FREINDS AND GET THEM TO LEND A HAND-----AT LEAST BY BECOMING MEMBERS. USE THE APPLICATION BLANK AT THE BOTTOM OF PAGE EIGHT.

****

DFG'S BIG GAME CHIEF TAKES A POST IN CANADA

Photo courtesy of Dick Weaver.

Wallace 'Wally' G. Macgregor, California Department of Fish and Game big game coordinator for nearly 17 years, has accepted a position with the provincial Fish and Wildlife Branch in British Columbia.

After a total of 29 years in the Department, Macgregor will leave in Mid-August to take up his duties as senior big game biologist with the Wildlife Branch in Victoria.

Macgregor has had a long time interest in the welfare of the bighorn sheep of California, and has aided in promoting studies and other programs for their benefits.

Macgregor is also well know as an excellent wildlife photographer. Many of his pictures have been published by the Department.

Wally, the Society wishes you well in the pursuit of your solutions to problems facing fish and wildlife in British Columbia.

Friends of Wally are giving him a going away party the afternoon of July 24th in Scramento.

****

DESERT BIGHORN SHEEP

Art work courtesy Pat Hansen

DESERT BIGHORN COUNCIL MEETS AT KINO, MEXICO

The 20th Annual meeting of the Desert Bighorn Council----Concilio de Borrego Cimarron was held at the Posada del Mar at Bahia Kino, Mexico April 7-8-9, 1976. Society Director Marvin Wood was present. Others from California and whose names are frequently seen in these columes were Homer Harrison, Bakersfield, Dick Weaver, Department of Fish and Game, Sacramento and Peter Sanchez of the Death Valley National Monument. The editor of THE SHEEPHERDER was ill and did not make the trip. Reports rave about the superb treatment given to the people attending by the Government of Mexico. There were many fine papers given according to Harrison, and he also spoke of the one-day trip into desert bighorn habitat on the mainland and the many sheep seen during the day. Plans are being laid for the 21st meeting to be held in Las Cruces, New Mexico the first week of April 1977.

Unfortunately the editor has been unable to get any notes or reports concerning technical papers given at the Council meeting.

****

FLASH FROM THE LAVA BEDS NATIONAL MONUMENT-------via Dick Weaver

Eight lambs were born in the Lava Beds this spring---all still survive. This herd of Ovis canadensis californiana introduced from British Columbia now totals 23 animals. Editor hopes to have a full report for the next issue.

LABOR - DAY WEEKEND - WATERHOLE COUNT FOR THE DEATH VALLEY NATIONAL MONUMENT

Peter G. Sanchez, Natural Resource Specialist for the Death Valley National Monument is preparing plans for the ANNUAL waterhole count. These plans are:
SEPTEMBER 3rd-----10:00 a.m. Meet at the Visitors Center at Furnace Creek for briefing and waterhole assignments. Then in the afternoon travel to the location of assigned waterholes.
SEPTEMBER 4 - 5 - 6 th. from early morning until as late as possible the afternoon of the 6th in the blinds watching for wildlife, especially the sheep.
LATE AFTERNOON of the 6th----check back out through headquarters, unless other arrangements are made ahead of time.

A number of four-wheel drive vehicles will be needed.

Telephone Pete to let him know if you can assist on the waterhole count. His telephone is (714) 786 - 2331

If you prefer to write to Pete about your plans to assist in the Labor Day waterhole count his address is: Peter G. Sanchez, Natural Resource Specialist,
Death Valley National Monument,
Death Valley, California 92328.

The particular areas to be visited that weekend lie in the northern end of the Cottonwood Mountains. If there are sufficient numbers of volunteers, then some of you may be directed into the Grapevine Mountains also

WHAT YOU NEED TO TAKE WITH YOU TO HAVE A SUCCESSFUL COUNT

WATER - is the primary need. Have enough for more than the three days spent on the count site---figure a minimum of 2 gallons per person per each day. You will drink at least one gallon of water daily. You will need some also for washing and bathing, cooking etc.,
2. You will need shade during the count. If Nature has not provided shade, then you must create some such as a tarp, together with what ever needed poles, ropes for guying and stakes---usually rocks will suffice instead of stakes;
3. Have a cot to sleep on in camp so you will be off the ground;
4. a light sleeping bag--nights frequently do get cool--largely dependent on the altitude of your camp;
5. Reading material for use in your blind---otherwise you may go to sleep and miss the sight of watering wildlife;
6. Sunscreen ointment--and use it. You can get burned by the ultra-violet rays even while in complete shade;
7. First Aid kit --including a snake kit. Snakes like all other desert wildlife do look for shade in the desert;
8. Take no chances of any nature--walk the safe way--do not take short-cuts--they are frequent causes of accidents;
9. Have a good companion--- the days are long;
10. You need good optics-- a 20 power spotting scope should be in the blind, also a good pair of field glasses for each participant;
11. You will want a good camera and film--keep them in the shade and as cool as possible, Take your telephoto lenses -use a tripod.....Your editor will appreciate photos--black and white, or color, or slides, or negatives. I will return any which you wish returned;
12. Your watch station should be 100 to 200 yards from the waterhole, if possible. In some places, depending on terrain even 50 yards is ample provided you keep quiet and have a good screen between you and the waterhole;
13. When you leave--take all of your debris with you--leave no evidence of your having been in the area, except your footprints made while going and coming
14. A Husband and Wife team is said to be one of the best possible combinations.

****

(You are cordially invited to use this)

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

NAME_____

ADDRESS_____

_____

PHONE : Home_____ Business:_____

PLACE OF BIRTH_____ DATE OF BIRTH_____

OCCUPATION: _____

Enclosed you will find my check or money order for $.._____ This includes my initiation fee of $5.00 and my first year's dues of $15.00. (Student annual dues $5.00)
I will endeavor to do my part on behalf of the Bighorn Sheep.

Date of application_____ Signature_____