SOCIETY FOR THE CONSERVATION OF BIGHORN SHEEP

The Sheepherder

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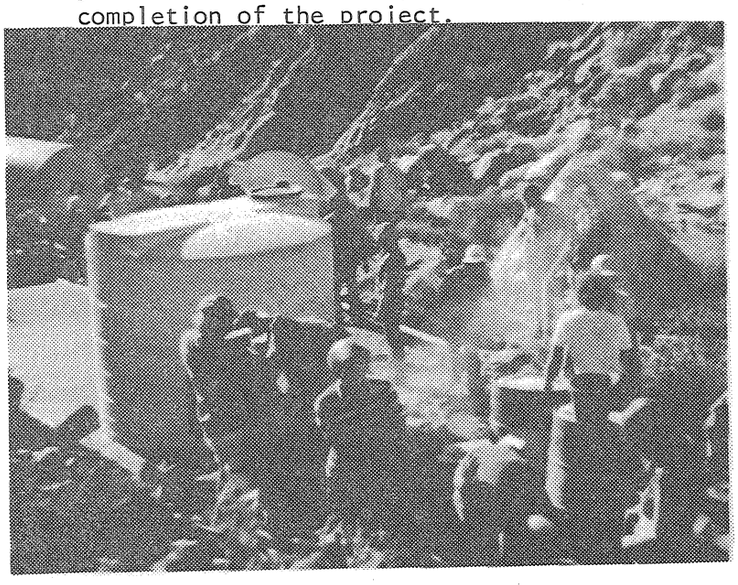
MARCH - APRIL 1977

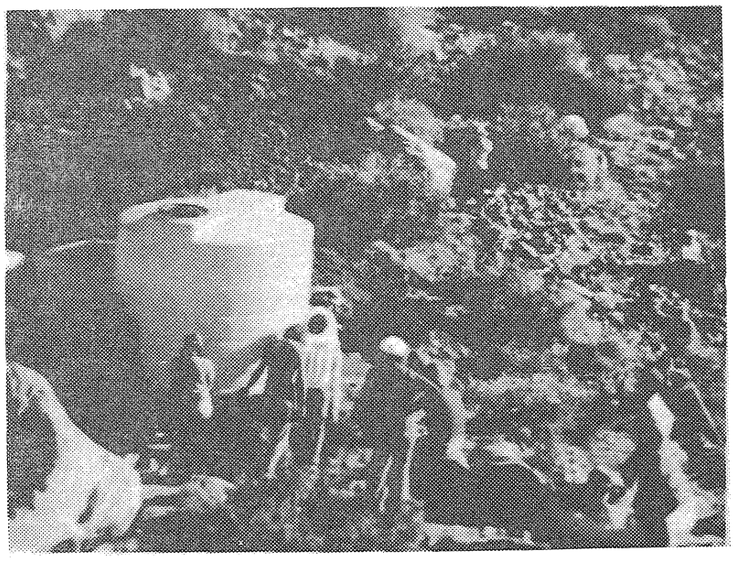
KINGSTON PEAK --PORCUPINE TANK WATER PROJECT

BY
Society Director - Bud wiedeman

At first light the morning of October 6, 1976, the airlift of material and equipment for the Water for Wildlife project at Porcupine tank in the Kingston Peak area began. The site selected for the air-lift is twenty miles south east of Tecopa, California, in San Bernardino County. A total of fifteen and one-half hours of flying time was required to air lift the materials and equipment the four and one half miles from road's end in to the project site and to ferry out the equipment on the following Monday October 11th, after the completion of the project.



Completed platform and tank installation



Last of the three tanks being put in place

A project of this size does require an imposing list of materials and equipment. It includes items such as: 300 ft. Galvanized pipe, two inch; 300 ft. one inch steel pipe; 300 ft. reinforcing steel; one Johnson pickup screen; two cement mixers; two gas operated generators, gasoline, power wrench, power threader, one fiber glass drinker with control valve(float operated), three- 1,700 gallon Duratanks, eight 55 gallon drums of water for concrete, 30 gallons of drinking water, 400 pounds of other tools such as picks, shovels & buckets, etc., and due to lack of aggregate in the area 21,000 pounds of pre-mixed cement in 50 and 60 pound bags.

A camp site had been selected fifteen miles southeast of Tecopa, California. The Department of Fish and Game had set up a double chemical toilet and had hauled in a 200 gallon tank of drinking water for the volunteers. These volunteers arrived all through the night and into the early morning hours; some came from as far away as the group from the California State Polytechnic University at San Luis Obispo. In all there were ninty-nine people who showed up for the project.

The volunteers were loaded into pickups and vans beginning at 7:00 a.m. the morning of October 9th for the five mile shuttle to the mouth of the canyon, where they began the six mile hike, winding their way up the canyon to the project site. For many, this was a long hike even though the weather was beautiful. The coming back out that night was a very different story. For several of the volunteers, hiking for two or three hours in total darkness in unfamiliar terrain was a rugged experience in itself, and really something to 'write home about'.

At the project site, many things had to be done, there were cement mixers to move, and generators, water drums etc., up the canyon to where

Volunteers working on the dam, standing in water on upstream side of the dam

they were to be used. Probably the most difficult job was the moving of the pre-mixed dry cement-concrete mixture up the canyon to the dam and platform sites. For this task they formed a 'cement line' of fifty to sixty volunteers, boys and girls alike, who passed the bags of mixture from one to another, and then moving up the canyon and doing it all over again, until the locations for use were reached.

Holes were bored in the base rock of the Porcupine Tank to accept the reinforcing bar used to strengthen the dam, which on completion had a crest width of fifteen feet, four feet in height and was four and a half feet wide at the base. The upper end of the two inch pipe line was put in place at the bottom of the dam, this was later to be fastened to the Johnson pickup screen. The cement mixer had been placed on the upstream side of the dam, and as the dam took shape a pool of water, from an existing spring was formed and for the remainder of the day those working in the area had to do so while standing in water to a depth of sixteen inches, through most of the afternoon.

The two hundred fifty feet of two inch pipe line was assembled and connected to the pipe in the dam's base and then secured to the canyon wall wherever possible. At some points it was necessary to build rock cairns to support the pipe line.

The platform 22 feet long , eight feet in width and six inches thick was constructed of native rock, reinforcing steel and concrete mix to support the three- 1,700 gallon Duratanks. As soon as completed, the three tanks were set in place and connected together with short lengths of two inch pipe. A reducer from two inch to one inch with a shut-off valve were connected to the tanks and to the one inch pipe line leading to the fiber glass drinker set into the hillside about two hundred fifty feet down the canyon. This latter pipe line was buried in a trench about one foot in depth, hopefully to protect it from freezing during the cold winter months. At this elevation of 5,300 feet the winter nights can get very cold.

The project was completed by 6:15 p.m. and the last group to leave the project site did not arrive at camp until 10:00 p.m. that Saturday night.

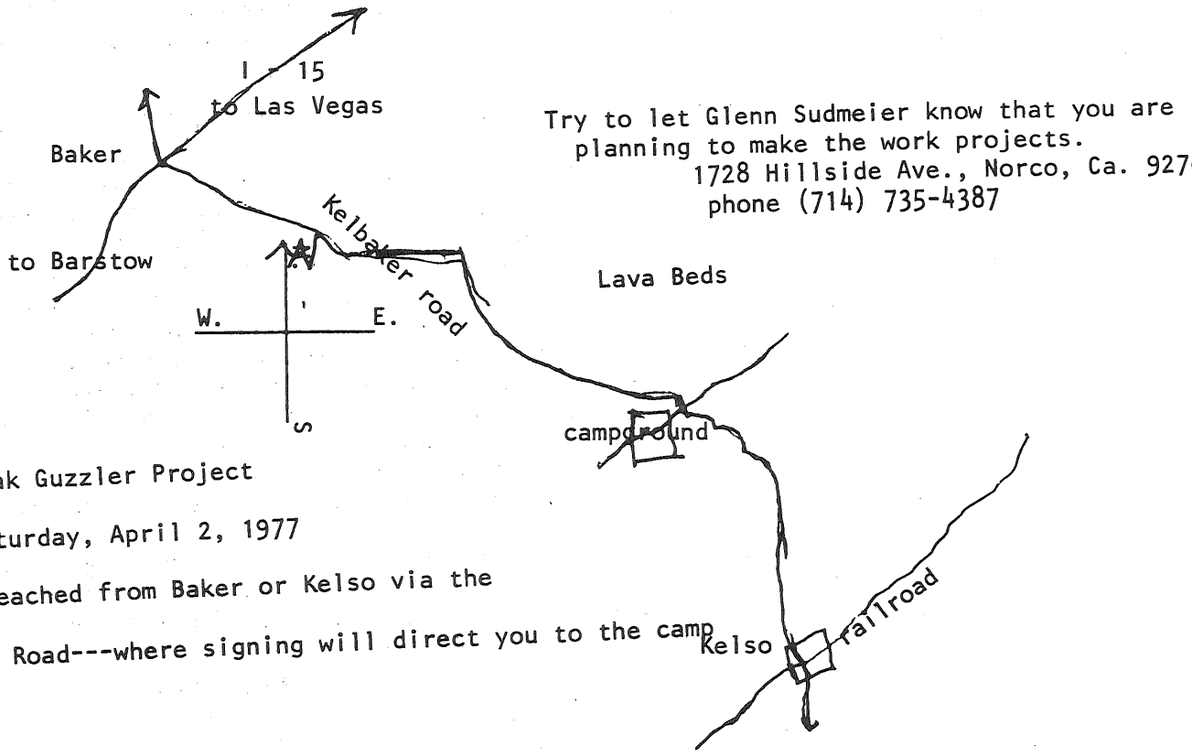
Participants on this difficult project came from many different conservation organizations. The Department of Fish was represented by: John Massie, Wildlife Habitat Supervisor; Les Coombes, Bob Hamilton, and Del Rasmussen; from the Imperial Wildlife Area, Cathy Reheis; Imperial Warmwater Hatchery, Librado A. Perez.
From the Society for the Conservation of Bighorn Sheep: Bud Wiedeman, Jerry David, Steve Segrato, Bob Campbell, Kaia Pointer, Ellen D. Goldstein and Kimberley Kirkpatrick.
From Cal. Poly. State University: David Speakman, Pat Connoly, Valerie Guardia, Ted Snyder, Colin Campbell and Alice Daniels;
Explorer Post 621 X(present at every construction project and no harder working crew): John Lowery (leader) Carol Lowery, Bill Lowery, Matt Lowery, Bob Garcia, Mario Sanchez, Scott Annand, and John Christian;
Sylmar Hills Sportsmen's Club: Ron Vickery, Shirley Vickery, John Bice and Sharon Bice;
Boy Scout Troop 147: David Packard, Glen Tong, Joseph Jensen and Osmin Morgado;
Explorer Post 92-E: Ed Eversole, Jeanne Eversole, Tanya Eversole, Ryan Cook, Mary Weichelman, Jeanne Carrier, Suzanne Carrier, Judy Sorensen, Kerry Atkins, Chris Foote, Linda Esteves, Amy Morrison, Robert Stewart, Mike George, Ernest Johnson, Ted Schmitt, Bernie Dougan, Michele Vladmir, Donis Gingrich, and William H, Fa ulkner;
From the Earth Watch group of Pierce College--another always present group: Dwight D. Daugherty, Roger Yack, Henry Rivera, Mike Heins, Bob Williams, Pam Bauer, Julia Del Judge, Mimi Dodge, Michael L. Grimes, Cory D. Schmissrauter, Gisele Paradis, Kathleen Brable, Jack Placchi, Martin Landsaat, and Ron Klein;
Sierra Club: Eva M. Tomzynski, Andrew Berks, Rick Farber, Mary Thamann, Alan L. White, Richard E. Hyland, Mary L. Vexler, Elizabeth Brennan, Kay Myregard, Laural Boren, Karen Helbrecht, Kristopher Karlin, Jeff Johansen, Vivian Helbrecht, Alan B. Miller, M.H.Helbrecht, S. Leon Brown and Steven Drew;
Audubon Student Naturalist Assoc.: Barbara Richer;
Those with no stated affiliations: Gloria Wagoner, Shaena Kinsman, Kori Kinsman, David C. Murdock, Christopher Brady Gould Murdock, Turalu Brady Murdock, Clyde McNeilly, Jeanette McNeilly, Don Grisez, Joe Rubin, Don Balick, Olice A. Robinson, Kathy Bleich and Ellen Gleason.

This Water for Wildlife project was funded by the San Bernardino County Fish and Game Commission as an alternate watering source for deer, chukar and other wildlife in the Kingston Peak area.

The airlift and project installation was filmed by Kevin Duffy for Maurice Machris Productions, Shikar Safari Club International.

The Society for the Conservation of Bighorn Sheep wishes to express their sincere appreciation to all of the volunteer workers who participated in this project.

Bud Wiedeman.



Try to let Glenn Sudmeier know that you are planning to make the work projects.
1728 Hillside Ave., Norco, Ca. 92760
phone (714) 735-4387

Kelso Peak Guzzler Project

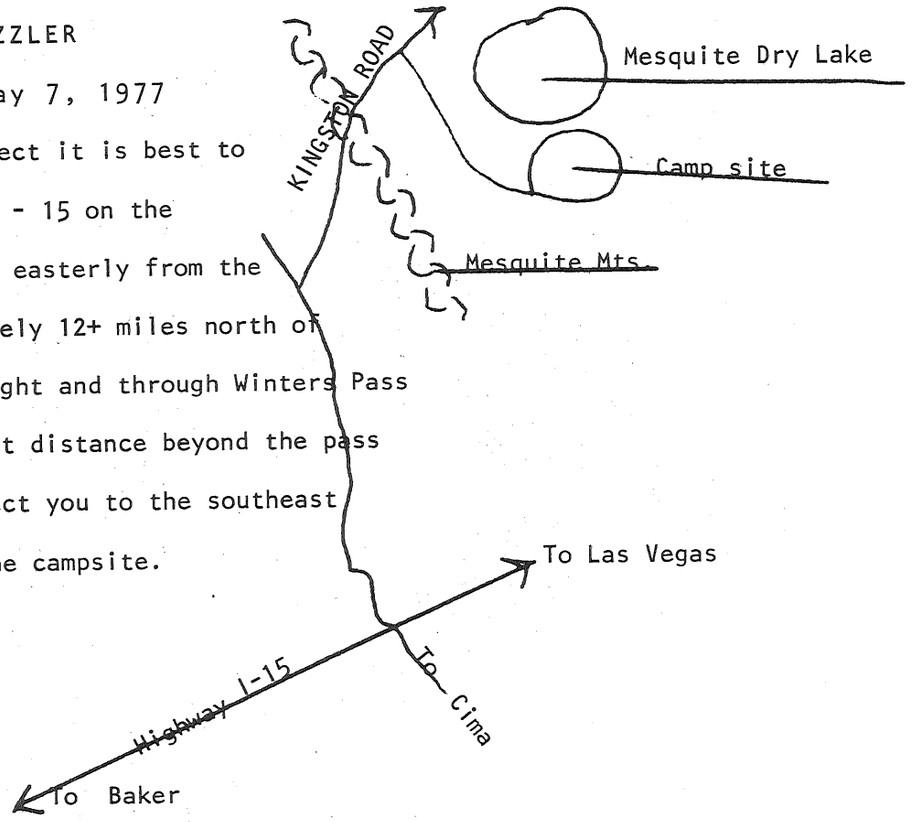
0700 Saturday, April 2, 1977

May be reached from Baker or Kelso via the Kelbaker Road---where signing will direct you to the camp

CLARK MOUNTAIN GUZZLER

0700 Saturday, May 7, 1977

To reach this water project it is best to head northerly off Highway I - 15 on the Kingston Road about 7 miles easterly from the Halloran Summit. Approximately 12+ miles north of I-15 take the fork to the right and through Winters Pass of the Mesquite Mts. A short distance beyond the pass there will be a sign to direct you to the southeast down a light duty road to the campsite.



Burro Management Plans Being Formulated by Bureau of Land Management on the Bakersfield District.

A recent letter from Mr. Louis Boll, District Manager of the Bakersfield District, Bureau of Land Management informsme (the editor) that they have prepared an interim Burro Management Plan which outlines 12 herd areas and what management steps need to be taken to prevent further resource damage.....(This) interim plan shows the Waucoba Spring - Saline Valley Area as the number one priority in the District. This summer, through coordination with the Inyo National Forest and the Department of Fish and Game, it is hoped to remove 200 plus burros from this area. Burros will be water trapped, bait trapped and herded into capture facilities. The healthy animals will be transported to Bishop where they will be made available for adoption.....Population reduction required in other areas will be implemented on a case by case basis pending manpower, finances, and coordination with other involved agencies.

Bakersfield District has finalized the habitat management plan for the Desert Tortoise Natural Area.....This fall hunting will be restricted to the Rand Mountain portion of the natural area amounting to about 6½ square miles. Hunting will be allowed only for chukar, quail, mourning doves and cottontail rabbits. Only shotguns will be permitted for use.

Also of note to those who use the desert regions. The District has fenced 270 abandoned mine shafts in their hazard abatement program. The program is being held in abeyance temporarily waiting for a legal clarification of the PL 94-579 which does grant a three

year period for the filing of mining claims. NOTE: This safeguarding of the public from the hazards of these open pits and shafts has been an accomplishment of the Sportsmen's Council of Central California.

RULES PROPOSED FOR HELICOPTER USE IN MANAGEMENT OF WILD HORSES AND BURROS

The Bureau of Land Management held the first of a series of public meetings concerning the PROPOSED RULES in Sacramento, March 5th. There were about thirty five people in attendance. Only eight or ten people made any verbal presentations accompanied with a written statement(s) of positions taken. No verbal opposition was made to the PROPOSED RULES that are published in the Federal Register dated Jan., 25, 1977. Use of helicopters is authorized in section 404 of Public Law 94-579- The Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976. The Wild Horse Organized Assistance group of Mrs. Velma Johnson, Reno, Nevada, better known as "Wild Horse Annie" and the Animal Protection Institute did demand that every precaution be taken to capture, transport and care for captured animals in a humane manner and that qualified licensed Veterinarians be on hand during these procedures. The Society was represented by Lew Carpenter, Director from the Fresno area. He did request that management of these animals be begun immediately and that all burros be removed from all of those areas of historic sheep ranges, whether presently occupied by the bighorns or not; and also that all burros be removed from all of those areas where there is any conflict between them and species of native wildlife and from those areas where native species of vegetation are being over-utilized and threatened by the overuse by these feral animals.

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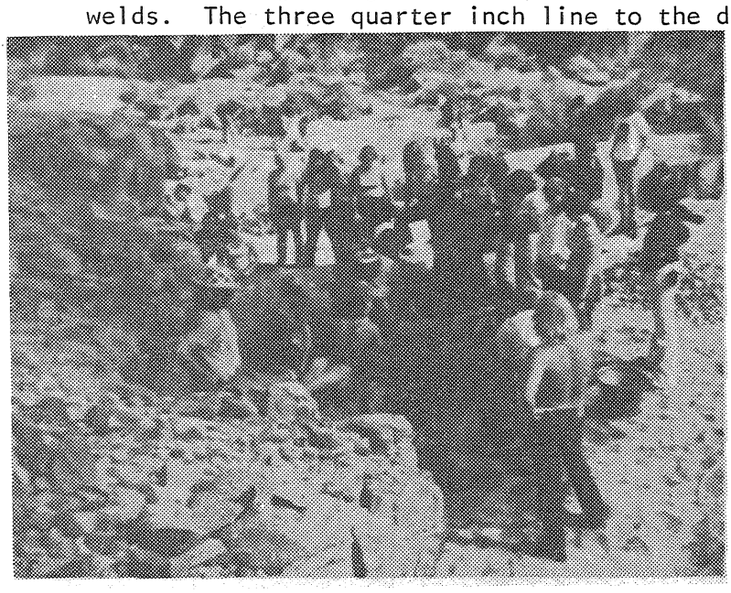
CHUCKWALLA MTN. REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE PROJECT

Report by
Bud Wiedeman, Member of Board of Directors

The torrential rains and flash floods during the September (1976) storms on the Southern California Desert, had done a considerable amount of damage to the Chuckwalla Mountain tank installation in the Ship Creek drainage. The catch basin above the dam had filled with sand and rock, and two of the three fifteen hundred gallon tanks were on their sides The connecting flanges at the base of the two tanks had been partly torn loose from their welds. The three quarter inch line to the drinker was twisted and beyond repair.

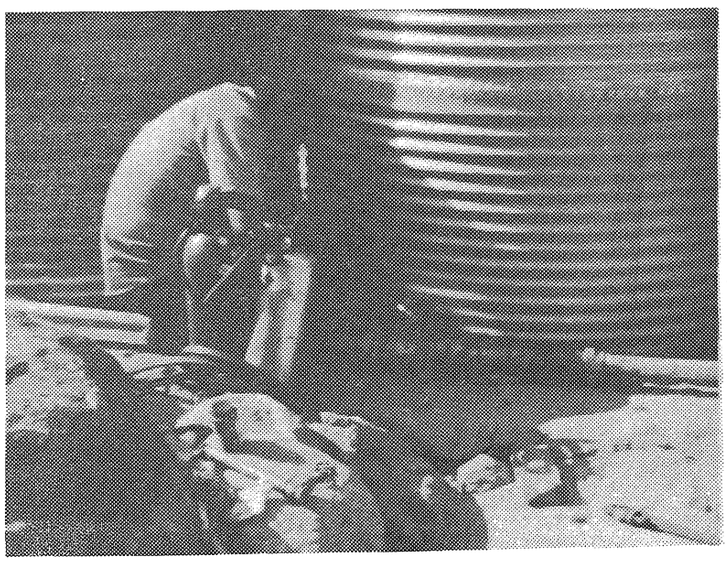


Removing rock and sand from behind the dam

It is doubtful whether this installation had ever operated to its full capacity since its installation on October 5, 1974. This was probably due to the absence of a pickup screen above the dam. Without a proper screen, partial flow or complete stoppage would be inevitable.

In Corn Spring Wash, Saturday morning, November 13, 1976, at 8:00 a.m. three Department of Fish and Game personnel , myself,(Bud Wiedeman) and fifty volunteers from Marina High School in Huntington Beach, California, known as The Crisis Kids, were on hand to repair the intallation in Ship Creek.

Material and equipment that had to be packed into the site was divided among the volunteers and Fish and Game personnel. This consisted of buckets, shovels, picks, pipe wrenches, pipe cutter, pipe threader, (three quarter inch and two inch) necessary fittings, thread compound, one can of liquid plastic for the drinker, flux, welding rod, two portable welding tanks, hoses and fittings, and a Johnson Pickup Screen. NOTE: This Johnson pickup screen has been developed especially for the purpose of screening sand out of water lines.. The screen is about three feet in length and five inches in diameter it is perforated in such a manner that the openings are larger to the inside of the screen than on the outside.



Bob Hamilton, DFG welding a flange on one of the tanks

At 10:00 a.m. all but two of the volunteers had arrived at the project site. The largest crew began cleaning out the rock and sand from the upstream side of the dam. This task involved removing some twenty-plus cubic yards of of rock and sand. When this job was done, it was found that a rock had rolled up against the piece of two-inch pipe that protruded through the base of the dam and into the catchment basin above. As a result, there was no visual damage to the pipe or pipe threads, and very little debris had found its way into the two inch water line.

Rock wall to help protectthe tanks from another flood

The new Johnson pickup screen was screwed on to the pipe and covered over with rocks for protection against another falling rock. Large gravel was poured over the rocks and screen until the level of the streambed behind the dam, minus one foot had been reached.

During this time work was progressing on the repairs to tanks and drinker. The damaged pipe was removed from the tanks and they were replaced upon the platform. Flanges on the base of the tanks were straightened as best possible and then welded securely in place. After these repairs were completed the tanks were again connected together at their bases with two-inch pipe and fittings.

A new three-quarter inch pipe had to be cut and threaded to fit between the tanks and the drinker. There was no apparant damage to the drinker itself. However, a plastic coating was brushed over the inside surface of the drinker in order to seal any small cracks. The water line to the drinker was covered over with rocks in order to prevent damage at some future time.

A rock wall about fifteen feet in length and three feet in height and about four feet thick at the base was erected along the upper end of the tank platform to help divert any future major flow of water that may come down the canyon. A minor leak in the two inch line was easily repaired at a union.

Repairs were completed about 2:00 p.m. and by four o'clock everyone was back at the camp in the Corn Spring Wash.

Representing the Department of Fish and Game were: Les Coombes, Bob Hamilton and Del Rasmussen. From the Society for the Conservation of Bighorn Sheep --Bud Wiedeman. The main task force was the MARINA HIGH SCHOOL,'CRISIS KIDS': James J. Neil, Bernadine A. Neil, David B. Neil, Kerry L. Neil, Melinda Neil, Marty Craig, Suzee Seltzer, Pat Murphy, Jane West, Marijane McCutcheon, Linda Perez, Garson Lipow, Ginny Hattabaugh, Barbara Lecocq, Wendy Coleman, Randy Olsen, Myrna Pena, Steve Salmond, Rick Halperin, Larry Swanson, John Riavold, Pete Hughes, Melissa Mathis, Urs Chandler, Cynthia Beasley, Chris Burmaster, Bob Bogosian, Cindy Smith, Donna Swanson, Bill Jenkins, Pete Stanfield, Barb Reiten, Lisa Parks, Lisa Peyton, Valerie Hoover, Warren Mann, Kelly Klug, Shirley Roush, La Moyne Wade, Carla Holmes, Jay Houlihan, Ken Belding, Betty J. Stodghill, Lynn D. Sorensen, Wendy Loyd Davies, Janet Brunig, Bonnie Stodghill, Kathie Newton, Sharon Frank and Marty Craig.

This fine group of young people are to be congratulated for their willingness to work and put their muscles to the task of assisting our wildlife. THANKS MUCH--MUCH.

Bud Wiedeman

March 19, 1977 ANNUAL BAKERSFIELD DINNER at Maitia's, 700 Truxton Ave. Mr. Louis Boll District Manager for the Bakersfield District, Bureau of Land Management will speak concerning the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976---PL 94-579. (see related article)

March 26, 1977 Water for Wildlife installation in the Panamint Buttes---contact Glenn Sudmeier, 1728 Hillside, Norco, Ca. Phone (714) 735-4387. The Marine Corps will be assisting.

April 2, 1977. Kelso Peak ----SEE THE MAP

April 6-7-8, 1977 Desert Bighorn Council meets at Howard Johnson's in Las Cruces, New Mexico.

May 7th Clark Mountain Project ---see map for directions

May 7 & 8th Water project at Blue Springs in the Pinion Mts. of the Anza Borrego Desert State Park. Date probable but not firm---might be the 14th and 15th Contact Dr. Lutz, his phone and address on the first page.

BEGIN MAKING PLANS FOR YOUR WATERHOLE COUNTS -----there will be more on this in next issue.

NEEDED: A PHOTOGRAPHER WILLING TO ACCEPT A DIFFICULT CHALLENGE

WHY? and WHERE?

On February 4, 1977 Bob Campbell of Huntington Beach was in the Clark Mountains at the 4,800 ' elevation and near the Nevada State Line. As he came up over a ridge he observed five or six sheep at the distance of about one mile. He was able to note that three or four of these sheep were very light in color and that either two or three of them were completely white in color. Unfortunately the sheep observed Bob at the same time that he saw them, and they immediately began to mill-around and then walked out of sight around projecting rocks and around the mountain. This was on the Mt. Albins of this range.

This is the third recorded observation of white sheep in that area. Dick Weaver has reported to the editor that on December 2, 1971 he did get a picture of a white ewe that was with a group of normal colored sheep. Also, in a letter to Dick from the Nevada Department of fish and Game, dated March 7, 1975, states: "Please find attached some additional sightings of bighorn sheep observed by the BLM (Las Vegas District) during a recent helicopter flight in or near the California line.....Of particular interest was the observation of 29 individual sheep on the Castle Mountains near Hart Peak. This was a real surprise and it exceeds both our population estimates of sheep in this area...Another important observation made earlier in the year was that of 14 sheep crossing between the Clark Mountain area and the Southern Spring Range. This supports your earlier observations of a free moving population between the two areas.

During a recent flight on the Southern Spring Range, we were able to classify 39 individual sheep in the vicinity of Little Devil's Peak. Three of these animals observed were albino or at least white in color. Because of the movement of some of these animals to the Calrk Mountain area it is possible that the strain of white sheep may also occur in California." SO, THERE IS A CHALLENGE: To get a good picture will require a dedicated effort with lots of patience, ability to make a long and difficult stalk, good camera equipment, and a GOOD MEASURE OF LUCK. Carry a tripod, a good pair of binoculars and a spotting scope.. GOOD LUCK.

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SOME OTHER REPORTS:

The Earthwatch Club of the Pierce College in the San Fernando Valley have been going into their assigned area--The Cady Mountains. They found a tenaja that was dry--but they named it the Timmy Tenaja--for future reference. In the Marble Mountains this group found the South I-40 B.G.Guzzler full of water but being heavily used by many burros. They recommend the guzzler be moved to a point out-of-sight of the freeway and a burro exclosure be built around it. There is evidence of sheep in the area. However, burros are keeping the sheep from using the water

Glenn Sudmeier also went into the Sawtooth Range to Parrish Spring---again they found heavy burro use in the area especially in the Trampas Wash about one mile below the guzzler---all three tanks were full of water.

Bob Juergens Has been checking out his eight water sources of the Turtle Mountains. He found that several of these sources needed cleaning and others need repairs. Mohawk Spring had more water than common for it. At the Mopah Spring Bob found that the upper pool was dry. In the past this pool has been the main water source. This is a most important water source in the Turtle Mts. Bob recommnds that a horizontal well be drilled at this site.

LYONS SEEP PURCHASE AUTHORIZED

On January 14, 1977 the California Fish and Game Commission authorized the Department of Fish and Game to purchase the N.W. ¼ of the NW ¼ of Sec. 29 Twsp 6N Range 17E. It is in the Essex Quadrangle. Marvin Wood of Lemoore is the Team Captain of this area in the Old Woman Mountain.

San Gabriel Mt. sheep count a success.

We have only a very sketchy report concerning the one-day sheep count of the San Gabriel Mountain area, the study area of James DeForge. More than two hundred volunteers did show-up to participate in this count conducted on March 6th. This project sponsored by the Society hadthe full cooperation of the U.S. Forest Service and the Department of Fish and Game. Dick Weaver of the Sacramento office of the DFG did the actual darting of the young ram which was captured that day and then released after having a radio collar installed around his neck. The crew in the helicopter sighted about 230 sheep while combing the canyon areas. The drug M-99 was used successfully in the capture of the ram in the South Fork of the Lytle Creed drainage near Mt. Baldy. During the time that the ram was immobilized numerous tests were made and samples of blood and fecal materials obtained. The ram then rejoined the band of sheep in the area of capture. In all, James DeForge now has four sheep wearing collars with radio transmitters. These will enable him to monitor their movements and habit patterns. This is as has been previously reported, a part of DeForge's study as a Graduate Student at the California State University at Pomona. The Society has been assisting in financing his studies.

We will attempt to have a full report in the next issue of THE SHEEPHERDER. The above information furnished by Dr. Lutz and Bill Phifer.

BURROS MOVING INTO THE SOUTH END OF THE SACRAMENTO MOUNTAINS

Lew Carpenter was in the Sacramento Mts. on March 4th and saw five burros about ten miles southwest of the Needles airport. This is the first report of burros having moved into this mountain range.

Burros have denuded the canyon area near the Robin Springs in the Piute Mts. of the once plentiful sacatoon grasses. These springs presently are showing no water. No trace of sheep was found.

BIOLOGIST MONITORS WANDERING RAMS; SAYS THAT HUNTERS MAY NOT HARM HERD

Bighorn rams who love 'em and leave'm maybe candidates for sportsmen's wall trophies, says James Bennett, a wildlife biologist who studied the 'love life' of the animals for a fourteen month period. Bennett lived among the bighorns during this period of study while stationed at the Taylor Ranch on Big Creek, a field station of the University of Idaho's Wildlerness Research Center. Bennett also discovered the lambing grounds for a portion of the Big Creek herd, found the migration pattern of several rams, and learned that the lamb production for the herd which winters near the ranch is above average for wild sheep populations.

The information that Bennett has been gathering is expected to help resolve the controversy over the impact of hunters removing trophy rams, and also to give wildlife managers added information on the herd, one of several roaming the nation's largest wild and roadless areas outside Alaska.

"Some people argue that removing the dominant rams upsets the herds, " said Bennett, a University of Idaho Graduate Student working toward his doctoral degree in wildlife biology. He said that those individuals argue that the dominant rams do most of the breeding so their removal through hunting upsets lamb production, a key to herd survival. They also argue that the dominant rams provide leadership at migration time, so removal upsets efficient migration. Bennett says that theory is not necessarily correct, at least in view of some of his observations during the past year. Bennett has captured and put radio tramitter collars on three rams in order to study their movements. One ram left the scene of capture at the ranch an moved off an airline distance of 30 miles and across the main stem of the Salmon river.

Bennett believes that his observations do cast doubt concerning theview that removal of trophy rams seriously threatenes the bighorns. He believes that further experimentation is needed to answer the question for certain. Consideration is being given to the removal of several trophy rams from the herd and then observing what if any effect this has on the herd, according to Dr. Ernest Ables, Associate Dean of the College of Forestry, Wildlife and Range Sciences. Dr. Ables is himself a wildlife biologist.

While the controversy over the rams' importance is still unresolved, Bennett reports that his observations of bighorn sheep behaviour during the breeding season indicates that the ewes do prefer the older rams. Bennett quoted Valerius Giest of the University of Calgary who has stated his findings that the ewes do indeed select the big rams for their more efficient breeding. (NOTE: this has also been reported by David Dunaway of the U.S.Forest SErvice). Bennett says that perhaps the old rams may be important in protecting the ewes from the harrassment of the younger rams. DFG Warden Verne Burandt of Lone Pine would agree with this contention.

Bennett also had captured and put radio collars on four ewes. One day he observed that they had left the area of the ranch. By use of an airplane he was able to trail the sheep and found that in four days time the ewe band had travelled a distance of fity miles to the headwaters of Dynamite Creek. This was their lambing grounds and is within the proposed Idaho Wilderness area. Lamb ratio of this herd was 47 per 100 ewes to survive the winter. Information of this study came to the editor from Bill Phifer, John Larronde and Dick Thomas-----via news clippings.

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U.S. AND CANADIAN LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS SOLVE BIGHORN SHEEP POACHING CASE

In a unique case involving Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep poaching , U.S. and Canadian law enforcement officials solved it by matching the body of a sheep found in the Jasper National Park of Canada with the head which had been sent to California.

On November 25, 1975 U.S. Customs in Great Falls, Montana, intercepted two packages addressed to Redding, California. They were labeled Christmas packages, but inspection revealed the head, horns and cape of a Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep without any export documents. A Special Agent of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service was contacted by Customs. The packages were allowed to proceed to San Francisco for further investigation. When they went unclaimed by the consigneee, the investigation continued in both Canada and the United States to determine the responsible parties.

(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_____

A carcass of a Rocky Mountain bighorn ram had been found in Jasper National Park on November 23, 1975. The head and cape had been removed. Officials of the Canadian National Park Service examined the carcass and shipped the section of cape recovered in the park for comparison with the section shipped from Canada to the United States.

A Wildlife Pathologist with the California Department of Fish and Game examined fresh tissue samples from the carcass in Canada and the skull airmailed to California. Both tissue samples matched exactly as did sections of the cape. It was positively determined that the sheep was poached in Jasper National Park.

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police conducted an investigation at the airfreight office where the packages were placed for shipment. They obtained a physical description of the woman who placed the packages for shipment and a description of the vehicle she had been driving. The return address listed on the packages was found to be ficticious.

The person to whom the packages were addressed claimed no knowledge of the packages or who sent them. His alibi checked out, other members of the hunting party were then investigated. One of these persons closely resembled the woman described by the airline freight clerks. Comparison photos of her were readily identified by three witnesses as being the lady who had placed the packages for shipment. Known samples of her handwriting were obtained and identified her as being the person who had addressed the packages.

FBI Special Agents and Canadian Officials checked motels along the route traveled by she and her husband from Canada to California. They were identified all along the route.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Janet Aiken, San Francisco, was contacted regarding prosecution under the Lacey Act, which prohibits importation or interstate shipment of illegally taken wildlife. The Couple were charged by information in U.S. District Court Northern District of California at San Francisco. On January 19, 1977, the husband appeared before U.S.District Judge Charles Renfrew and pled guilty. Judge R enfrew fined Ed Bush of the Redding area $1,000., given six months in jail(suspended), and given two years probation, terms included no hunting anywhere in the world. In addition, he will be required to perform alternative service by working on a conservation project. This program will be coordinated by the probation office. Charges were dismissed against his wife Jacqueline.

The successful investigation was spearheaded by Ernie Psikle, Chief of Enforcement for Alberta Parks and Wildlife in Edmonton; and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Special Agent Scott Pearson, Sacramento, California. Eight different Canadian and U.S. Federal, State and county agencies also assisted on the lengthy investigation.

Material above furnished by the U.S.Fish and Wildlife Service in Portland Oregon, Sacramento, California and Special Agent 'Chuck' Stribling, Fresno, California offices.

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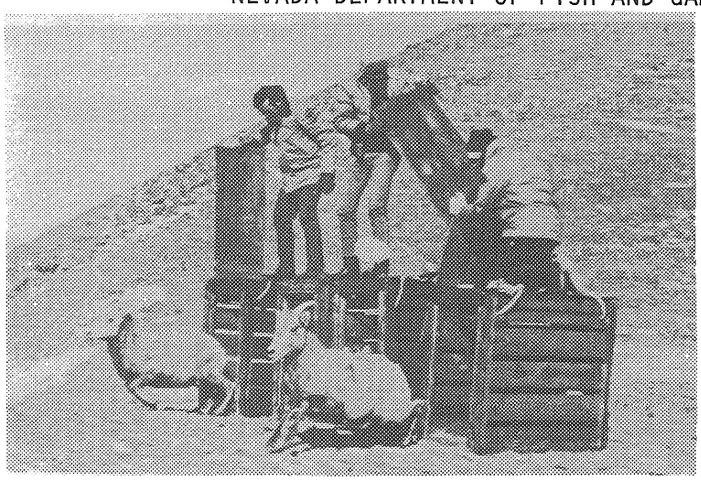
NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME IS CONDUCTING IMPORTANT BIGHORN RESEARCH



Nevada has taken the lead in bighorn sheep research and managemnt withintensive surveys and investigations, trapping and marking programs and reestablishment of sheep populations in areas where they once occurred but no longer exist. Ann ual helicopter surveys in Southern Nevada have yielded very accurate information concerning population levels, and much better than the formerly used waterhole counts. A trapping program being conducted with the National Park Service at Lake Mead has yielded animals for restocking Zion National Park and a mountain range in Central Nevada, and has provided biologists with valuable information about sheep movements and habits in the trapping area. Many of the sheep have been outfitted withtransistorized radio transmitters. Others have been marked with color coded and individually identifiable tags or collars. The Shikar-Safari Club has granted the Nevada DFG funds for an intensive research project that will determine the distribution, abundance and condition of Nevada's bighorn sheep, the extent of their habitat and identify areas for possible reintroductions

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The Society for the Conservation of Bighon Sheep was created for the purpose of Conservation, preservation and proper utilization of the wild sheep of North America. Membership is open to persons of any age. The Society is specifically soliciting those who are concerned with our County's wildlife and the conservation of it's natural resources. The Society needs members who are aware of the vast problems in these areas, and are determined to assist in solving them. Aconservation attitude and a willingness to be of assistance, when called upon, are all that is necessary. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED---DO NOT DELAY, MAKE YOUR APPLICATION TODAY. The Bi-monthly -THE SHEEPHERDER attempts to encompass each aspect of events and causes that are of concern to this rare, and in some areas, an endangered specie.

The Society advocates: putting the bighorn sheep under the control and management of the Fish and Game Commission, rather than the Legislature; development and improvement of water sources; elimination of the checker-board patterns on National Resource Lands; reduce competition from domestic and feral animals on the sheep ranges; the transplanting of sheep into matched environments; continuing the annual censuse of sheep throughout their ranges, and the making of recommendations as a result of these censuses; find the basic cause(s) of infant mortallity and endeavor to correct the cause(s); and the obtaining of adequate funding for the Department of Fish and Game so that it may be effective.