

Diary of Tammi Lesh
Student Intern at Taylor Ranch
Summer 1988

May 25 88
Monday

First day at Taylor Ranch.
Plane ride was fun - quite bouncy
though. Think I lost part of my
stomach up there.

It is really beautiful here, especially
this the time of year. A lot of streams
around I have scoping them out for
a good swimming hole. Fishing
is suppose to be great here. I am
anxious to try this fly fishing out.

When we arrived Holly was
shoeing this to mules so we all
gave it a try. The 'ol back & leg
get tired fast. After the shoeing
session Sarah & I went for a
short hike & took a few pictures
of some ewes & lambs. I hope
they turn out. Tomorrow we
may go up & check out the
lambling sites. If not tomorrow,
then Wednesday before I go to
Chamblin Basin to help out on the
Boreal owl study.

Also got a short lesson on shooting
a bow. I have always been intrigued
by it but for some reason or another

have never taken up archery. Maybe I will get into it more this summer. It seems to be a popular pass-time. It will be a good summer & I think I will learn a lot.

May 24, 1988 - Tuesday:

Another nice, warm day. Quite a full day too I might add. Keeping busy & active all day sure makes it zoom by. First off we moved a bunch of lumber that was taken from an old cabin up at Cabin Creek. We're going to build a shower house onto the cookhouse - soon hopefully. Then we got the horses to finish the shoeing. Stewart & I moved a bunch of wood up to the main house. Whew, that was quite a job I must say.

Jim & Holly showed us how to hook up the team to skid log & the big hay cart right now we are still basically watching & learning. The last part of the day we went for a short ride on the mules &

rode Top. First time I've ridden a mule before. 'Bout like a horse but Top has some training + learning to do. He is still not used to the rein against the neck for turning. He should get it down though. He's a smart one.

Oh, I forgot to mention Golda. She is a golden retriever that lives here. Great dog! Loves people + carrying a glove. Very well mannered too. Won't chase any of the wild-life. good will power.

Better go. Don't want to be late for the barbeque. I'm starved - what's new!

May 25, 1988 - Wednesday

Went for a long ride today to check out the lambing cliffs. We saw 10 ewes + 9 lambs + Kay + Tim who hiked up the other side of the cliffs, saw 12 ewes + 9 lambs. It was a great view from up there. We could see Lewis.

Mtn. The Bighorn Crags, Widow Mtn. + a few others that I don't know the name of. Took some good shots - I hope

the town at out. Couldn't get any good shots of the sheep - too far away. Maybe another time.

I rode Maja up the mountain. It was nice riding horse after a while yesterday. She's a pretty good horse although she throws her head some. Hopefully I'll be able to take the horses on some trips on my days off. Wish I had a bow in here.

Anyway, back to the sheep. The lambs were quite cute. They're still nursing, & some of the ewes (2) are still pregnant. We'll be checking out a few more ^{possible} lambing sites to see if there are in fact lambs.

Ray is attempting to teach me how to play the guitar. Last night we tried the "dueling banjos" of course I think that's the first thing everybody learns. I still need to work on my dexterity. In fact, I think I'll practice now.

Oh, just thought of something else. - Learned a few new plants today - Salomon root, biscuit root. The grasses up on the slope are Idaho fescue & blue band, wheat grass. We also saw lupine &

wild strawberry above & ^{Flax} flew on the top.

May 26, 1988 Thursday

Arrived at Chamberline Basin today to work with Grog & Pat Hayward on their boreal owl study. They have radio pads on about many owls - both male & female. Over the past 5 years they've caught & banded & radioed 26 birds of which 4 have been killed by predators & about 2 have starved. They've retrieved one of the killed owls today. She had a radio pad on which was tacked to a tree. Since the signal never moved from the tree she was assumed dead or that the radio had been left by a predator. Once the tree was found it was chopped down & the radio & the remains of the owl were gathered.

Along with radioing the birds, small mammal traps were set up in various stands - DF, spruce fir, mixed conifer, lodgepole to see what & how much prey is there for the owls. Two types of traps were set up - snap traps on a grid & pits. The

15 feet apart
 grid consisted of 7 lines with
 10 traps also 15 feet apart. Two
 grids were put on each stand.
 The pits were about a foot ^{8 1/2" diam.} deep with
 with metal sides so the animal couldn't

get out. Each pit was filled with
 alcohol + mineral water to slow evapora-
 tion. The pits were covered to protect
 from junk from falling in ^{the} & snow in the
 winter.

May 27 Friday

Went on a long hike today when
 about killed me that 50 miles, maybe
 maybe 15. We checked out some
 boreal + saw whet nests to check
 their progress. The first Boreal nest
 we stopped at had 4 young ranging
 from 100g - 52g. They were ^{nest} weighed
 + measured on the chord length ^{to cere length}. The oldest
 one was banded. The mother was also weighed,
 as well as chord, wing length, tarsal, cere
 + nostril ~~to~~ + to eight primary measurements

Any noticeable color differences in her primaries & secondaries would also be recorded but she had none so was assumed to be a first year bird. In older bird the older feathers fade some whereas the new feathers after a molt will be darker.

Along the way we knocked on any snags or aspens with cavities to see who lived there. Yesterday we found a ^{new} boreal hawk with ~~intact~~ but the snag is quite high so it may not be able to be reached for banding & recording clutch size. There are many cavities in the aspens since the middle rot & the δ wood is softer. In one of the aspens we checked on a saw-whet owl. After many pictures the tree was climbed & the eggs were counted & prey was noted. The clutch had 7 from 2-3 to 5 eggs from the last check & there was only one prey egg - *Sciurus clethrionomys* deer mouse. On the last stop, Pat & Greg did a habitat grid around an old snag w/ a boreal in it. The snag

was quite unstable so the radio could not be retrieved.

Man, my feet are sore & tired!
Crazy dreams last night. Probably because I went to bed too early & kept waking up.

May 28 Saturday

Learned how to climb some trees today with spurs. The first tree was kind of scary because I wasn't sure if the spurs would hold & the belt kept riding up around my waist. I felt more confident on the next few trees. We were climbing trees to check the nest boxes. Didn't find anything living in any of them. Did find the remains of a small mammal though. Greg didn't think it was from an owl though - more like a mammal because of the way the jaw was crushed. After checking the nest boxes I headed back for lunch. Somehow I got very lost & ended up about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile North

of the horse fields. That was quite fun. At least I found my way back. After lunch I checked the traps on the grid. Kind of a tedious job. I only found one poor sucker, - a deer mouse, in one of the traps half eaten by ants. A lovely site. Then I came back to camp only to find a dead bird in the stove while I was trying to get myself warm. For some reason it gave me the heebie jeebies. Fortunately Greg came along about then & got it out. It had been dead a while luckily.

May 29 Sunday

Woke up to snow this morning. Borri. And of course we had to do radio tracking today, which means unknown distance to hike & time spent out in the cold. At first it was kind of fun being in the quiett pure snow. ~~At~~

After zigzagging about we found the male bored up in a subalpine fir. We set up a mist net w/ a live mouse for the lure. He acted quite disinterested

initially. Then he spit up a pellet & watched the mouse more intently, bobbing his head around. Greg tried to make the mouse as appealing as possible but he (the owl) must have been quite full because he just looked around some more almost dozing. We must have waited 20 minutes. This is when my feet began to freeze & I was quite miserable. Finally he flew away, ~~was~~ only a few meters away luckily.

I decided to do a few laps to warm up while Greg & Pat chased him. Unfortunately they could never catch him. He was too far up to catch w/ the hand-held net & he wouldn't leave that tree. I guess there was a raven flying overhead & he might have thought it was a hawk or something (so the radio couldn't be retrieved).

It sure was nice to get back to camp. And dinner tasted great. I was starved. Hiking in the cold really demands those carbs.

May 30 Monday

Froze my ass off again today. The snow is still coming down. Didn't go w/ Greg & Pat today. Decided to stay here & check the traps. Man, what a pain in the ass that was. It would ~~not~~ not have been so bad if I had the proper clothes for wet snow. My feet ~~were~~ ^{were} cold the whole 5 hours it took me to check them all. Last time it only took me 3 hours. What to so long is looking for just about every trap under the snow. Some I never did find. It feels so good to be warm & fed again. I almost came back after the 1st grid, because I was so cold, but when I was almost finished I warmed up a little & decided to go on. Plus I just wanted to get done & not worry about it.

Early I went over to Stonebreaker Ranch to look for elk - could not find any, only tracks. Did take a few pictures of the ranch though

May 31 Tuesday

The snow finally melted here & the sky is a bit warmer & bluer.

De Garton flew in today & we all went & checked on a female boreal & her 3 to young in a nest box. She was a fifty one.

After that we went for a short hike along Chamberlain creek. We saw a few elk & two calves lying hidden. One was right by the trail about 4 feet from us. I didn't know what to do. De got a few pictures but I unfortunately didn't have my camera along.

Se learned ^{or relearned} some new plant names the past few days. Now if only I can remember them. - Grouse wort (berry) (Vaccinium spulparum), Vaccinium sesposum, Arctostaphylos uva-ursi, filix, Carex, dog tooth or glacier lily, Angelica?, Fragaria,

Al's learned some bird call - dark-eyed junco, varied thrush, ruby-crowned kinglet, dipper, pileated wren, flicker,

June 1 Wednesday

We were suppose to fly out of Chamberline today but it was too cloudy. Have to try again tomorrow I guess. So today was kind of a long ~~was~~ - watching & waiting for the weather. Should have gone out & done something but it was kind of rainy. So I started "The Agony & the Ecstasy" again. I am much more into it this time. Man, I need to wash my hair bad. I haven't washed it in a week. It's lookin' quite beautiful.

After dinner we went over to Stone-breaker & looked at the elk. After they saw us they were barking up a storm.

June 3 Friday.

Right now I'm at I camped at ^{water fall} lightning creek on the way up to the crags. We hiked about 10-12 miles today & will have another 5 or so tomorrow. Suppose to be some pretty good fishing up there in the mountain lakes. It is quite pretty here at the camp site. On the way up it was real dry. Man we

were so thirsty between the middle fork & here. Then we heard a babbling tiny creek. Oh, what relief it was.

Yesterday, I finally got back from Chamberlain. All the important people were here & we had a b-b-q. It was fun - I was glad to be back with new people to talk to.

I haven't seen much wildlife yet. Just a coyote & some squirrels & birds. A lot of tracks on the trail though. So far were seen cougar, elk, deer, bear, coyote, &

By the way, we climbed 5400 ft. today. Whew! So about a 1000 ft per gained per mile walked. (From the middle fork to here).

June 4. Sat.

Yep. We about did ourselves in today. We hiked down cliff w/ talus slopes & snow. There was a couple times I thought I was sliding down all the way. We ended up letting our packs loose to slide down. My pack came open & things were strung out down

the the mountain. We did make it to the terrace lakes though. Quite pretty. Still quite a bit of snow around. That is the main reason we got off the trail in the first place & had to hike up & over & instead of an easy trip around - which the trail does. Did a little fishing when we got here. No luck for us but Ray got a little one which we all shared. Ray & I also took a dip in the ice cold Lake. Borr. while Sarah took our picture.

Had an awesome thunder storm last night. It started out w/ just lightning in the distance - cloud to cloud. But, man when it got closer those thunder claps shook the whole mountain.

There are a few clouds building up again. I hope it doesn't start here. We are quite vulnerable. We have the tarp anchored quite well but a good gust of wind could blow us over.

Whew! Everyone is tired including myself. Think I'll go lay down.

June 6 Monday

Yesterday we walked + walked + walked. Man, was I sick of walking + were my feet sore. We walked all the way back from the Terrace Lakes - about 17 miles. Ray + I saw 3 rattlesnakes on the Big Creek trail.

Took a quick hike to see waterfall creek where it flows into the middle fork. Wow, it is quite awesome. It sure was nice to be back in a nice comfortable bed.

Today we mainly did maintenance work around the ranch. I'm glad since I really didn't feel like going anywhere. I am right in the middle of putting linoleum in the bathroom. We also put a rug in the bedroom of the lab.

After Sarah, Stewart Holly + I went for a walk up rock creek. It is really nice up there. A couple nice little meadows + a good view of Taylor Ranch.

June 7 Tuesday

Lets see, what new & exciting thing happened today. Fithis finished up that stupid knobcum job in the bathroom. Man I was sticky every where Jim & Ray finished the stone boat yesterday - look quite strong & sleek. They are very proud of it. After lunch we all started building a feeding manger in the coral. It is interesting to see how all these things are built around here.

Did a little fishing after supper with Ray, Jim & Holly. Jim was the only one who caught anything - I. They sure loved his fly. I should have him show me how to tie flies.

Saw a sandpiper rest down by the creek by the air ship w/ 4 eggs in its

I better get a letter from Kevin tomorrow or I will be pissed - & sad.

June 8 Wed.

Worked on the feeding trough again today - almost done. We still need to float some logs down the creek for the new gate-wall. Hitched the mule team up to the stone boat - it works quite well

It looks like a sleigh. Sarah Stewart
 + I all practiced driving the team.

Got a nice care package from
 mom - a lot of dried food which
 will be good for camping. Mom
 got a good rain storm right as
 the mail plane came in. Just
 as Ray was about to land a big
 gust of wind came down the air
 strip + gave him a lift. He landed
 just fine though.

The folks from Cabin Creek
 come up for a barbecue (Darl
 Dean + Karl). It was fun to hear
 all their stories. Darl used to
 be a rodeo clown. And man all
 that good food.

Also got a letter from Julie.
 Sounds like she's doing good. I
 will sure miss her next year.
 Still haven't received a letter from
 Kevin + that bugs me out.

June 9 Thursday

Jim, Sarah & Stewart left for well creek today to look for lambing cliff. They will be gone until Saturday. So I have the whole cook house to myself. It is nice to have some privacy. I sure miss it sometimes.

Ray & I worked on the feeding trough some more. I thought we would finish it today but after lunch Holly, Ray & I went up to observe & count the ewes & lambs on the lambing cliff. Ray & I saw 9 ewes & 8 lambs. Holly said she saw 13 ewes & 10 lambs at least. The lambs were full of oats today - running & bucking around. I rode Lady today. She is all right. It took her a while to get going though.

Jim Peck stopped by today briefly. I guess he has been out in the field working on range communities for a few weeks.

June 10 Friday

Finally finished the new fence & feeding trough. It looks really good.

The troops made it back early. They pulled in about 7:30 this evening. No sheep. Jim said he saw the butt of one but only a glance. I guess the country at Wall creek is quite rugged. I'm glad I didn't go.

Had another lesson in on the 'A' guitar. It's going to take a lot of time + patience to get that thing down. Ray just taught me a new song tonight so I have a few to work on. I think the hardest part is the dexterity. When, I just realized how tired I am from concentrating for so long.

June 11 Saturday

Put linseed oil on the barn + stove boat today. I was working up top top on an old rickety ladder. I have linseed oil everywhere on me including my hair.

Holly's sister came in to visit today. Bigger than Holly. She seems real nice. I guess she just finished vet school. That

reminds me... Cricket has something wrong with one of her knees. It looks like her patella slipped off, but the bone or knop seems kind of small. The vet they called doesn't think it could possibly be the patella. It sure feels like some kind of bone fragment though. Cricket doesn't ~~act~~ act she's in much pain though.

We also floated poles down the creek today. That was quite exciting I must say. We tied about ten together then two of us sat on the raft & floated down river. Everything went okay until we tried to land the thing. Man, I was sort of trying to either save my life or the raft. We barely got it into shore before it went down to the bridge. I was so intense on the raft & taking it to shore I didn't even know notice how cold the water is was. When I finally got on shore, my feet were numb. It was fun floating down the creek though.

After supper I shot Sarah's left handed Bow. That was fun. Need lots of practice though. The left hander felt all right but I think it would be easier

to see + am better with a right hander
since I'm R left-eye dominant.

Had desert + blueberry cobbler up
at the main house with everyone. That was
fun to visit.

June 13 Monday

Didn't write yesterday, so I'll fill
you in. We got yesterday off because
Tim Peck came in + we'll be working w/
him while he's here. So, I was pretty
lazy. I didn't officially get up until
9:00 am. Sarah + I did laundry + then
I dished around the clubhouse. Later
I went to take a hike + some pictures
but, was delayed by the rain so I
plunked some on the guitar.

Holly + Vart went for an over night
trip to mile-high campground. They
took Troy + Maya along.

Peck rode 22 miles to yesterday from
the B-ranch. Man, his rear must be
ore. His wife is also here + made
strawberry shortcake for everyone. Mmm.

As for today - Stewart, Sarah + I

skin logs all morning. The morning just flew by. That chore was getting quite old & then Tim came down telling us that Peck was ready to do some plots.

We did the first plot on the first knob of horse mountain. We used a 20' x 50' m plot & did twenty different plant plots a few (2) steps apart. & measured the 2 comps. of whatever was in the plot. ~~Also~~ We also did a separate plot for biomass. While we were up there, we saw 10 ewes & 6 lambs on the 1st & 2nd bench by cliff creek. That is the first time we've seen them down here. We also had another plot on the second bench.

After work we had another barbecue. Yes, we eat quite well at those things. Peck brought some venison sausage.

June 14 Tuesday

Went over to Cave Creek & Cabin Cr today. We all rode horses & mules, except Stewart. There use to be an enclosure up the Cave Cr. trail so we did some more

plots. This time we counted twigs on the shrubs. Man, how boring & tedious. Fortunately I was only recording, ~~when~~ ^{when} we finally got done, Jim Peck was having problems with his mule. That thing is pretty & all, but half crazy. It kept bolting ahead of the other mules & spooking them. Finally, it really took off & Jim had a good spell & got the wind knocked out of him. Jim A. really thought he was hurt. He was all right, but he'll be sore tomorrow.

We had dinner at the Cabin Co. Outfitter camp. Mmm. lots of food. They live in these big canvas tents that basically look like small houses. Met the other partner - Jerry. He is quite a character; talks fast, & looks like a scavenger. Quite sharp too.

The ride back was half in the dark. It was really nice out so the ride was fun. I have a sore rear end though. I rode Rocky most of the way. He's a good riding mule.

June 15 Wed.

I'm in kind of a shitty mood today for some reason. Maybe it is because of the hot weather. Plus, doing those plots is so boring.

Put carpet in Arlow's Cabin today - in the bedroom. It looks tons better. After that I basically didn't do anything productive. I am tired of Stewart, & both the Peks. They all seem to be getting on my nerves today.

We did clipped some twigs off of a sagebrush (Artr) + a bitterbrush (P. Put.) site today to measure production. Pesh wanted to set up some places near here so they can be measured easily in the future.

Jim + Holly also mowed the air strip today. Some of the plane prot were hitting the grass. Vel also left today to go back to Tillamook. I'll have to get her last name + give her a call sometime when I'm home.

June 16 Thursday

Got the plot done this morning so we wasn't so bad with the sun not so intense. We counted stems on the sagebrush plot +

bitterbrush on the hillside going up to Rual Pt. Jim went up to check Kahin's camp - Rual Pt. He said it had been devastated by a bear. Everything was either torn up or bitten into. Quite a mess!

After lunch Sarah got the team & hooked the harnesses up so Holly could rake the airstrip. Stewart loaded the lat up since Oz & his family are coming in. We only worked til 5:00 & Holly gave us the rest of the afternoon off since we have worked some late days. So Sarah & I went swimming & fishing. The water was very cold & the sun went behind a cloud so fishing seemed like a better idea. We did pretty good yesterday. I caught 3 & Sarah caught 4 - all cut throats.

Had another b.b.que. Discussed many things like the wilderness, the galaxy, religion, day. Stewart & I stayed up until mid-night.

June 17 Friday

Did a plot on the trail behind the orchard. A lot of vine bark, snowberry &

spirea. We also did a plot on the hill-side just before the sagebrush flat. Exciting as usual! We were finished at about 2:30 but got the rest of the afternoon off, so I just loyed around & read. Went fishing after dinner & caught a few cutthroat. There was a big cluster of them beneath a rock on the N. side of the river. They wouldn't bite though. Sarah, Ray & I all fished on the other side while Jim P. & Jim A. fished in the usual place. We had much better luck than they.

I also learned how to tie some flies from Ray. It isn't too bad, takes some patience though.

It has been quite humid the last few days. And today it never really did cool down as it usually does. I came home from Ray's at 11:00 pm & it was at least 60°F out.

June 18 Saturday

Did our last set of plots today. We went a mile upstream on a steep, rocky slope, which

28

28

had mainly mountain mahogany (*Cercocarpus ledifolia*). On the way there we saw a young ram looking over a cliff. He was 2-3 years old. While we were up on the site we saw the same ram, a ewe + a black bear.

After lunch we all rode up towards Lual point to look for sheep. Unfortunately we did not see any. Tim was disappointed (Damn pen!) about that. Maja had had a fit ~~on~~ on the way back. We were riding up the airstrip + she started to half-way rear + frame sideways + I didn't couldnt figure out what the hell her problem was. I stopped her + she seemed all right but when I said well again she did the same thing. She almost backed off the bank into the creek. What made things even more difficult was Top who was tied to Maja's break-away rope. It kept trotting ahead towards Tim peaks more. I finally undid Top since Maja wouldnt mellow out + Tim + I walked her back down the airstrip. We then discovered she ~~she~~ had a bloody nose from I dont know what. I dont know if that caused her to freak out or not. She seemed fine once we got to the tack shed.

Oh also on the way ^{up} down towards Luch creek we saw another black bear digging around. They set up the spotting scope to watch him. Stewart, who was ahead, came quite close to him - 50 yards. Then something crashed through the bushes & scared the bear - possibly another bear, but Stewart couldn't see it.

June 19 Sunday

Ah, a day off. Nice & relaxing day. Patched my jeans & fished & swam & tied a few flies. Glad I didn't have to work - today was a hot one - 95° F. I guess Boise was supposed to reach a record high today of 103° . I don't know if it was really or not.

Sarah & Holly hiked to the Middlefork today to look for Sarah's steak from when she Ray & I went to the Crags. Unfortunately they came home empty handed. They ended up hiking close to 23 miles they said. I'm glad I stayed home & relaxed although I could use some exercise.

Stewart was a hiking madman today. He wanted to make the Trossoff's club that Jim A. told him about. So he left at 6:00 am

to climb Dove Lewis & get back here at 2:00 pm, and then left around 3:00 pm to climb Hoose mountain. Crazy! Some day off.

June 20 Monday

Another day off. I went fishing - they weren't biting at all. Jim & Sarah also went. Jim & I talked about high school sports.

Steve & Penny Bunting came in today to work on the spotted knapweed study. The Pecks left but will be back in a week or so. Oz should be here any day.

Jim & I kited everyone in our cribbage.

June 21 Tuesday

Worked on the spotted knapweed plots up at Soldier Bar with Steve & Penny. Interesting! There was quite a bit of it up there. It was kind of exciting crossing the creek on the horses. Daisy fell in with Holly on her, but got right back up & didn't freak out or anything.

Oz Garton's family arrived yesterday along with Pat Hayward. They'll be doing some small mammal banding.

and vegetative sight, as well. So we have 13 people + 14 horses here at the moment.

June 23 Thursday

Steve, Sarah + Stewart od. rode over to Cabin Creek to see if there was any trapweed - no luck.

Later we shot Jim's 44 mg. + Sarah's 22. + bows. I shot the bow slinky today. The mosquitoes are brutal out there!

Yesterday we did 3 plots at Gout creek for the spotted trapweed. Heard some odd strange yapping by coyotes across the creek near Cougar creek. Must have been pups.

The flying B outfit came through with a 20 + 8 pack string. Not sure where they were headed.

Cricke's x-rays came back + they were fine. The little knob on her knee is still a mystery.

Found a huge swell on Maya the other day on from a sting on her back leg. Probably why she freaked out that one

day I was riding her

June 24 Friday

Took the day off. Sarah, Roy & I rode to the middlefork to look for Sarah's cash - I still couldn't find it. Went swimming in the river. Boy said that feel good. It has been quite hot here lately.

Kahn came through today & brought the gelding, - Ben. Pretty horse. He is quite mellow & looks like a male Troy. The other horses & milk were curious with the new addition but no aggression so far.

June 25 Saturday

President Gibb, his son & daughter-in-law come in today. They fished all day & caught quite a few.

Worked in the lower pasture on the shutles & irrigation ditch. Man it was hot. I was sweating profusely & at drank about a gallon of water for lunch. Right as we were finishing work a big storm hit around 3:30 pm. Thunder

+ lightning everywhere. In fact it is still going on + its 9:30. It didn't start raining until after the food was eaten at the barbeque pit though.

- Played a little oac after dinner: Tim Garton loves that game. Cute kid!

- Wooo, the rain is coming down now. I love that sound on the roof. I wish I was alone or in front of a fire with Kevin.

- Rocky has been picking on Ben + ran him into some barbed wire today. He has quite a few cuts on him. Tim is pissed at Rocky.

- Took my bath in the creek today. Still a bit cold but it felt very refreshing after today.

Sunday
Jun. 26 Monday

Lined the main house, + stuffed birds + a squirrel. Man, those bird skins are thin. Later, helped Oz set up 65 Sherman traps behind the lab.

A couple backpackers come through. Holly + Tim knew them + invited them over for dinner.

Ben has another deep cut on his back leg. Rocky + Top are outside so he can heal.

June 27 Monday

Senator Atwood Perry & Ray Stark came in today. Atwood was a former and looked like your typical city guy. Ray looked like your typical city guy.

Jim & De' Holly showed them around & gave them a ride on the hay wagon.

- Dug out the irrigation ditch in the lower pasture.

- Been giving Ben penicillin for his cuts & infection. He limps less each day. Jim tried a back amover on him. Don't think he has ever had one. Ben didn't quite know how to respond. Both Jim & I rode him a bit. Pretty broose & good built & looks good with a rider as well.

June 28 Tuesday

Cut down a big tree today with the cross-cut saw. Whew, hard work. Then we started to buck it up 18". Later shod the horses. The legs are quite tired.

June 30 Thursday

Sarah, Holly & I climbed up to Dave Lewis Peak today. It was harder than I anticipated. The legs are quite tired. We decided to camp on top for the view rather than down by the lake.

- Still doing the mouse trapping with the Sherman traps. Poor little mice getting their toes clipped off. So far all we have caught is *Peromyscus m.* ^{the}

The Carters & Pat Hayward left yesterday for Big Creek - on their way home. Finished shoeing the horses ~~and~~ worked more on the firewood leg as well yesterday.

Saw a golden eagle & a goat goat this evening. First Mt. goat I've seen since I've been in here.

July 1 Friday

Did the long trek back down & from the Dave Lewis Peaks. We came down the Pioneer Co. trail. Man, is it brushy. Sure is good to be back. We started at 8:30 & didn't get to the ranch until 7:00-7:30. It really is it that for, we just puffed around a lot. The scenery up there is great - you can see for miles. Took some

some pictures of the sunrise that hopefully turn out. Saw two big horn rams on West Pioneer ridge. They were both about $\frac{3}{4}$ curl. I was within 50 meters of them but they took off before I could get a good picture. These are the biggest rams I've seen so far.

Jim Peck, Ray, & Jim A. headed up to mile high today to do a few plots & then Jim B. & his stock will head on out.

- Saw lots of grouse on the way down
- Golda was happy.

July 2 Saturday

Started mowing the field today near the bridge. I even tried the team out with the mower. I was surprised at how effective it was.

- Deb & John came in today with Ray & Jim. It was nice to see some familiar faces our own age.

- Did a little fishing this evening. Caught a big white fish & 3 little cutthroat. Was at the old hole by Rush Creek. Saw the little sandpiper that just hatched

a few days ago. Man, those things are ~~are~~ grown + are quite developed. I checked the toad eggs also. They're all to tiny tadpoles now. It will be fun to watch them grow.

July 3 Sunday

- Had the big pizza bake today. Mmm lots of good pizza. We all had plenty of beer too. Interesting discussion around the fire pit: love, sex. - young people talk

- Did more fishing. Not such good luck. The Creek is really dropping these days. Great weather for a day off.

- Did more mowing in the upper field.

July 4 Monday

Back to work. Last day of the mouse trapping - yeh. It was starting to get old. Poor, harassed meeces.

- More sewing on the log + put up some hay since it ~~is~~ may rain soon. We only do sections at a time to get it all in + not ^{all} be spoiled by bad weather conditions.

- Deb + John left today to go back to

Bonesperry. They're going to be digging tomorrow at work. They won't get up here until at least 4:00 am. & have to be at work at 7:00 am. Saw big herd of elk on benches & in 1000 summer pasture

July 5 Tuesday

- Put up the upper fence part of the main field today. Was kind of stormy so we're lucky it didn't all wet.

- Couple of hiker came down from Soldier bar. They were from N. H. One guy was a Wilderness E.M.T.

- Learned how to pack also - the 5' basket - crows foot hitch & the baned hitch.

July 7 Thursday

Packed wood today on Lady, Topper & Maja. Maja had a Freak-out session when Jim put a pack box on her & changed it around. She ran around & around the tree she was tied to until there was no rope left. Then she went the other way. We put pinecones on instead. After lunch we moved the big rocks from the path in big creek bottom. The two pictures. Put up the hay in the

upper field near the pasture & mowed the lawns in the after dinner since we had a few visitors. Wink & his family stopped by along w/ Jerry Tappan.

July 8 Friday 10th

- Jim & Helly's anniversary.
- Doc Johnson came in; nice old guy.
- dug irrigation ditches in the lower pasture.
- started reading these to write short abstract.
- had steak at the b-bqou that Doc brought in.
- cut the rest of the airstrip. So tomorrow will be picking up hay all day.
- Jim gave us a history of the place - quite interesting.
- been seeing a lot of ground in the airstrip.

July 9 Saturday

Picked up half the airstrip & mowed the other side of the creek. It is very thick over there. Saw a lot of snakes. Sarah found a huge ball snake at

the cookhouse steps. It ~~was~~ began to climb the tree just outside the cookhouse towards a robin's nest w/ young. Stewart intervened & relocated the snake.

Some of Con's horses knocked over the new rail fence that Jim & Ray built. It took them all afternoon to repair it. Jim was pissed.

Moved the stock over here to the main pasture. Everyone was excited. Cricket the hell raiser, was rowding everyone so they were all fired up.

Boy, 'ol Doc sure has a lot of energy for a 72 year old man. He helped shock, drive the team, etc.

It's been a long day. We worked until 9:30 pm w/ a break from 5:30 - 7:00.

July 10 Monday Sunday

Picked up the rest of the airstrip, & got the rest of the day off. So Sarah & I lunked up to Lobauer Basin & floated down naked on the air mattresses. Got a bit cold there for a while.

Steve, Eric's partner came through as a pack string. I guess he headed to Monumental Cr. Fun guy to have around.

Heard a whole string of coyotes across the creek when we were pitching hay to the stack.

July 13 Wednesday

Victi + Craig flew in today. Now maybe I can get some sleep. She + Sarah has been all excited. Finished up haying yesterday. Grad to be done. Everyone was chugging ^{sky} yesterday then because we worked from 5:30 am to 9:30 pm in order to beat a storm. It never did rain however you never know though.

Went fishing I caught 2 Dolly's + 2 cut-throat at the mouth of Rush creek.

- Roger sent a letter + told me their baby didn't make it. Very sad - it almost made me cry.

- Saw a kingfisher + a few hooded mergansers.

- Played my first game of asshole darts. We were all laughing so hard we about fell over.

July 14 Thursday

Hiked up to Rush point. An overcast day so it didn't get to hot. Nice hike but the sure need to clean up the lookout. There was garbage all over.

- later fished at the mouth of Rush cr. caught 3 dollys & a few cutthroat. Vicki caught her first fish w/ a fly rod.

July 15-16 Friday, Sat.

Jim, Vicki, & I rode up to Horse Mtn on Troy, Rocky, Cricket & packed Daisy. Great view from up there. We were going to go down the spring trail to Cabin Cr. but the young ones committed mutiny & ran home. Jim was pissed and quite surprised. We packed everything on Troy & Rocky & walked back. We saw 4 ♀ ewes, 4 lambs and a yearling ram on the benches. Also saw 3 cow elk & 2 colts on the way up. They horse flies were terrible on top & brutal.

Sat. was beautiful weather & hot - A lot of fishing & skinny-dipping kind of weather.

- Ray & I took Ben & Top out for a lesson. Ben will be a good riding horse I believe.

He leads well & doesn't freak out at strange things. Doesn't seem to want to walk on the trail though. He walked with his nose to the ground. I think he smelled the stack of Chris that he traveled here with.

July 17 Sunday

Vicki & I hiked down the Big Cr. trail towards the Middlefork. Saw 4 cows, 2 lambs, a yearling & another young, small ewe. Did some fishing too. Caught mainly cutthroat. A lot of good holes down there.

There were some moose tracks on the trail but never saw the moose. Did see a young bald eagle.

- Scott Acker called & will be taking in. ^{single} ~~thing~~

For half the day I thought it was Scott Richardson & I couldn't figure it.

- Stewart, Holly, Sarah, & Craig all returned from the Big Horn Crags today. Had some good fishing up there.

July 18 Monday

Vicki left today to go back home. Got the cross-cut saw back so we all cut up the rest of the snag. Probably pack it down tomorrow. Later everyone

except Stewart went for a ride to Lobanor Basin. I rode Ben. It was a great night for a ride.

July 19 Tuesday

- Packed the rest of the firewood of the old snag
- later worked on the computer typing in the abstracts.
- Ray, Holly & I gave Top, Daisy & Ben a lesson tonight. Got them all into a canter. Ben can be quite stubborn if he wants to. He has a wicked right turn that catches you by surprise. He lost me the first time he did it. It is hard to break him into a canter.

July 20. Wednesday.

Scott Acker came hiking through today. We went fishing at the Ruck Cor hole & caught a 16" Jelly & a cutthroat at least the same size.

Been doing some work on the computer when it is working that is. We can't seem to get enough power to it.

- A lot of little fires around. The

sky has been quite hazy. I could even smell smoke this morning.

July 21, Thursday

Terry Evens & family came for a quick visit

- Ray + 2 of his sisters headed out for Mt McGuire. I guess Sharon was hurtling so the only one made it to the Middlefork today. It's a good thing they have 6 days.

- Very smoky parts of today. Jim said the middle fork was really smoky. Plus it was too hot today. I know yesterday got up to 98°F & today was at least as hot.

July 23 Sat

Holly, Sarah & I rode up to Goat Basin after work to see the ^{cow} moose & calf. We did find them. The calf is very young. Too dark to take any photos.

- Scott left ~~yesterday~~ ^{today} - Has a big hike ahead of him. His pack is at least 50 lbs. & he wants to hike 15 miles today.

- Still clearing brush from the west of the airstrip. ^{SIDE}

July 24 Sunday

- Darby, Cary, Dean & Mark from Cabin Cr. came for a visit. A fun group & it's always nice to have everyday people for company.

July 25 Monday

All the Mucky-mucks arrived today - Dennis Kaiser & Bruce? from INEL, the dean - John Hendee, Mike Scott & Oz Garton. The people from INEL want to put in an air monitor system here since it is pristine conditions the dean wants to move a cabin over from Cabin Creek to here. Good luck! They've been talking about all kinds of things - interesting to listen to. John Hendee is too much of a politician for me. I believe he greatly frustrates Oz & Jim as well.

- Saw a big group of sheep at Lobauer. Actually it was two groups: 4 ewes, 2 lambs & 2 yearlings in one group & 6 lambs, 14 ewes & 3 yearlings in the other. Too bad I didn't have my camera.

July 26 Tuesday

Moved huge rocks today in rush
con. for irrigation. Yes, quite exciting.
Felt good to work in the water on a hot
day.

Even got some thunder & lightning
activity. It has been a long time. Not
much rain though.

I realized some thing tonight, I
have learned a lot this summer listening
to the various people coming in here.
There is so much that goes on in Nat.
Reserves that I don't know about.
I have kind of been inspired to go out
& learn even more.

July 27 Wed.

All the mucky muck left today. Most were
suppose to come in but cancelled. It just
as well. We were all pretty burned out.
Today seemed like two since we were up at
to 5:45 am. By the time real work time rolled
around I was dead.

from Mt. McGuire

Ray & his sisters returned. Said they had
a good time.

July 28 Thurs.

Left for our pack trip. We decided on monument creek instead of Papoose Lk due to bugs. We didn't get out of Taylor until 11:30. Ate lunch at Cabin Cr. w/ Paul, Carrie, Mark, Maria + Dean. Carrie makes huge meals. mmm.

Camped at Coxie hole. Great swimming hole. Say Buck + Melissa on the way.

July 29 Fri.

Today was kind of a long hot day. By the time we camped (by the Monumental ranch air strip) everyone was a bit grouchy. Fun, fun.

Jim + Stewart saw a bear.



17 Dec '88

Back in Taylor Ranch. Just flew
in this morning. Last night Bill Sute
Mike Shrago, Mark Ullman, - Cori? spent
the night in McCall w/ Rays sister.
She was very hospitable. Quite
relaxing in fact - being out of school & all.

Quite cold here. It is not strange to
see things in the winter state here. The sheep
are scattered all over the benches & above
but haven't come down to the bait for
a few days. The drop net is all set up.

so we're ready any time. The people from
fish & game - the sheep foundation
are still in town on stand by awaiting
our call to when the sheep ~~will be~~ are
under or near the net.

Saw two golden eagles & hunting &
knock something down. Never could quite
see what they caught.

18 Dec. '58

~~They~~ We all went for a hike up horse
mountain today to look for sheep. They still
aren't coming down to the baited nets. They
were hanging around the second & third
benches. Got a close up view & pictures
of some sheep on the west side of Cliff cr.
Hopefully the photos turn out good.

The ol' legs are tired - been awhile since
I've taken a long hike. When we got down
Ray, Bill & I took a short bath in Big Cr.
Got more good picture of Ray & Bill freezing
their asses off.

Holly counted 55 sheep up on a ~~side~~ near
the benches.

19 Dec. '88

Well, the sheep capture is off due to weather. Mike Schlagel was going to come in & dart some sheep since they wouldn't go in the net, but they got snowed in in McCall. It is too bad because us flying in here takes a big chunk out of Jim & Holly's budget & nothing was accomplished other than figuring out how to set up the drop net.

Since we had free time we went down to the gorge to look around. A few people saw a goshawk eating a bird, probably a grouse. We saw a dipper diving & eating aquatic insects. On the way back we saw quite a few deer & a few rams near the trap.

It warmed up some today & snowed a little. There is suppose to be a big storm tonight but at the moment (8:50 pm) it is only partly cloudy & calm outside.

20 Dec.

Well, half of us got weathered in today. In fact the first group (Bill, Mike, Sue, & Mark) barely made it back. Ray Arnold had to fly by the road &

~~now~~ streams because it was snowing so hard. So Ray, Tim, Holly & I are still waiting to fly out. A lot of storms coming, but hopefully there will be a break sometime. Who knows, maybe I'll end up spending Christmas in here.

Holly ~~is~~ Took down the drop net today. There was a ewe up there being quite nervous. She started circling the whole flat while we were there & started munching away once we gave her room.

21. Dec. '88 Wed.

Almost made it out today. Had a $\frac{1}{2}$ hour window but the people coming in ~~at~~ weren't there yet. Kind of frustrating, but it isn't so bad hanging out here. We got dumped on this morning - 4" new snow. It is very beautiful. Holly packed down the ~~to~~ airstrip w/ the team & the roller. I drove them for a while. ~~It was~~ The snow flakes were so big it was hard to see.

-22. Dec. '88.

- Yeh, made it out. It's a good thing too because Tim & Holly have a considerable