

THIS BOOK  
BELONGS TO

LOG FOR TAYLOR  
RANCH

10/8/90 - 10-91

Arrive Taylor Ranch 10/5/90 1700

10/8 Monday

Alone. Jeff and Phil flew out 1010. gorgeous fall day. Thorough cleaning Taylor Cabin living room - windows, rugs, stove glass. Moved table in front of window. Got Aladdin lamp working. Picked up around yard, moved propane tanks around, picked up by burn barrel, swept out outhouse. Saw 3 mule doe early. Mules & stock sticking around. Anti-freezed duplex toilets. Drained most hoses. This place is paradise. Cassiopeia in the north 2100.

10/9 Tuesday

Overcast most of day. Washed all rest of windows, in & out, Taylor Cabin. Lets<sup>1</sup> in waning autumn light. Hauled food out of lab, Arlo cabin, couple loads

from cookhouse. Cleaned out  
cellar - at least 6 rat nests!

Started stocking shelves with all  
canned goods. Only rat proof box  
already full of cereals. Will  
use misc. tins. Heard coyote  
about 0600 - on north slope -  
probably benches. Picked up  
around L. cabin, building junk.

10/10 Wednesday

Trying to keep mules + stock off  
airstrip all a.m. Cloudy day -  
completely overcast, but pretty  
high early in day. Ray A. flew in  
mid-afternoon w/ Ray Guse and  
mail. Hauled up rest of food.  
Woodrat very bold - heard him  
(her?) crunching, shined light  
in his eyes + he just sat there.  
Kind of a "pretty" rodent - great tail  
& whiskers. Bigger than I thought.  
Too bad they smell so bad.

Some thunder + rain showers  
later. Saw 9 ewes.

10/11 Thursday

Spent all a.m. finishing up food  
storage, doing written inventory.

All done! R. Arnold came in,  
back-hauled (2 hunters at C.  
Creek, 2 at S. Bar) 2 empty  
propane tanks, empty gas barrel,  
3 bags garbage! Clear and  
cold early, warmed to perfect  
fall day. Took afternoon off-  
hiked up above benches to first  
peak - great view of Craggs,  
S. Bar, Rush Creek, the ranch.

Beautiful. Met Con H. and woman  
guest on trail. Read Jess Taylor  
interview p.m. Wonder what he  
could have that of all the  
machinery in here w/ the N.G.  
moving the L. cabin + all... wanted  
to maintain - no machinery.

10/12 Friday

Cloudy, threatening rain all day. Windy. Got east side duplex all cleaned + supplied for 2. Looks good. No call from Jeff.

10/13 Saturday

Rain early a.m. (0500) Cloudy + damp most of day. Finished duplex - did west side. Did written inventories for both.

10/14 Sunday

Finished up few odds + ends w/ duplex. Moved 2 spare beds w/ mattresses down to old rabbit house. Clouds hanging on peaks till 1430 or so, then rain. Saw coyote (female) cross airstrip, go up behind woodpile, up hillside. Laundry with washboard a real chore. Talked to Jeff a.m. Bill Hickey in town. - mules out for 5 days - back Fri aft for 4, then gone for good.

7 mule deer by lab - does +  
couple  $\frac{1}{2}$  grown fawns - in p.m.,  
in mist.

10/15 Monday

Busy traffic day in the wilderness.  
(I see more people here than ever on  
my lookout!) First, B. Hickey +  
Midge arrive 0930, flying w/  
Wilderness Aviation (830, Tim  
Keogh, pilot) Caught up mules -  
put Rocky + Top in corral. String  
packed out to Waterfall Creek.  
Then Mario arrived, left 2  
packed horses here for couple  
hrs. Then 3 back-packing  
deer hunters from Emmett  
going up Pioneer Creek. Then M.  
back to p.u. horses. In  
between, got outside + kitchen  
cleared + set up in Arlo Cabin.  
Kitchen inventoried. Mostly cloudy  
all day - broken sun aft - but  
fairly warm.

10/16 Tuesday

Message from Jim Atenson this a.m. They bought the mules, so keep corraled, hayed, take good care of, etc. OK. Rain a.m.

Finished w/ Arlo Cabin. Hail showers aft + early p.m.

10/17 Wednesday (on first bench 1100)

Saw 11 ewes, 1 lamb early. Coyote bothering one. Didn't have glasses so couldn't observe closely. Hauling water for mules twice, three x a day.... R. Base w/ Arnold said for sure to keep them corraled. Mail in.

Did written inventory for A. Cabin.

Clear and sunny a.m. Clouded up aft. Hiked a ways up Pioneer Creek late in day. Fall colours lovely. Hunters back w/ their ram. Used radio.

10/18 Thursday

Got started on Lab. Cleaned around yard, back porch, kitchen area. Cloudy, warm, humid.

10/19 Friday

Really windy last night. Must have rained overnight - everything very wet a.m. (.08") 85% broken cloud cover. Snow dusting 6900' or so. Stored all aluminum folding lawn chairs in rabbit house. 3 muleys spronging across the pasture till they spotted Rocky + Top in the corral - then a 180° and back into the woods!

Continued working on lab. Really dirty. Taylor International Airport today. <sup>3</sup> planes in + out. R. brought in 2 full propane tanks. Took out couple bags trash. B. Hickey, crew (+ stock) in, flew out. 2 trigs.

Talked to Jeff as scheduled. (9 hunters in at S. Bar - hunting up cliff creek for sheep + at S. Bar)



10/20 Saturday

Saw hunters both a.m. & p.m.  
(Vic Hart plus party of 2) Will be here 10 days. Clear, cold, sunny.  
Continued working on lab, which seems to be taking forever. Got 1/2 fire extinguishers together down at strip to fly out for check. A hassle with 2 mules in, the others out. Everybody wants to be where they're hot!

10/20 Sunday

Overcast again. Crunchy, frosty grass - ground frozen a.m. Cold overnight & a.m. temps, but all flowing water & pipes fine so far. (daytime warming to 45°)

Still working on lab - living quarters part of it now - waxed floor of lab space - looks good.

Patty S. + Patty S. showed up late afternoon (F.S.) to take

Lanham

a few pictures of ~~Lanham~~ (?sp)  
Cabin. Checking on hunting  
camps. (3 guys in Cliff Crk,  
2 w/ horses at Goat Mdw, 6  
on airstrip - Soldiers Bar). Also  
one way up Cliff Crk (Con's).  
Didn't stay long - needed to get to  
Cabin Creek by dark. Light  
drizzle evening. Snow up high.

10/21 Monday

Two men (hunters?) rode down to  
end of airstrip about 0900 -

Gorgeous day - obsessed with lab -  
finally done with it! Clean, clean,  
clean. Written inventory done on  
both living quarters + science lab.

Holly + friend flying in tomorrow  
to stay overnight + take mules.

Will get mail then instead of Wed.

Forgot to mention got .16" rain thru  
night (last night). No visitors or  
company - yah! Bird in the kitchen

~~10-23 Tuesday~~ stovepipe pm -  
glad it got out by itself. I  
couldn't figure out what  
to do!

10/23 Tuesday

Sunny warm a.m., then clouded  
up some. Sealed west and north  
sides / base Lanham cabin.  
Caulked west side. Did written  
sheets, blankets, sleeping bags  
inventory. Bird was still in  
stovepipe - finally rescued - didn't  
look too good, but flew off -  
startling, of course. Holly +  
friend, Harriet, Akenson in late  
afternoon, nice evening spent  
together - learned some history +  
sheep info -

10/24 Wednesday

Holly + H. left early with Rocky  
+ Top. Salmon trail crew in early  
w/ wilderness Aviation (Glen, pilot)

for 8-day stint. Dr. <sup>Dave</sup> ~~Crider~~ <sup>Crowder</sup> + Joe  
Corlett in at 1000 w/ Id. State  
Historical Society. (Jess Taylor  
was his great-uncle!) PR day.  
Dick Williams (w/ Tim Keogh -  
Sawtooth Flying Service) stopped  
in to check + see if needing/using  
for radio work - Referred to  
Jett Yeo at UofI - Trail crew  
packed up + out at 1230 -  
Caulked north side L. cabin -  
stuffed east end, part southside -  
ran out of silicon caulk. Saw a pileated  
woodpecker by duplex.

10/25 Thursday

Took day off - gorgeous Indian  
Summer day - hiked to Middle  
Fork, went about 2 mi upstream -  
total 16 mi round trip - whew - big  
deep green river - flows different,  
different sound. B.C. gorge in  
full fall colour. R. Arnold flew over  
me 6 times (hunter shuttle S. Bar)

10/26 Friday

Winds blowing S. C. 1 by up high in a.m. Heard 4 shots early to east. First I've heard. Must be anxious to get that rain before season ends.

Did load of laundry early. Then worked on L. cabin, stuffing crates, nailing in expandable mesh

to chinking. Like the chinking alot! Should complete outside tomorrow, just a little chinking left.

Also picked up a bunch of construction garbage. Met Steve (outfitter w/ Con) - 1 hunter up Pioneer Crk. late afternoon.

Stayed p. cloudy all day - S. t. moving in. 6 mule doe at dusk in pasture. [F.S. mules coming back]

10/27 Saturday

4 ewes at 0915 just across the river on trail & below - 2 collared - one old beat-up, most of paint

scraped off, but looked red - the other definitely green. Heard 5 shots a.m. Saw 6 ewes early aft - the 4 from this morning may have been in the group ... (didn't have binocs w/ me) Chinked outside L. cabin all day - finished except for under 2 windows (?) and one strip way up high on north side I can't get to. Stuffed & wired one short wall inside.

That I heard noises last night - I did - racoon got into the garbage, so had to clean up + put in can securely (Knew it was a racoon, cause he took the lid off a jar and left <sup>claw</sup> prints in the mustard inside!) Clear. Little wind aft. Chilly.

10/28 Sunday

Forgot time change - got up real early. Nice to have the

light early, but it's only 6:30  
and I'm having to write by  
kerosene lamp. Chinked.  
Outrageous gusty winds today -  
almost all the leaves are  
down. Cloudy. Steve + I  
hunter up Rush Ck.

10/29 Monday

Chinking. No planes, no people -  
hallelujah - a day to myself.

10/30 Tuesday

Cloudy aft. Chinked a  
section of inside wall. Saw  
5 ewes and 1 ram! <sup>(on first bench)</sup> Appeared  
to me to be 3yr old w/ almost  
3/4 curl. Cleared out + up  
grain shed.

10/31 Wednesday - Halloween

Wind really blowing early (0400-0500)  
Warm + overcast - expect rain. 4 mule  
doe on path to check for leaves at

water pipe. Evening grosbeak in yard. Cut broken branches and treecoted apple tree. Cleaned up all around bunkhouse + cookhouse (grounds), wood-pile, <sup>outhouse</sup>, cleaned bunk house. Light sprinkle mid-afternoon. Salmon trail crew flew out - left mules. Started raining 1730. Paused till 2200.

~~Thursday~~  
11/1 .27" here. Snow at about 6100. Pretty with blue sky + broken clouds behind. Worked on cleaning cookhouse.  $\frac{1}{2}$  done. Ray A. made it in today w/ mail. (Bunny by the woodshed.) He said everything "up top" was white!

11/2 Friday

Another whole day working on the cookhouse. Fitty! Sunny but cold - bit of wind chill. Found white box garbage bags. Mules watchin' 3 mule doe across the creek. No call from Jeff.



11/3 Saturday 17° low 18° at 0800  
Clear + cold. Leaves rimed with  
frost, branches in the creek  
frozen in patterns at the  
ripples. Duplex not frozen and  
water box is fine. Another day  
in the cookhouse - clouded up.

11/4 Sunday

Woke to skiff of snow on ground.  
Warmer temps overnight.  
Grained mules (their grain). 1/2  
days work just to clean gas  
grill + oven! Yuk. <sup>Worked at cookhouse.</sup> Everything wet  
and smells so good - really  
fragrant. Walked to the  
bench above Rush Ck in the  
evening - 12 doc. Ominous -  
looking sky at dusk. Did written  
inventories for bunkhouse, grain shed.

11/5 Monday

Snow showers / squalls thru all  
day - none on ground, all  
melted, tho' there was about

3/8" this a.m. Planned to finish up cookhouse, but got diverted discovering early that mules were gone. Some guide (I think I know which one) left the gate at the end of the airstrip wide open. Went after them with grain + a halter. Hiked a ways up <sup>cold +</sup> Rush Creek. Didn't locate. <sup>got soaked.</sup> As of 1600, Cabin Creek hadn't seen them either. Word to Bill Hickey thru Glen Combs (who had to sit down here a while for [52H] weather this aft - finally made + out + into Salmon) got written inventory done for cookhouse.

Spotted a pileated woodpecker and its nesting hole right on the path on Rush Crk, before it crosses the creek. Not 10' from me!

Not feeling too well pm. Wood rats raising hell in the attic.

11/6 Tuesday

Jim Akenson stopped by early a.m. (in area hunting) to say hello, drop off a letter for mail plane. Helped me drain and shut down duplex. Took the afternoon off (gorgeous day - cold + sunny) and hiked towards Rush Creek L.O. Didn't quite make it - ran out of time - got to within 1 1/2 mi. Beautiful up high. About 3" snow where I was (500-800' below l.o.) Got home to find mules up behind house. Came home by themselves - truly amazing. About 80 snow geese headed SW - high.

11/7 Wednesday

So glad drained duplex - 17° last night. A little trouble w/ Taylor Cabin water. Inlet had frozen over - box empty - (leaves + ice)

But got it cleared and running clear to the house again.

Trail crew flew in and went out again. (May have to leave horses + mules here 4 more days!)

Saw a ram - mature - on second bench early - by himself.

4 ewes and a lamb (looked pretty healthy, not coughing, not ~~to~~ skinny) around noon on first bench, going to lick. Ray A. made it in

late - had to sit here for an hour for weather to improve in Cascade so could get home - left in snow

showers. Jim A. by to pick up letter from Holly. Got heavy old

wood bed frame out of lab, down to rabbit shed - replaced with

metal folding bed + mattress. Got all backpacking pads rolled +

stored in rabbit shed. Hooked up new propane for w.h., stove, lights + dark.

11/8 Thursday

Dammed up all the irrigation ditches - ice floes were building & begin to flood & freeze in pasture. Got all 5. More caulk came in on mail plane, so did some of that. Hunter from New York came in to use radio for McCall (Soldier Bar) Clear & sunny, even warm <sup>(41°)</sup> for short period of time, mid-day. Propane tanks down to airstrip.

11/9 Friday

9 mule doe on bench early. 2 rams w/ 5 ewes - one collared red - on rocks 0930. Just sort of following ewes around. No action. Frigēs had floor of cookhouse took all day! One more mop & glo and its done -

really sparkles! Messages from Jeff -  
send out harnesses, measure for (no)  
water in stand pipe, <sup>(weekly document)</sup> FS stock will  
be in 14th → 19th. Got up into 10 50's  
today - most of ice in pasture  
melted off. Ditches dry.

11/10 Saturday

Finished cookhouse! Cleaned  
tack shed, behind grain shed.  
Cleaned corral shed, shed at  
airstrip + behind. Barely had  
time to enjoy beautiful day - nice  
sunrise + sunset colours. First  
starry night in a while. Also got  
harnesses bagged up + ready to  
go. Busy, productive day -  
tired.

11/11 Sunday

Clear and frosty. Talked to Jeff a.m.  
Major laundry - serious! Empty  
propane tanks (2), garbage,

and harnesses out to Cascade  
on backhaul from S. Bar late.  
3 hunters (2 afoot, 1 horseback)  
1 guide, 2 strings thru  
today. Gate at end of airstrip  
left open again - will post  
sign. Perfectly beautiful day,  
really sunny. Frost never  
melted on airstrip however,  
ground at far end staying  
frozen - may not get willows in.  
Thin waning moon in sky  
mid-day.

11/12 Monday (Audubon's)

Male yellow-rumped warbler  
flitting around <sup>in</sup> frosty bushes  
this a.m. 22° Ice in Big Creek -  
on rock bar (opposite end of air-  
strip), slow water at edges,  
eddies of gabions. Clear mostly -  
few hi sc clouds. Got to add

winter worn to my life list - saw  
one in dry irrigation ditch by water  
box Pioneer Creek - all puffed up -  
Also saw pileated woodpecker today.  
Dads + ends workwise, copied  
over all inventories I'd just done,  
closing procedure for duplex to send  
out to Jeff.

11/13 Tuesday

Thanksgiving cactus blossom opened  
today - delicate pink. Got bath mats  
all washed (by hand) w/ bleach.

Switch for solar / battery making a lot  
of buzzing noise "analysing" ?? Turned  
power off. Maybe due to battery low -  
so little sun (maybe 3 hrs day)? Needs  
changing w/ generator now -  
Waged ~~the~~ major RAT WAR!

Re-cleaned cellar - piles + piles  
of leaves - like 3" deep all in  
NW corner - then went outside  
+ re-mortared all holes, cracks,



on entire foundation. Several large ones, obviously front and side "rat doors." Hope I didn't mortar the rat in. May have to trap if did. Steve, pack string & hunters thru up Pioneer Creek. Bill Hickey in late aft - flying out. F.S. crew + stock in tomorrow.

11/14 Wednesday

Started raining about 1:00. Continued all day + night. Got attic today. F.S. trail crew spending the night, couldn't fly out for weather. Snow level at dusk looked lowest yet. Stock here. A big ram running across hillside early a.m.

11/15 Thursday

Broke hi and broken <sup>clouds</sup> down. Snow level top 3rd bench About 5000'

2 nice rams above first <sup>bench</sup> early.  
8 ewes - one collared but couldn't  
pick up the colour - with 1 ram  
(one of the same?) not long after.  
2nd bench. Woodpile bunny  
nearly let me touch it... Wood  
rat survives + still creating havoc  
in basement - need new tactic?  
Trapping not doing it... Trail  
crew flew out early. Finished up  
attic - burned a million extra  
boxes - did written inventory. Re-  
cleaned & mopped <sup>re-</sup> bunkhouse  
(where Trail crew stayed). Got  
mail. Guide used radio.

11/16 Friday green and  
Tewes (~~one~~ <sup>two</sup> collared - red + green)  
w/ 2 rams. Not doing much  
except eating. No action. Laundry  
a.m. As soon as clothes quit  
sticking to the frozen line, they  
may dry - hehe.

Graining + haying stock - Ray  
flew 2 full propane in on buck  
haul to Soldier Bar, garbage out.  
Never got much above 40° all day.  
Gonna be clear + cold tonight.  
Talked to Jeff.

11/17 Saturday

Another cold day - didn't get  
above 36° yesterday - felt same  
today. Sun, these Nov days,  
not on airstrip at all - frozen  
solid, frost not even melting.  
Ice in Big Creek. Small hunks,  
breaking loose upstream, and  
floating down. All along edges  
+ on rock bar. Too cold to do  
projects planned today - finish  
caulking, clean chimney, mortar  
porch (for rat), chink ....  
Beautiful and varied hi + lo  
clouds - weather (storm)

definitely blowing in. No visitors,  
hunters, planes, etc. today - yah!  
Solo ram on 1st bench <sup>afternoon</sup>.  
Feeling really strange all day -  
hope I didn't pick up a bug  
from anyone - To bed early.

11/18 Sunday

High yesterday was 34°. After  
jumping in Rush Creek at 0830, 32°  
mid-chest, thru <sup>deep</sup> 3/4" ice to save  
Amber, who was stuck in a hole  
and couldn't get out, going under -  
"the big rescue" - took the rest  
of day as a Day of Rest. Overcast.  
Barometer dropping. 2 rams about  
noon on 1st bench. Not doing much -  
sniffing grass, tossing heads a little,  
but no action, no head banging or  
anything - wonder where all the  
sheep are? Idaho Fish + Game -  
Sam Sheppard - Cascade and  
Larry Tindrich - Boise / McCall, plus  
a Nat'l Geo guy named José <sup>Azel</sup> -  
(doing article on non-legal game  
poaching - ) see Nat Geo Vol. 180 No. 3  
Sept. 1991 pp 106-132

Sam Sheppard 325-8004 634-8731  
Larry Jindrich 634-3109 634-8731

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stopped in for tea and a chat.  
Working out of Cabin Creek.  
Call if need them or anything  
thru Arnold's - code: we need  
some radio collars flown in -  
means - fly in now for violations.  
Larry that sheep were just still  
up high - hadn't come down  
yet or begun rat behavior  
cause no snow. He said he  
had begun to see just a little  
display behavior like I saw  
today - \* Saw 7 ewes 2 rams  
on west slope Cliff Creek - heard  
5 head whistles !! Finally saw  
2 rams butt at each other with  
a leap and CRACK! One ewe  
collared, but towards dusk  
+ only had binocs, not scope so  
didn't get colour - 2 pack  
strings by today - all headed

out, downstream.

11/19 Monday

F.S. in under low ceiling - mules  
around noon.  
out, Moved 2 full propane tanks  
up to Arlo + Taylor cabins. Cold, a.m.  
warmed up, bit of sun mid-day.  
got hay in sewer line. Measured  
for water in stand pipe - none.

Quiet day, will finish w/hay around  
septic tank tomorrow.

11/20 Tuesday

Barometer plummeted and  
woke to rain (0500). Started  
snowing at 0900 - covered ground  
by 1000. Gonna make getting that  
hay in septic tank "difficult."

Winter is here. Snowed 1" - got  
hay in septic tank area! Yah.

Also oiled 1 saddle, 1 decker,  
before hands got too cold. Broken  
skies w/ some sun aft.

11/21 Wednesday

5 ewes (1 collared - red) 2 full  
curl hams - complete rut

behavior - low-stretch, kicks,  
butting each other's side, threat  
jump and clash!! great.

Bit later - joined by more ewes -  
now 13. 1st bench. Dalene,

mother in <sup>family</sup> group of hunters at

S. Bar hiking thru am - her son

saw cougar w/ 2 kittens (at about  
20') up <sup>goat</sup> ~~cougar~~ creek yesterday.

Later yet - 18 ewes 3 rams

2 collared - one red, one blue + red(?)

Got 2 more saddles oiled. No

mail - Raccoon tracks in snow on  
airstrip.

11/22 Thursday - Thanksgiving

Barometer up, but still

cloudy. I am so thankful

today to be here, ~~4~~ strings of

stock out early (0845) <sup>0900</sup> headed

downstream. Also heard several

"clashes" early. Got mail today -

a working holiday for Ray + Carol.  
Pre-formed mantles came in.

11/23 Friday

Took day off - considerably warmer tho' cloudy - hiked to Cabin Creek. Saw 7 ewes, 1 lamb, 2 rams in rocks just above trail, relatively close. Just curious - all stared at Amber + me.

Also saw pileated. Most snow gone.

11/24 Saturday

Overcast - 6 doe, 2 forked horn bucks just above trail across Big Creek 0900. Finished up in the tack shed - cleared + oiled all saddles, deckers, the panniers, collar + harness, all tack. Also moved 50# + 80# grain out to grain shed to discourage, at least, not encourage, mice eating leather.



shop/

Got a start on tool shed. Also picked up a bunch of construction trash around Lanham C. Made a nice seasonal red twig dogwood, sphagnum moss, snow berry + pine cone wreath for front of house - looks nice. 2 large (one about 20, the other about 40) strings of stock moving downstream, mid-day, with e-boy hoops + ki-yi's. Nice day - warmer tho' cloudy. A bath and a beer! No snow left just lots of wind.  
11/25 Sunday

Barometer falling, really warm early 50° at 0730 and windy, getting ready to rain. Solo ran 1st bench 0930. Stand pipe showed no water. Started raining 1100. Snow at 1830.

11/26 Monday

About  $\frac{1}{2}$ " snow on ground.

Finally seeing large groups of sheep. First <sup>0900</sup> 20 ewes (one collared no color) 4 rams - one very large full cunt - Then 6 ewes - Then 2 ewes 1 ram. (2 collared - one red, one green) All coming down low, below 1st bench, nearly to the trail. Broken skies, lightly snowing a.m. Rams chasing ewes. Worked in the shop cleaning + organising. Cold daytime temps <sup>wind chill</sup> plus wind - snow never melted on ground. Snow melting off roof frozen in "mid-slide" so hanging over the edge, like frozen lace. Everything quite luminous with snow reflecting  $\frac{1}{2}$  moon thru broken clouds, a star here + there. Black + white - simplification of winter sets in.

11/27 Tuesday

Made a dam, increased size + depth of "pond" to get winter water from. Finished cleaning + organising the shop / tool shed. Didn't do inventory, as don't know a lot of the stuff - but it's good + neat + clean. Walked up steep hill to benches directly behind house - saw 8 mule deer - so tame - fat + beautiful - one so curious - kept coming closer + closer till within 20' to see Amber. Cold. Wind chill. Water still flowing...

11/28 Wednesday

Barometer taking a huge leap up (from 29.80 to 30.<sup>28</sup>~~52~~) but can't see any stars early, for clouds. Still rising - hi thin broken cirrus - mail came in. Cleared up around woodshed area. Ice forming over

water inlet + "pond" during day.

11/29 Thursday

Just got message to pack to leave Saturday afternoon - so hard to think of leaving a place where I feel like I "belong". High overcast - water still flowing. Warmer temps as front moves in - looks like snow again. Odds and ends of work. A lot of the snow melted today - hills brown again instead of white. Still trace on airstrip and around house, everywhere the sun isn't hitting. Melancholy evening. One rive mid-day - that's all.

11/30 Friday

Last day here alone... packed up. Overcast, quite windy. Raccoon tracks on trail, still seeing chipmunks - so guess they haven't gone into

hibernation yet. Couple dozen  
Canada geese scared up off  
airstrip or by river - first I've  
seen, circling low as they  
grouped into  $\gt$ , sunny + windy  
with <sup>brief</sup> snow showers mid-day.  
Getting everything ready + listed  
for Ray G. Almost-full moon  
rising over rocky cliffs thru  
broken clouds into clear sky -  
clarity + purity of cold bright  
light.

12/11 Saturday

New day, new month - changes.  
Elk in the lower pasture again  
early morning - 8 cows, 2 bulls,  
1 spike, 1 forked - sort of  
scroungy coats - "out of shape"  
(haha) tongues hanging out +  
panting as they climbed the  
benches. Gorgeous am - clear

and coldest yet (13°) - water  
still flowing. Beautiful ice  
sculptures in Pioneer creek on  
branches and ripples. Cleaned  
washed King sheets for Ray - frozen  
Taylor Cabin good - mop + gl'd stiff.  
all hardwood floors. A bald  
eagle flying low down up the  
airstrip over my head. Temp  
only 22° at noon. Decided to turn  
off water to Taylor Cabin. Later:  
Well... the best laid plans.... Ray A.  
stranded in Grangerille cause of  
storms, can't get home. So it's  
off till tomorrow. Got water to  
house shut off (w/ valve in  
Pioneer Box open instead of  
closed ??) but have water  
coming out blow-out valve when  
open & don't think I should?  
Temps warmed up w/ clouds +  
snow so will wait & see if Ray

G. has any ideas before call Jeff.  
Wonder about inlet box - water  
going into 2" PVC pipe behind  
inlet valve - doesn't seem to  
be a way to shut off?

A pair of coyotes running across  
the pasture + up the airstrip at  
1700 in the snow storm.

So glad for an unexpected  
evening here. This is a place  
for my heart to rest and my  
spirit to soar. Peaks obscured  
by snow storm as darkness  
falls.

12/2 Sunday

1/2" new snow only. Overcast +  
snowing on peaks early. Packed up  
again. Full moon shining between  
peaks upstream, casting shadows  
on snow early before dawn -  
beautiful (0645). Stand pipe

measured no water. Hard to  
leave a place you love....

Nancy did a great job while she  
was here. Sorry Nancy, but I  
had the job before you.

I spent 3 hours turning the  
water to the Taylor Cabin back  
on. I'll wait until the pipes in  
the ground freeze on their own.

Stuffed insulation in the bleed-  
off box in the orchard and adjust-  
ed the lid seal.

Saw 8 sheep on the benches: 1 IV;  
2 III; and 5 uncollared ewes.

Unpacked, dinner, and bed.

12/3 Monday

Took the barbed-wire fence  
down around the lower pasture.  
Quite a number of barbs had elk  
hair on them. Cleared the chimney  
in the Taylor Cabin. Took measure-



ments of the ~~Station~~ Lanham cabin in order to figure out the square footages.

12/4 Tuesday

Took more measurements of the Lanham cabin. Made drawings of floor plans and cross section. Inventoried materials and sent this, the drawings, and a brochure on the "Turbo 10" woodstove to Jeff Yeo. I have determined the problem with the florescent lights (no light, control box says analysing while producing an obnoxious buzzing) is a dead battery. After charging the battery for more than 6 hours the lights work. However, the battery still needs more charging. A chinook blew in about noon today and raised temps from 20°F to nearly 60°F in less than 30 min. Observed 31 sheep today, 5 with radio collars, 5 class III or smaller rams.

12/5, Wednesday

Mopped floors in the Taylor cabin. Figured out what fire extinguishers need to go out, once the rest come back in. Started putting a temporary stove in the Sanham cabin, need to steel another elbow somewhere and make some supports for the stove-pipe. Ray A. flew in the mail about 1:30 PM.

12/6 Thursday

Finished installing the wood stove in the Sanham cabin. Getting ready to chink the west interior wall. The battery to power the lights in the Taylor cabin is still not charged even though it was on the charger another 4 hours today. The lights are a little brighter today. I think I'll charge it a little more before I give up on that battery.

12/7 Friday  
We've decided we need a new battery  
for the lights in the Taylor Cabin.

The West interior wall of the  
L.C. is ready for mortar. Jeff  
called to see how things are  
going. I saw an airplane and  
heard a helicopter today - amazing.

12/8 Saturday

Hiked up to the Third bench  
this morning. Saw approx. 50 sheep.  
I haven't seen a large ram since  
I came in a week ago. Baked  
chocolate chip cookies. Saw 3 otters  
in Big Creek right below the main  
bridge. One was eating a rather  
large fish.

12/9 Sunday

Cleaned house! Hiked up Cliff Cr.  
looking for ram horns. Saw 36  
sheep in one herd above the Third  
bench, one large ram.

12/10 Monday

Spent the day chinking. It takes a lot more time than I thought. I still haven't finished the interior west wall.

12/11 Tuesday

We had breakup today! This morning chunks of ice were piled up on both sides of Big Cr.; all the way up to the level of the airstrip.

About 11:00 AM another tide of ice and debris swept down the creek.

Big break truly looked like a river for about 20 minutes. Evidently, the warm weather, of the past 36 hrs., caused the formation of ice dams upstream. The amount of logs, ice, sticks and water coming downstream was amazing. I wish I'd seen the first wave come down because it was even more spectacular than the one I did see, judging by the height ice was pushed up the banks. As

I write this, (6:20 PM) a raccoon  
just climbed up onto the windows  
and was intent on finding a way  
in until I rattled the glass with  
my fingers. Worked on chinking  
again today. Snow level was  
down to the 2<sup>nd</sup> bench this morning  
and ~~up~~ back up to the top  
of the ridge by evening. A  
herd of 39+ sheep is above the 3<sup>rd</sup>  
bench this evening.

12/12 Wednesday

I finished chinking the inter-  
east wall. Inspected the gabion bars  
since the breakups yesterday. The  
water apparently rose enough that  
ice and debris floated above the  
barbs and little damage was done.  
I opened 2 valves in the box nearest  
the duplex so that water flows contin-  
uously through the main line going to  
the Taylor cabin.

12/13 Thursday

Light snow most of the day,  
less than 1/2" accumulation. I  
scribed out some boards to fit the  
contours of the ragged-edged adja-  
cent to the big window in the Zanham  
cabin.

12/14 Friday

Spent most of the day being basically  
frustrated. The Zanham Cabin is like  
trying to put together an old worn out  
jigsaw puzzle, with many pieces missing,  
and the corners bent on all the rest.

Jeff called to ask questions and see  
what is needed.

12/15 ~~7~~ Saturday

Hiked around. Found a dead  
bighorn ewe above the 1<sup>st</sup> bench.  
I estimate she'd been dead < 12 hrs.  
She was about 3 yrs. old and  
seemed to have a dislocated hip, or  
a broken ~~from~~ femur. She did

not appear to be emaciated. No signs of predation. She was probably in a weakened condition and the 6°F (here at the ranch) temperatures were more than she could withstand. I can watch the carcass from the Taylor cabin. So far nothing but magpies, ravens and a golden eagle have scavenged the carcass.

12/16 Sunday

The water to the Taylor cabin froze last night. I spent several hours this morning shutting the system down. The carcass of the ewe has been dragged off, I don't know to where or what moved it; probably a cougar. Hiked down to Cougar Cr.

12/17 Monday

Big Cr. rose twice today carrying a tremendous load of ice and debris; surprising since the temp. only got up to ~30°F today. I took a few pictures of the event. I disconnected a couple pipes.

underneath the Taylor cabin in order to make sure the water is drained. It finally started snowing this afternoon. A little overflow on the upper airstrip this morning. I had to chip channels in the frozen ground to divert the flow. ~~The~~ I measured the water-level in the Zarkham Cabin septic system today, and last Sunday. Both times there was no water.

12/18 Tuesday

Jeff called this morning to get some information on the stove pipes in the Zarkham Cabin. A couple snow squalls came through today, but we still only have ~1".

12/19 Wednesday

The temp. dropped from 9°F to 3°F between 8:00 AM & noon today, plus a stiff wind has blown all day to make it bitterly cold. While working in the Zarkham Cabin I keep



Having to run to the stove to warm my fingers. No mail today due to the nasty weather. Carol A. told me the mail will come in Saturday with Sarah and Phil.

12/20 Thursday

The temperatures never rose above  $0^{\circ}\text{F}$  all day. In spite of the cold I got 2 interior doors hung in the Zanham cabin. With the woodstove in the Taylor cabin completely open temperatures won't go above  $60^{\circ}\text{F}$ . With the stove shut down for the evening the temperature drops to  $40^{\circ}\text{F}$ .

12/21 Friday

The high yesterday and today was  $-7^{\circ}\text{F}$ . The low last night,  $-18^{\circ}\text{F}$ . Finished the interior doors in the Zanham cabin, framing them in that is. Overflow on the airstrip again so I cut small touches for it to

drain in. Overflow ~~is~~ in Pioneer Cr.  
covered ~~my~~ <sup>the</sup> insulation over my water  
hole, so I had to chip it out. I  
haven't seen many animals since the  
temp. dropped. I saw only 10 sheep  
above the east knob today and that  
was it.

12/22 Sarah and I got to Taylor Ranch  
about 4:30pm - cold rushed to unload  
plane and get food in before freezing.  
Lamban cabin too dark to see anything.  
Ray did a great job cleaning (must have taken  
days). Place was cozy when we got in. Even  
with stove cranked it was still a bit cold  
-21° outside, no wonder. Read, ate, Read  
some more, ate some more, bed.

12/23 very cold, but pretty -21° Went  
to Lamban cabin to check if gut prepared  
it was a bit pippy to attempt chinking  
Ray mentioned stove was enough to keep  
hands warm but not much else.

12/23 Sarah and I took a walk to Petroglyphs and saw fairly fresh cougar tracks, 4" x 4" just past lower pasture. Watched water angels chipping into Big Cr. Amazed to see that it appeared they were enjoying themselves as we walk past and move @ with all our clothes on just to keep warm. Near as we can figure Petroglyphs say Yankees go home. Came back to look @ Ranch. Still below zero. -4°F cleaned stove of Ash in Taylor Cabin lit Cooky stove from coals, a big difference! Toasty in here. Might attempt plastic over windows in Panham cabin. Tomorrow if its just get top cold at best 0. P.S. - No other wildlife observed.

12/24 Heat wave today - 10°F above. About 10am this am looked out spotting scope and saw, on the N. face directly opposite us, ~~and saw~~ 3 groups of Sheep! One of 12 ewes, 1 ram; another of 4 Ewes, 1 ram; and the third of 8 ewes, 1 ram. Also 9 elk spread across top of ridge - none antlered. Tomorrow we thought

w'd hike up there and look around.

Did some work on Lanham cabin - filled in cracks w/ insulation and covered windows w/ plastic. Helped some - started fine; got a little warmer. After X-mas we'll start the real work. Should warm up even more by then.

Dec 25, 1990 Christmas day. Beautiful and snowy. Did weather, got set to hike up to top of hills across the way - above cliff creek. Saw 3 elk - no antlers; many sheep from window before we left. Got to 2<sup>nd</sup> bench, and Dempsey got real excited about being so close to sheep. I decided I better take her back. Phil went on up to the top. He found one deer antler, saw a group of 50 elk; 2 bulls. Near cougar creek drainage. I found a full elk skeleton - brought head home (no rack). We got close enough to one sheep to see what looked like a white collar - couldn't tell for sure, tho. Had ham,

potatoes, butternut squash - Then went  
out - chopped open ice hole.

Rabbit out front of Taylor cabin  
and Grouse in Aspen eating buds  
by H<sub>2</sub>O hole. Temp up to 12°F.  
Still lightly snowing. A good Xmas.

Dec 26. Still snowing! Cougar tracks  
coming over bridge; other tracks  
on ice on Big Creek. Lots  
of Coyote tracks on airfield.

Began work on Lanham cabin.  
Warm in there now, w/ windows  
covered and stove going. Chinked  
and put up ceiling boards. Saw  
2 coyotes run across hillside

behind Lanham cabin! Hempsey barked  
at them for hours. Their tracks  
came right down to wooden gate.  
Worked till dark - ~4:30-5:00.

Dec 27. No snow this am. Worked  
on Lanham again; chinking + ceiling board.  
32°F!! Took walk down airstrip after  
work - fresh sheep track crossing river, -

airstrip, up hillside. Around 12:00 saw  
4 sheep - 1 ram, 3 ewes, below 1st  
bench - closest we've seen them yet.

Traversing hillside, going east.

Supposed to get cold again this WE - hope  
it doesn't interfere w/ work which is going  
quite well. Many folks on radio said

Their H<sub>2</sub>O was unfroze - I wonder  
if ours is? Don't think we'll bother  
to check - it'll only freeze again in the  
coming cold snap. It's snowing now -  
8:10 pm. Wish we brought our skis.

Dec 28 Friday. Expected call from Jeff -  
none came! Still fairly warm out, ~20°F.

Snowed on + off all day. Now about 4"  
on ground. Uneventful day working in  
Lanham cabin; mostly putting ceiling boards  
up. What a pain in the butt! Sometimes  
they just will not notch together - but we  
got one whole slant side done. Chinking  
is also coming along slowly but surely.

Plan to take another long walk tomorrow -  
Sat - and just work a 1/2 day. So busy

today we didn't even look for wildlife.  
- Although I was joined by a fearless  
grouse at the watering hole. which,  
by the way, is getting lower + lower.  
1<sup>st</sup> shower today - the bag in the tub  
works excellently! Just a tad too hot,  
but very good.

Dec. 30 Sunday. Lazy morning! Eggs +  
homefries for Breakfast, read some,  
just finished Baking bread - again.  
It must take awhile to really get  
the hang of good bread baking.  
Mine is somewhat flat and tasteless.  
But it does hold cheese together and  
that's what counts. Bempsey is barking  
at the coyotes again. They seem to  
spend alot of time in the trees  
just beyond the east end of the Lan-  
ham cabin. Saw them there again yester-  
day - 2 of them. They even came  
right up just 4-5 yds from the  
house - left tracks in new snow -

to sniff the coffee grinds + old apples we had dumped in the veg. garden area!

They don't seem too spooked. Sit in bushes and let Dempsey bark at them for  $\frac{1}{2}$  hr at a time. Hope she doesn't get beat up before we leave.

Phil searching for a new H<sub>2</sub>O source. Ours dried up. Or iced up, maybe I should say. No more H<sub>2</sub>O runs down through the hole, anyways.

Walked ~ 2 m west along Big Creek yesterday. Really nice trail overlooking water. Cougar tracks on trail most of the way, plus other tracks on ice. Saw no elk or sheep, tho. Dempsey snacked on a meadow vole, much to our dismay, and left the remains for us.

Warming up again - 10°F today.

Back to wk. tomorrow. Ray should be home this week.

Dec 31 Monday. Worked down at Lanham all day - got quite a bit



more of the ceiling done. Saw 5 sheep fairly low down on the mountain side facing the ranch - 1 ram with 3 ewes and just above them another ram with almost a full corl. Saw the 2 coyotes again behind Taylor cabin. Wouldn't have seen them but for Demp's banking. Temp still <sup>comparatively</sup> warm - 10-20° F.

Jan 1 1991 Tues. New Years day! Got up to 30° F! Worked all day - I chinked Phil did ceiling boards. Coyote tracks Every where. Took a walk to the pasture on the N. side of Big Creek Full of elk tracks and a number of what appeared to be elk beds - crusted snow where they had laid down. Another few feet and the leaning tower of ~~\*\*\*~~ will be up to the bowl in the outhouse. We'll have to knock it down soon. Cleaned house in honor of Ray's arrival - should be coming in on the mail plane tomorrow. Took our

second showers of the trip - nice.  
The food's holding up well - we eat  
better here than we do at home - In  
fact, Neusey had to go on a diet  
yesterday she's getting so fat.

Jan 2 weds 21 sheep facing slope.

9AM can't see sexes. Cold again -  
0°F this am. But warmed to 20°F.

I chinked all day - Phil worked on  
walls in the back 2 rooms of Lanham.

Rag came in ~ 3:30. No problem  
landing in 6" powdery snow. Some  
days go slow - long process of preparing  
walls to put cement in - chipping out  
old cement, insulating, new wire, nails.  
Slow. Go faster w/ 3 of us working,  
I hope.

Jan 3 Thurs. Good days work at Lanham  
I finished chinking North wall, and Phil +  
Rag did the walls in the bathroom and  
back South bedroom. Looks really nice.  
Home for Lunch - female coyote trotted

out into field in front of Taylor Cabin,  
stood for awhile, and he lay down!  
staring SW as though looking for or  
waiting for someone / something. Started  
trotting towards airstrip and ran when  
Phil opened door to take her picture.  
A grouse eating dead aspen leaves out  
front of Taylor all day 10-20°F  
today - bright sunshine. felt warm

Jan 4 Friday

Still working on chinking and  
tongue & groove. Sun came out in  
the afternoon. Not seeing much wild-  
life.

Jan 5 Sat. Figured we'd work through until  
we leave while Rene's 3 of us it goes  
faster. Phil & Ray started on the ceiling  
of the main room. A little tricky - but it's  
coming along. Looks like we'll run out  
of mortar mix for chinking - go through  
it fast. Walk down to bridge this  
morning and on the way back

bumped into the cogotes - They were coming up the airstrip as I was heading for the cabin - ~ 45 meters from me. They looked at me then at each other; one went back to shuffling the snow and the other went slowly into the brush along the river bank. Then the other joined it.

Real cold today - below 0°F this AM and up to 6°F in the Afternoon. Hard to keep warm at Lanham.

Ray is entertaining us with his guitar. It sounds really nice, in the quiet of the evening.

Jan. 6 Sunday  
Putting up tongue & groove on the ceiling while Sarah chinks. Sarah hiked to the top of the ridge above the third bench. Seems a little warmer today, looked ~~the~~ like snow this morning but now fell.

Jan. 7, Monday  
Jeff called this morning. He wants the model numbers from the ~~refrigerators~~ refrigerators since some are being recalled. We made reservations for Phil & Sarah to fly out Saturday. The tongue & groove ceiling is nearly complete in the Tarham cabin. Sarah is still chinking.

Jan 8, Tuesday  
Phil and I finished the T & G ceiling in the Tarham cabin. Sarah continues to chink. Temperatures got above freezing today.

Jan 9, Wednesday  
Phil and I really have one of the bedrooms in the Tarham cabin finished - less the flooring. Sarah continues to chink. Two

sheep came down to the bridge  
across Big Creek this afternoon.

Jan. 10, Thursday

The construction continues.

I talked with Jim Abenson on  
the radio this morning. He is  
caretaking North Star Ranch for  
the next month. Something has  
been chewing on the 1/2 of a deer  
carcass I have hanging near the  
woodshed. It's either a bobcat  
or a racoon, probably the  
former although I can't find  
any tracks. I put stone  
pipe around the wire the  
meat is hanging from in hopes  
the animal will be discouraged.

Jan 11, Friday

Phil & Sarah's last day  
of work. Nearly all of the  
chinking is done and snotty  
pine, including trim is

done, or nearly done, in the two bedrooms and bathrooms. Today temperatures were warm enough to open doors as we worked in the Sashan cabin.

Jan 12 1990 Saturday. Supposed to fly out today but woke up to drizzle and fog - no flights.

Took a long walk up rush creek - frozen so we could walk on the creek itself. Really nice. Came back - ate cookies. Raining hard in afternoon. Still no flights.

Fog came right down to the ranch about 5 pm, and has hovered around the benches all day.

Maybe we'll fly out tomorrow - weather providing. I moved my hangery nest down to the old rabbit shed to keep predators and rain off it.

Jan. 13, Sunday  
Fog, rain, snow, and clouds

all day. Ray A. did not make it in to get Sarah and Phil. We all hiked up to the timbered beach.

Jan. 14, Monday

This is the third day Sarah & Phil have been weathered in. I talked with Jim Ahlsson at North Star Ranch this evening and he said he and Holly waited 6 1/2 days, and once Morris Hornocker waited 14 days. Phil and I built a composte. Sarah spent some time today cleaning logs. I spent the last hour cleaning up the construction mess in the Zerkow cabin.

Jan. 15 Tuesday

We called Jeff so he could relay messages ~~and~~ regarding Sarah & Phil's being weathered.



m. We worked on the cabin right up until Ray A. flew in to get them. I sent out the old battery, used for lights in the cabin, to get charged. I got lots of great stuff in the mail; just like Christmas. I stayed up until the 10:00 PM MST deadline for Iraq to pull out of Kuwait - someone pushed the button.

Jan. 16, Wednesday

At 4:00 PM UN forces, with U.S. in the lead, started war with Iraq. I can only hope no nuclear arms are used. I completed the woodwork in one of the bathrooms today.

Jan. 17 Thursday

Usual stuff, work on the Zasham cabin. Spent the evening listening to war news on the radio.

Jan. 18, Friday

Still putting up knotty pine.  
Scribed a wall into a log wall.  
I saw 2 bunches of elk, 2  
bunches of sheep and 2 coyotes  
before breakfast today.

Jan. 19, Saturday

Cleaned house until 2:30 P.M.  
Hiked up to 2<sup>nd</sup> bench. I saw  
18 elk. Lots of sun today.

Jan. 20, ~~Saturday~~ Sunday

Messed around with arrow  
making, but I've yet to start.  
Baked oatmeal cookies. They came  
out ok, but not great. Elk in  
the lower pasture. Later I saw  
24 sheep, 5 collared, feeding in  
the middle of 32 head of elk. I  
think something is dead up on the  
benches, judging by the bird activity.  
However, I could not locate the  
center of all the activity.

Jan. 21, Monday

I keep forgetting to mention that I checked the water depth in the septic tube four days ago, it was 0." This was not done for several weeks due to the extremely cold weather. Today I cleaned the chimney in the Taylor cabin, and adjusted the angle of the solar panel. I also ~~checked~~ checked all propane tanks on the ranch and took empty ones to the strip. I scribed in a wall end in the Fenham cabin and carried more knotty pine in the cabin. About 40 elk have been hanging out on the second bend for several days. Fresh cougar tracks at the far end of the strip. Had to put my wool pants back on today, cold

Jan. 22, Tuesday  
Am spending my time trying to  
put the trim around 4 doors. We  
should have had wider door casings,  
plus, once again, the Hat. Guard  
should've brought a level. Temps.  
near 0°F again this morning. Still  
lots of elk on the benches, 40+  
although I've only seen 2 bulls, a  
spike and a roghorn.

Jan. 23, Wednesday  
Finished two door trims and  
started putting up ceiling trim.  
A nice sunny day. Still lots of  
elk on the benches. Cougar tracks  
at the head of the airstrips. <sup>Septic Tank</sup>  
tube = 0%  
Temps. 23.2°F

Jan. 24, Thursday.  
Another nice day with temps.  
near zero and mostly sunny skies.  
After finishing up some trim  
and cleaning up I started putting  
up knotty pine on the last wall.

Jan. 25, Friday

Temperatures got up into the teens today, but I was cold all day. Someone else over the radio commented on how bitter it was today. Jeff called this morning wanting some info on the new weather station. I spent the day putting up knothole pins.

Jan. 26 Saturday

I did laundry today, what a chore. I was going to bake cookies but there's not enough brown sugar. Wrote letters.

Forty plus elk on 1<sup>st</sup> bench at sundown. Coyote tracks in the main pasture.

Jan. 27, Sunday

Cleaned house. Took a hike up the ridge behind the cabin. The sun had a little warmth to it. Ordered

a pair of Bean boots & a shirt.  
Intend to start making arrows tonight  
I believe I found mountain goat  
hair on brush, on the ridge behind  
the cabin.

Jan. 28, Monday  
I spent the morning collecting  
information Jeff wanted regarding  
the MET station. I put the info.  
in the mail bag, but Carol informed  
me there is no mail day this Wed.  
Only the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays of  
each month. Worked on the Zanham  
cabin in the afternoon.

Jan. 29, Tuesday  
Finished one wall, and started  
the last wall in the Zanham cabin.  
At this moment there are elk,  
sheep, and deer visible on the hill.  
The clothes I washed Saturday  
finally dried and got put away.  
I was drying them on a rack  
sitting here in the living room. I  
guess I don't keep it very warm.

Jan. 30, Wednesday

Put up knotty pine. In the afternoon Ray A. & Jim Ahanson stopped in after radio-tracking sheep. They brought mail. I got my new binoculars - just like Christmas.

Jan. 31, Thursday

The level in the septic stand pipe was 0". Temps. have been below 0°F at night and have not been above freezing during the day. I will finish putting up knotty pine tomorrow. He'll work on finishing ~~the~~ trim. Took a bag shower.

Feb. 1 Friday

Jeff called this morning. He wants me to send all computer disks and a bibliography of research done at the ranch. I completed the knotty pine in the Larkham cabin, nothing

but trim work left. I got a good start on the bibliography. Thirty five elk hanging out on the first bench. Filled out monthly weather summary and dropped it in the mail bag.

Feb. 2 Saturday

Temperatures went from  $15^{\circ}\text{F}$  this morning to  $45^{\circ}\text{F}$  at 6:00 PM. It's warmer in the cabin now than it's been in weeks. Wrote letters and created arrows.

Feb. 3 Sunday

Cleaned house and cleaned the ashes out of the stove. I spread the ashes on the trail down to Pioneer Cr. to help with the ice that has given me several good spills.

Feb. 4, Monday

I spent the day compiling the bibliography of work generated here. I put that and the computer disks



Jeff asked for, along with my  
hours on the Tanham cabin into  
the mailbag. ~~The~~ Temps got up  
to nearly 50°F. today - warm but  
dreary. Arnolds called and said  
our mail day will be Friday  
instead of Wednesday. I seem to  
have frostbitten a corner of my left  
big toe. I did it last Thursday.  
It's been very sore and is now  
turning dark.

Feb. 5, Tuesday

There was no water in the  
septic stand pipe today. Temps.  
are down to freezing at night and  
near 50°F during the day. Only  
a trace of precip. for the last  
several days. I spent the day  
extending a door-casing out to  
meet the walls. I really  
worked the generator using the  
table saw. I'm tired, but  
there's little to show for my efforts.

I discovered today that a racoon has made a home out of the composter I built. I'll have to put some chicken wire around the inside bottom of it.

Feb 6, Wednesday

I racoon-proofed the composter and moved it to the West end of the garden. Set a trap for woodrats that are making a mess in the grain shed. Still working on the door casing, but I think I'm winning.

Feb. 7, Thursday

I finished the door casing and worked on trim. Sunny all day but I don't believe it rose above freezing. Caught a woodrat in the grain shed. A pair of coyotes took a nap in the ~~lower~~ main pasture early this morning. I haven't seen any elk or sheep in a couple days.

Feb. 8, Friday

Ray A. brought the mail, groceries, and two propane bottles. He didn't bring any regular gas since he hopes to bring in a drum in a few days using the 206. Worked on trim in the Tanham cabin.

Feb. 9, Saturday

Did laundry with the hand plunger. Baked a double batch of cookies. Fledged 4 arrows. Hiked up to the third bench and found the 4 pt. bull I've watched for the past several weeks dead and being fed on by a mountain lion! I got to watch the lion for about 10 sec. at about 100 yds; only the second mt. lion I've ever seen. I salvaged the ivories from the bull.

Feb. 10, Sunday

I hiked down to Snake Cr. trying to find one of Jim & Holly's radio collars that is giving a mortality signal. About the time I was getting close the receiver started dying, my dog and I were pooped by then too. Travel is ~~so~~ tough on the crusted ~~at~~ snow. Big Cr. is completely frozen from the lower pasture to the mouth of Cougar Cr. - good walking. Met Dave Williams, Jerry Jepson's houndsman on his way to Cabin Cr. More people and stock trailing is this coming Tuesday.

Feb. 11, Monday

I found some things in the files Jeff requested. I tried to find a place near or on the sage-brush flat that's within V of A property lines and suitable for locating the MET station. I don't think

The property lines encompass a suitable site. I started drafting a letter to Jeff. Worked on Toaham cabin trim for a couple hrs. There was  $\frac{1}{8}$ " of mud in the Toaham cabin septic stand pipe, temps. near  $40^{\circ}\text{F}$  during the day and in the teens at night, no precip for more ~~than~~ than a week.

Feb. 12, Tuesday

I drafted a letter to Jeff. I set a trap for woodrats in the attic of the lab. Worked on trim in the Toaham cabin.

Feb. 13, Wednesday

It almost ~~felt~~ felt like spring this afternoon. Fitting trim around some boxes and angles is taking longer than I thought.

Feb. 14, Thursday

Another warm day, starting to see mud springing up. In sealing and

trimming around doors now. I really worked the table-saw making more trim today. Haven't caught any woodrats in the lab yet. There is even a few insects flying around today!

Feb. 15, Friday

Worked on trim today, again. We've decided not to salvage the old window trim since trying to put the old pieces and fitting them together would take more time, and not look as good as if I just put new trim on. I caught a woodrat in the Lab. Ripped up to the third bench and saw the weaver again, briefly. My puppy is really in trouble for not minding. She knows it too and is really walking the straight & narrow. She did a perfect heel all the way down from the third bench, once she realized what kind of trouble she was in.

Feb. 16, Saturday

Day off. I intended to go look for Jim & Holly's sheep that's giving a mortality signal, but I woke to rain and it continued most of the day. I cleared house, finished a book, and worked on arrows instead. I've forgotten to mention that last Sunday I saw 2 mountain goats on the north side of Big Cr., east of the Big Cr. Gorge. Tammi Tesh and I saw 6 of them in the same place last spring.

Feb. 17, Sunday

I hiked down to Snake Creek and found Jim & Holly's dead sheep. Intermittent snow-squalls all day. I did not see any mountain goats today.

Feb. 18, Monday

This morning there was just a spot of mud on my stick put in the Tankah cabin stenspaize. There has been

.43" of rain or snow in the last 48 hrs. Temperatures have ~~been~~ been below freezing at night, and above freezing during the day. I spent the day sealing, ~~the~~ planing, and trimming windows. The airstrip has 3 large puddles of water up to 3" deep, with  $\frac{1}{2}$ " of ice on top. I'll tell Arnold's before they try to bring mail in.

Feb. 19, Tuesday

I cancelled an order for more window and door sealer since I found 4 tubes stashed away. I finished all woodwork in the conference room in the Tanham cabin today. There are 9 elk on the east knob, first time I've seen elk in a couple weeks or more.



Feb. 20, Wednesday  
Finished the upper trim in the  
lab and started the windows.  
Warm day, temp.  $75^{\circ}\text{F}$ , and  
water is running everywhere.

Feb. 21, Thursday  
Coyotes have been howling the  
last several mornings. The air-  
strip has a lot of standing water  
up to 4" deep. Tomorrow I'm  
supposed to get mail, finally, but  
I'm afraid the strip may be too  
wet and soft. I'll go look  
at it carefully before morning.  
Trim in the Lab will be  
finished once I complete the  
door.

Feb. 22, Friday  
Another warm day. This morning  
I reported no snow on the ground.  
Ray A. plowed through the wet,  
soft strip about 1:00 PM with

The mail. He had not capped his left wing tank, and when he landed here it had been sucked dry. We found a sealed 55 gal. drum of 100 octane and put 10 gal. of it in his plane so he could get back to Escadon. I finished trim in the lab and one bathroom and just have a window to do in the NE bedroom.

Feb. 23, Saturday

I hiked up Horse Mt. looking for sheep horns. Jesson's houndman and hunter rode by this morn. Cleaned house. Another warm day, but I'm still able to cross Big Creek at the west end of the airstrip on ice. Grass is starting to green up.

Feb. 24, Sunday

Hiked around the benches. Cleaned the cupboards and organized the food.

Feb. 25, Monday

I hooked up some pipes under the Taylor Cabin in case the water breaks loose. Oiled the compostor and put some old refrigerator racks in the bottom to hopefully discourage the raccoon. Went up Pioneer Cr. and looked at the water-box. It has water flowing through it, but the ground between there and the cabin is still frozen solid. The Zanham Cabin septic stand pipe was dry today, ~~top temp.~~ yesterday were  $46^{\circ} + 22^{\circ} F$ , no precip. for more than a week. Finished trim in the NE bedroom.

Feb. 26, Tuesday

I wanted to put the vent pipe for the waterheater in today, but I realized there is no access to the attic. So I spent the day

building a hatch to get into the attic. Still having beautiful weather.

Feb. 27, Wednesday

I plumbed in the vent pipe for the water heater in the Zankan Cabin. Cutting the holes was a real chore. Left a message for Jeff Yeo asking when he's planning to come in so I can make plans for when I'm out.

Feb. 28, Thursday

I notched out the last wall end and boxed in the water heater. Jeff called this morning. The Fish & Game winter survey crew is coming in soon. Jeff will be in about the 26<sup>th</sup> of March. The barometer is taking a nose-dive.

~~Feb~~ Mar. 1, Friday

Filled out the monthly weather summary. Messed with the water system a little. Worked on trim in the S.E. bedroom of the Sanham cabin.

Mar. 2, Saturday

Did laundry, cleaned house, and baked cookies. Went for a hike and found a couple mantys and a rope just off the trail below the third bench. I also found the remains of the ewe that was killed above the first bench in the middle of December. She was drag over the second bench and down to the bottom of Cliff Creek.

Mar. 3, ~~Feb~~ Sunday

Watched it rain most of the day.

Mar. 4, Monday

Messed with water a little, but the line is still frozen. Cleaned the lab since I'm done trapping woodrats. Rearranged the garbage cans and put bungees on the lids. Worked on trim in the Zanham cabin in the afternoon. There was a spot ( $\frac{1}{16}$ " ) of mud in the Zanham septic stand pipe. Yesterdays weather was .16" precip. with a high of  $47^{\circ}\text{F}$  and a low of  $35^{\circ}\text{F}$ . It was the first significant precip. we've had in some time.

March 5, Tuesday

Shuff of snow on the ground this morning. Mail was to come yesterday or today, but weather isn't cooperating. I have an important letter that must get out ASAP. One door and one window left to trim and all the woodwork will be done in the Zanham cabin.

March 6, ~~Thursday~~ Wednesday  
Another blustery day with  
snow squalls moving through.  
I finished all the woodwork  
in the Zenham cabin. This is  
the third day I've strained my  
ears to hear the mail plane  
to no avail. As I finished that  
last sentence I heard the plane.  
Some of the flooring for the  
Zenham cabin came in. My  
sister Judy was on the plane  
~~to~~, a surprise visit.

March 7, Thursday  
Another cold, blustery, day! I  
spent the day collecting cuttings to  
plant along erosion areas on the  
airstrip. I collected very little willow  
since it doesn't seem to be too  
abundant. I collected: Bell willow;  
River birch; Red osier dogwood; and  
an unidentified species. The only

winter key I could find isn't specific to this country. I hope the cuttings other than willow will take. I stored the cuttings in the refrigerator in Arlow's but was unable to get it going. I'll get Arlow's refrigerator working tomorrow. Jerry Johnson's houndsman rode by about 8:00 this morning. Looked like he's headed for town. I'm starting to see a lot more deer in the last week. I haven't seen an elk in quite some time.

March 8, Friday

I did cartage stuff. Cleaned chimneys in refrigerators, fixed the guts in one chimney. Set traps for cabin invaders. Replaced batteries in smoke detectors. Started fixing the big garden cart. Nice day, a little cold though.



Mar. 9, Saturday

Cleaned house, even dusted the logs in the living room of the Taylor cabin. Hiked around Horse Mt. looking for ram horns. Am still able to cross Big Cr., over ice, above the mouth of Ruck.

Mar. 10, Sunday

A lazy day, a blastery one also. Forty plus elk on the benches today; four bulls.

Mar. 11, Monday

Finished fixing the garden cart. Messed with <sup>the</sup> water system a little. Dug out the ~~the~~ bleed-off pipe in the orchard and found the ground frozen an inch or two below the surface. Spent the afternoon moving stuff out of the Tanham cabin. Lots of tools back into the shop and everything else under the eave on the east side of the cabin. I counted 52 elk on the 3<sup>rd</sup> bench this evening. I only saw one branch antlered bull.

The Tanham cabin septic stand pipe was dry today. Temps. yesterday were  $30^{\circ}\text{F}$  up to  $46^{\circ}\text{F}$ , no measurable precip. for several days.

March 12, Tuesday

I moved more stuff out of the Tanham cabin. Finished interior chinking. Resealed the vent pipe since I suspected it was leaking. Did lots of sweeping.

March 13, Wednesday

I replaced warped and damaged flooring in the Tanham cabin. Am in the process of giving the floor a good sweeping before putting down tiles; also hoping temps. will warm up a little more.

Woke up to ~~—~~ 1" of snow that was mostly gone by noon. Lots of elk on the third bench.

March 14, Thursday

Messed with water a little. Cleaned up around the Zanban cabin, burnt some scraps. I got more than 1/2 the cracks and holes filled with "fix-all" in the main room. About 5:30 PM 55 + elk moved down to the Lower Pasture. I watched them from the cougar pen and got to ~~see~~ <sup>see</sup> 2 spikes fighting for a minute or so.

Mar. 15, Friday

I got "Fix all" on all the floor joints in the Zanban cabin except the SE bedroom. Messed with the water system a little, Am just going to have to be patient. I saw a robin today.

Mar. 16, Saturday

Fifty nice elk in the lower

pasture this morning; seven bulls,  
two branch antlered. Swept floors  
and did laundry. After four hours  
my clothes are nearly dry hanging  
on the line outside, nice day.

Mar. 17, Sunday

Called my grocery order in. Dusted  
the house. Hiked to the top of the  
ridge above the benches. Twenty  
one sheep on 1<sup>st</sup> bench at noon.  
Bachelor herd of 6 rams on Horse  
Mnt. above the end of the airstrip.  
The large elk herd is still  
hanging around spend days on the  
Timbered bench. I picked up  
a tick today! Several green-  
winged teal on the creek.

March 18, Monday

I spent the day doing yard  
work, pruning bushes raking  
the yard etc. I only intended  
to spend 1/2 a day doing it,

but it'll be another 1/2 day  
before I finish.

March 19, Tuesday

Finished yard work and  
started a burn pile for all  
the limbs and leaves. Woodrats  
made a mess in the east side  
of the duplex, so I cleaned  
it up. Mice made a mess in  
the cookhouse and I cleaned that  
up also. Split the rest of the  
wood and chanced up all the  
wood chips; added it all to  
the burn pile. The elk herd  
has left the country. Some  
raven activity on the benches,  
makes me think a cougar killed  
an elk. The Fish & Game called  
asking if sheep are frequenting the  
first bench. They asked to have  
salt spread around the bench, and  
a decoy net gun. Wrote a letter  
to Jeff with my hours on the Tender  
cabin.

March 20, Wednesday

I made a decay ret gun and put it on the first bench as the Fish & Game requested. Finished putting "fixall" on all floor joints in the Tankham cabin. Cleared up my burn-pile. I forgot to check the Tankham Cabin Start Pipe until today. Again there was just a spot of mud on the end of the dip stick. Less than .10" rain in the last week and a half. Yesterday's high was  $56^{\circ}\text{F}$ , and the low was  $28^{\circ}\text{F}$ . Carol A. just called and said the mail plane will be coming today yet.

Mar. 21, Thursday

I forgot to mention that a pair of golden eagles were hanging out on the first bench yesterday morning. I sanded all the

floor joints in the Tanham cabin. I guess we're ready to put flooring down, once it warms up. Messed with water a little. Tried to get water to the cookhouse, no luck. Packed the floor tiles, Ray A. brought in yesterday, over to the Tanham cabin. These sheep were on the first bench most of the day.

Mar. 22, Friday

Adjusted the gate to the weather station. Cleaned up the yards around the kid and duplex. Sheep were on the first bench again today. Carol A. called and said Mike Dunbar DVM. flew in to Cabin Cr. today. He and an assistant will be hiking to here tomorrow wanting to spend the night. I assume

He is doing something with  
the sheep. Rather unexpected.

Mar. 23, Saturday

Cleaned house. Tried to make  
salt blocks from loose salt  
by adding water and baking it.  
May have worked if I'd let  
it dry completely. Checked the  
first bench and sheep have  
barely touched <sup>most</sup> salt I put up  
here Wednesday at Fish &  
Jones request. So I didn't  
add my crumbled salt block  
to the pile. Mike Dunbar  
and Rod showed up about  
3:00 PM. He is ~~then~~ trying  
to find snails, a vector for  
lung worm, but it seems  
too early.

Mar. 24, Sunday

I had breakfast with Mike  
and Rod. They hiked back to



Cabin Creek about 10:00 AM. I  
hiked up Rush for a little way  
and saw 2 nice size white fish  
in a beaver pond. Woke up to  
an inch of snow, mostly melted by  
noon. No sheep on the first bench.

Mar: 25, Monday

Jeff called to say he'll be  
in tomorrow, but the baro-  
meter rose dried today. I  
never heard a plane that was  
to pick up Mike Dunbar today  
at Cabin Cr. I cleaned the  
chimney in the Taylor Cabin and  
lowered the angle of the solar  
panel. Found odd jobs to  
keep me busy. Sheep on  
first bench from 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM.  
I also reinforced the pulley  
for the shower bag.

26 March, Tuesday

Jeff flew in w/ Jeff Dappin, Central  
Health & Barry Brunel, DCA, for Dunbar  
cabin septic inspection. A few

modifications are needed Ray flew out for  
a week. About 1600, 20 elk & 9 sheep  
feeding together on bench east of  
3rd main bench. 1  $\frac{3}{4}$  curl ram  
& ~  $3\frac{1}{2}$  curl rams spawning. Sheep  
are within ~50 feet of elk. 1 spike bull  
separate ewe band<sup>(S)</sup> about 100m west  
on face below elk (at least 1  
collared ewe in group); also ~9 elk  
feeding on 3rd bench; also note ~15  
mule deer mixed w/ elk & sheep on 3rd  
bench

27 March 1991, Wednesday

~32 elk came to salt lick ~ 0930  
3 spike bulls w/ group; walked the ranch;  
also up to 1st bench to check salt  
lick & decoy.  $\frac{3}{4}$  &  $\frac{1}{2}$  curl rams adjacent  
lick; ewes, other rams ~ 32 elk  
bedded & feeding on slope east of lick.  
started backfilling drain field on below  
cabin septic system

1700 hrs - mule deer & sheep feeding together on

bench east of 3rd bench; at least 20 sheep  
#11, 2, 9, 3, 4 all heard

28 March, 1991 - Thursday

11 ewes on 1st bench ~ 1330 - 3 w/ collar  
mature bald eagle flew up Big Creek  
this morning. Explored south boundary  
for potential met. station sites. Planted  
willows along airstrip. ~ 16 sheep  
below bench east of 3rd bench - appear  
2 are collared; continued the slow  
job of backfilling septic system; played  
with water system - no luck so far. Message  
from Mike Schlegel this evening asking  
to monitor sheep activity at salt lick.  
This afternoon, ewes were on rocky faces  
east of lick; very agitated - showing back  
& forth - looked like a swarm of mosquitoes  
in the wind. Strong winds & clouds  
started up this afternoon. ewes  
on bench again about 1630; at least  
35 sheep in view at 1900 hr; some some  
feeding w/ elk near 1st bench

29 March 1991 - Friday

ell spent the night on the 1st bench salt lick; some feeding in the cliffs ~ 1/4 mile east of 1st bench; ewes on fire above lower pasture & below 1st bench at 0730 hrs ewe group (~35) on salt lick at 0830 hrs some have joined ewes at salt lick; sheep remained at salt lick until early afternoon, then moved down slope to lower pasture, then back to lick about 1700 hrs. ell moved down onto 3rd bench about the same time.

30 March 1991 - Saturday

beautiful, warm day. Pipe broke in lab. flooded bedroom, bath & half of kitchen. will need to move lab cabinets to fix ruffed grouse have been drumming the last few days

31 March 1991 - Sunday

Dave Hunter, Ted, Mike Schlegel, & Jim Pope came in afternoon. transported net gun to lick

1 April 1991 - Monday

Mike Davis, film crew, etc flew in for sheep capture. Chased some sheep west of Cougar Creek w/o success. Dated previously collared ewe from lick (ear tag BC10). Flew her to Caldwell. Trucks are all over.

2 April 1991 - Tuesday

Continued capture operations for sheep. Dave Hunter dated a ewe above Ram Basin in morning. Mike Schlegel dated one near Cougar Creek in afternoon. Both appeared in good shape before they were flown out. Got message that ewe captured yesterday wasn't doing well. Entire crew left by 1800 hrs.

3 April 1991 - Wednesday

Rag G coming in sometime today.

Yes, unpacked and organized.

After a week some Ribes have leafed out and storkings are

present. A lot less ice and a  
little more green.

April 4, Thursday

Filled out monthly weather summary  
and dropped it in the mail box. Water  
broke loose in Arlows' Cabin.

Some pipes are broken and there  
was 2" of water in the cellar.

Fixed 3 busted pipes in the  
lab, still more to fix.

April 5, Friday

Jeff called this morning with  
more instructions. Spent the day  
fixing plumbing. In the lab: 3

leaks; and 3 leaking drains. In  
Arlows: 2 busted pipes; and

2 leaking faucets. I have water  
heating in Arlows and will take  
the first shower of the year

this evening. Big W. has risen a  
little and has some color to it. The

Dalton ~~but~~ barometer seem to be

working well. A herd of 7 deer  
in the main pasture this evening,  
and a herd of 10+ on the airstrip.

April 6, Saturday

Ray A. flew in the rest of  
the flooring and chimney pipe.  
He had a woman Kate — who  
did an undergrad internship here  
in the late '70's studying para-  
sites in sheep. She now does  
marine mammal work in Alaska.  
Mixed rain & snow most of the  
day. I brought the net gun  
decoy down from the first bench.

April 7, Sunday

Woke up to snow and had  
intermittent snow and sleet  
all day. Big break is clearing  
up. I can see cutthroat  
trout at the mouth of Rush  
Cr. He's checked his hole every  
night for more than 2 months.

and tonight is the first I've seen of the trout.

April 8, Monday

I capped off the SW corner of the Zanban cabin drain field and dug below gravel level and built earth dams to seal off that corner.

Cleaned up, and mopped floors, in the Lab and Alows now that I'm done messing with the water.

Four rams on the first bench this morning. A herd of ~20+ elk moved on to the benches today. I noticed Saturday that the marmots in the lower pasture have awoken.

April 9, Tuesday

Spent the morning drawing up plans for the cabinet Jeff wants me to build. Got a good start on the cabinet in the afternoon.

About 40 elk spent the night in the lower pasture. Four



rams on the first bench again today.

April 10, Wednesday  
Worked on the cabinet all day. Charged the radio battery. Arnolds are not answering the radio for anyone this evening.

This morning about 40 elk moved from the first bench upstream, crossed Big creek ~~and~~ and spent an hour grazing the air strip. Another cold blustery day; the water pipes may never thaw.

April 11, Thursday

Started putting pieces of the cabinet together, cut out more pieces. We've had a light snow all day. Arnolds didn't come on the air until about 9:30. They had their radio on the wrong channel. Two planes flew in & out of Cabin Creek yesterday. Elk on all the benches and lower pasture this evening. Don't know #'s - lots.

April 12, Friday

Jim Pope Jr. flew in a 206 with fuel before 9:00 AM. Jim Pope and Janet Devleige flew their helicopter here from Wapitit Meadows Ranch. I worked on the cabinet. Jeff called and asked to have a few things sent out on the mail plane.

April 13 Saturday

Jim Pope left this morning to meet Fish & Game personnel at the Mormon Ranch. Janet Devleige hiked from here to there. I got the ringer washer working and did laundry. The refrigerator in the Taylor cabin quit working. So I cleaned it out and will have the Fish & Game people help turn it upside down overnight, when they come back in a day or two. Water came on in the cookhouse yesterday, no leaks. Sixty eight elk on the benches this morning.

April 14, Sunday

Cleaned house. Fixed up Horse Mt. Called in the grocery order. Scrubbed out the gas refrigerator. The kerosene refrigerator is running a little cold and it's difficult to adjust. I saw a pair of common mergansers, and a pair of buffleheads' at the ~~end~~ mouth of Rush Creek.

April 15, Monday

Cleaned out the back room and turned the refrigerator up-side-down. Took pictures of the MET station and pit house sites down around the corner. Made 4 wood clamps I'll use to glue boards together for the top of the cabinets. These clamps rate right up

Here with the pawl-wheel  
puller and magnum caulk gun.  
Some of the better back-country  
inventions.

April 16, Tuesday

I turned the refrigerator  
right-side-up and it is work-  
ing again. Boxed up the stuff  
Jeff wants and wrote him a  
short letter with my hours spent  
working on the Takham Cabin.

Spent the rest of the day  
working on the cabinet. Elk in  
the lower pasture this morning.

The F & I helicopter stopped  
here for fuel about 5:00 PM.

Three northern shoublers in the  
creek this evening, 2♂ & 1♀.

April 17, Friday

Mike Doris flew Mike  
Schelzel and Tim Ferguson in  
at 9:00 AM. Janet Dewley

and Jim Pope flew in about 10:30 AM. They began the winter counts on Big Creek. Ray A. flew mail and groceries in about 1:00 PM. We nearly had a mid-air collision when Ray was taking off to the east and the helicopter was landing to the west. Luckily the helicopter veered once the pilot saw Janet waving her arms. Eleven rams on the 1st bench today. A pair of steelhead are on the bar just upstream of the gabions. I went with Mike and Jim to fly the Rush Creek drainage.

April 18, Thursday

Pat Doris flew in to take Janet and gear to McCall. The helicopter moved to McKay Bar. The crew saw a ♀ cougar with 3 cubs on the ridge just NE of the ranch.

April 19, Friday

Nice day for a change. Deer feeding on the air-strip most of the day. I just need to make doors for the cabinet and it will be done.

April 20, Saturday

I hiked up Pioneer Cr. and found a cougar sitting on a freshly killed ewe. At 10 feet the cougar gave me a snarl-growl before retreating to the brush. I collected heart, lung, liver, ~~and~~ and fetus from the ewe and stored them in refrigerator. I found a large although quite decomposed ram's head up Pioneer Cr. Mike Schlegel spotted it from the helicopter Thursday. Eleven rams eating dirt from the bank directly across from the coral this afternoon. Baked a double batch of chocolate chip cookies.

~~The~~ Elk in lower pasture  
last night and again tonight.

April 21, Sunday

Hicest day yet. I hiked up  
Rash Creek, tough going. Elk, deer  
and sheep on first bench this  
evening.

April 22, Monday

I called Mike Schlegel to  
find out if he wants the sam-  
ples from the ewe I found Sat.  
He is trying to get ahead of Dr.  
Dave Hunter to see if it is  
worth a flight. I finished the  
cabinet, then I dropped one of  
the doors and broke it. So, I  
spend an hour making another  
tomorrow. Started cleaning up and  
putting tools away. Jeff called  
to see if anything is needed  
before ~~he~~ he comes in Saturday.  
The cottonwoods by the coral are  
leafing out.

April 23, Tuesday

I sawed up and stacked all the scrap wood around the Zenker cabin. Took the stove apart and started clearing up the cabin in order to start putting the floor down. Rod and Mike Arnold flew in with 2 woodstoves and 1 propane tank. I sent out the sheep parts and Rod will deliver them to Mike Schlegel. The creek is a little up and murky. However, last night I saw 2 ~~stuffed~~ steelhead. I got a message that Dr. Hunter will drive to Cascade tomorrow to get the sheep samples.

April 24, Wednesday

Despite the cold we started laying tile; I just have to wait longer for glue to set up. Con and a bear hunter stopped



by this afternoon.

April 25, Thursday  
Con's packer told me my  
bow was in Jerry Jepson's  
camp. So, I hiked up to  
Cabin Creek and got it; 4 1/2  
hr. round trip. I moved the  
flat-top stove back to the  
cookhouse. Washed the bedding  
for Jeff. However, ~~the~~ snowline  
was down to the first bench  
and it's been snowing most of  
the day; not conducive to drying  
laundry or shining tile.

April 26, Friday  
I fixed a drain in the workhouse.  
Rigged up an A-frame to hoist the  
Lanham cabin septic tank. Glazed  
a window pane and planed a  
door in the L.C. Mowed the lawn.  
Picked up, cleaned up & straight-  
ened up. Hail and snow most of  
the day. Planted potatoes.

April 27, Saturday

Packed up my stuff and moved it to Erlow's. Gave the Taylor cabin a thorough cleaning. Marked out where cabinets go, and tile doesn't, in the Sanham cabin. Read instructions for installing chimneys in T.C. Con stopped by and ~~used~~<sup>used</sup> the radio so a plane would be waiting for him at Cabin Cr. His hunter killed a bear on Rush Cr. yesterday. Woke up to a shift of snow and snow squalls have been coming through again all day.

April 28, Sunday

Flew in from Cascade about 1600 hrs. Ray & I pulled the septic ~~to~~ tank out of the hole with the new come along I brought in. Day mostly clear

but strong winds  
29 April, Monday  
Snow today. Ray & I dug  
out the ~~the~~ hole for the  
septic tank. About 4 hours  
with many big rocks. We  
dropped the tank back  
in & hooked it up. Now the  
slow process of burying it. Also  
we moved the new stove from  
the duplex to the DC. & hooked  
up the 2 burner stove from  
the old lab in its place in  
the duplex. About 20 ewes  
(4 collared) fed on the 1st  
bench & lower pasture much  
of the day. Many elk all  
day w/ many deer wandering  
through occasionally. About  
7 deer in corral this evening,  
fighting over old grain. 2  
shovelers & a widgeon at the

end of the awastrop this evening  
30 April, Tuesday

Ray & I installed roof joists & ceiling supports for both wood stoves in new cabin. Stovepipe in place from chimney cap to ceiling. So now all we need to do is install stoves & the heating system is done. Also, we began back-filling the septic tank. The septic system still needs many hours of monotonous shoveling to finish. At least 18+ sheep on benches as well as 50+ elk.

1. May, Wednesday

Ray & I continued filling in septic tank. Still much dirt to be moved. 6 steelhead along awastrop. 2 along gravelbar & 4 at mouth of Rush Cr. Female digging redd. Ray left today. 4 ewes seemed lined out up Big Creek. Still about 25 sheep using benches.

2 May, Thursday

Walked to Spruce. 2 coyotes, both with white V's like cones from

their shoulders. Both spent many minutes rubbing & rubbing on 1 spot. I think it's where deer bedded or excreted. Several came with ewes today. Haven't seen elk since yesterday.

3 May, Friday

Water came on in Taylor Cabin last night. No major leaks. Duplex also seems fine although I decided not to open system until I need it. 4 ewes crossed Big Creek at the mouth of Rush Cr. this evening, headed up Rush Cr.; staked at mouth of Rush Cr. Parker leading 2 horses & mule headed upstream this evening. Talked to Jim Pelt this evening arrangements for bringing stock in from Challis & also Soviet account & other coming in in early June.

4 May, Saturday

more backfilling of septic drain field.  
washed clothes: bobed cooker.  
Also about 1.25 hours on computer  
before it ran out of juice. Steelhead  
still along air strip. Nam band  
mixed with ewes. At least 2 collared  
ewes still using benches

5 May, Sunday

Elk on airstrip & by new cabin  
This morning. Moved to lower pasture  
by mid-morning. Ewe band on first  
bench. 2 collared ewes. The never-  
ending chore of backfilling the septic  
system continued. I fly out today &  
Phil comes in to cover while I present  
paper on ranch at Jackson Wilderness  
Conference. 2 pair of male: female  
cinnamon teal near mouth of Rush  
Creek w/ male bufflehead

6 May, 9 deer in pm @ bridge 6 Elk  
on Airstrip in A.M. 1 grouse drumming by  
Lanham Cabin, 1 by Taylor Cabin Worked

late 8pm worked on floor Adhesive took longer than expected to set up. Worked on window - patched some areas of floor, fit in septic system. Collected stone for 3 entry ways.

7 May. 6 deer in field, 5 deer just above 1st bench. 1 Buck crossed field (could see knobs on his head.) Finished window and patched ceiling @ inlet for chimney. Almost finished caulking around outside of cabin (bottom course of logs). \* Had more caulk. Worked on trim for outside windows. Had to climb around window. \* Cement had to be broken up and fitted to use. Sun only came out for a short bit late in day. too cool to lay tiles.

8 May Pouring rain all day except for about 1 hr. Walked to Salmon R. Very wet hike but nice. Saw 6 Elk at Goat Cr. 5 deer in field at Taylor Cabin. 1 deer chase coyote away from bunch. 3 Elk on 1st bench.

9 May 1 Coyote crossed field in A.M. 2 Rams crossed over 1st bench. Snow lightly

all day. Backfill Septic Tank, Bill, a  
backpacker visited in afternoon helped Backfill for  
Trade for lunch. Deer in corral at night

1 Coyote crosses field

10 May 2 Coyotes in AM above Lanham  
Cabin, 6 deer @ same area. 11 Elk  
on 3<sup>rd</sup> bench. Worked on Septic system and  
stairs for Entry way with leftover logs.  
Too cool & rain on & off to lay tiles

11 May Rain pouring in AM cleaned house  
& floors, waxed kitchen, back room & bathroom.  
worked on steps for Entry way. and last but not  
least more backfilling

Sun 12 May Hiked up to ridge 15 Big Horn  
Sheep above 3<sup>rd</sup> bench w/ collar.

2 Golden Eagles, 21 Elk in lower pasture.

13 May Backfill Septic Slow, but sure.  
worked on trim for large window N side  
Threshold for entry way.

14 May Backfill, put window in back room  
Backfill around new stairs & entry way  
cleaned Taylor Cabin, picked up Lanham  
Cabin



15 May, Wednesday: flew in about noon.  
unpacked, surveyed ranch. many  
dogwood & a few willows planted along  
airstrip are leafing out. All creeks  
are up. Cliffs Cr. is especially muddy.  
Stealhead along airstrip elk, sheep, &  
deer on benches.

16 May, Thursday: installed low-flow  
shower head, faucet aerator; looked up  
solar electric system in Taylor cabin;  
repaired 1 pack box & built another.  
8 deer next to new cabin this morning.  
elk on 3rd bench & surrounding slopes

17 May, Friday: stealhead above diversion  
dam in Rush Cr.; windy, rainy day  
but warm. Water up in all the streams.  
Water in irrigation ditches from  
Rush Cr. Big Cr. is above the  
tops of gabions at end of airstrip.  
hard rain most of evening. watched single  
coyote by canal. had distinctive white  
V marking on back I'd seen in previous  
pair.

single cougar came up through corral,  
across airstrip to Taylor cabin, moved  
unhindered by outhouse: shed behind  
cabin, then continued up slopes above  
cabin; seemed young or small body size

21 May, Tuesday: Arrived (flew in)  
mid-afternoon - Jeff left  
for Challis & horses, rest  
left with Jack for Cabin Crk  
(fly by at 1630 to verify OK)  
Sunny, hot (76°), humid; cis in the aft.

Clear p.m. Big Creek seems  
really high; Cliff Crk muddy;  
mowed front and side lawns.  
Wind by mouth opening, arrow-leaf  
balsamroot; orchard full of bees;  
amarantia (sp?) in full bloom. Grouse  
drumming.

22 May, Wed: Sunny, warm  
again. Wind in afternoon. Sc  
cis, Finished lawn, worked and  
planted flower bed at front;  
washed windows in + out front  
of Taylor C. What a difference.

Repotted house cactus. Attempted  
starting washer ... no luck,  
wouldn't even turn over. Not  
seeing much wildlife (?). A walk  
to sage bench early evening - mt.  
bluebell, phlox, prairie star, wild  
strawberry and mt. avens (or apache  
plume??) Did weather report for last  
month - ready to mail - and caught up  
this month to date.

23 May Thurs: Summer hot day.  
Tennies gold from dandelion  
pollen. Got some tile laid.  
Stove in Taylor cleaned - ashes +  
glass. Turned on propane & lit  
w. h. in duplex for Jim & I  
tonite. Water pressure low at  
norm - inlet pipe plugged with  
debris - but pressure still low.  
Oregon grape, purple violets.

24 May, Friday: Jim Peck & Nancy Kromb  
flew out w/ Mike Davis about 0800. Horse  
in good shape. water pressure low.  
opened relief valves for upper cabins.  
improved pressure on old lab & Orlew  
cabin but Taylor cabin still low pressure.  
will continue doing thru while streams  
remain high.

25 May, Saturday: Greg Gollberg & Jess Patz,  
summer interns, flew in afternoon. We  
saw elk cow & newborn calf in lower pasture.  
still wobbly: wet.

28 May, Tuesday: found recent elk kill - spike  
bull partially buried on east edge of 3rd  
bench at base of tree. 3 golden eagles  
attending. I think it was a bear kill since  
many bones were crushed. But entire  
carcass was neatly buried so may have  
been cougar. Will check for more sign  
tomorrow. Watched sharp-shin hunting  
below new cabin. Best dove-bombing  
magpies w/ no success.

29 May, Wednesday

rode w/ interns up to Cliff Cr. ridge  
been and looked at the spike bull  
hill. immature golden eagle still  
attending. It appeared that it is a  
cougar hill; that the cougar had  
been back to the hill since  
yesterday.

31 May, Friday.

Ray Arnold flew in w/ 5 propane  
bottles. We cut the taller patches  
of grass on the west end of the  
acrotry & mowed around cabins

1 June, Saturday

moved refrigerators out of Taylor Cabin,  
propane to wood shed; propane to  
new cabin. put in a garden at  
Taylor Cabin.

2 June; Sunday

Gett, Matthias & Tim along with game  
& Ray Arnold flew in for the summer.  
Ray & Grows flew out.

Greg & Lisa left for 3 days on the  
Muddell Fork Salmon searching for raptor  
nests & sightings.

4 June, Tuesday

Greg & Lisa returned. Found 2 heated  
nests

6 June, Thursday

Jim Peck, Paul Krauseman, U. Arvola,  
& Warren Ballard, ADFG, joined in with  
Jack Magee in evening

7 June, Friday

surveyed Golden Creek fire along ridge  
between Cliffs & Cougar Cr. riding  
on Gary, Shatboard & Blue Eyes. Greg  
& Lisa led ahead followed trail  
a few miles further to survey  
cliffs for sheep. Greg & Lisa found  
outfitter camp (Jeppson's?) further  
along trail

8 June, Saturday

w/ Peck, Krauseman, & Ballard on horses  
& Greg & Lisa on foot, journeyed to

Cabin Cr. talked with a few of  
Jeppson's helpers who were cutting  
cottonwoods supposedly at the request  
of USFS. 2 cabins left standing.

foundations left as rubble piles.  
saw a moose across Big Creek at  
Cabin Cr. Jeppson's help said there  
a bull & 3 cow moose hanging  
around the mouth of Cabin Cr.  
found the remains of radioed  
ewe #7 near Brown Basin at  
edge of Big Cr. bone marrow  
had good fat content. transmitter  
still working. Greg & Jan located  
golden eagle nest on cliff across  
Big Cr. at Cabin Cr. at least 1  
eaglet in nest.

9 June, Sunday

Reh, Krauseman, & Ballard left this  
morning; headed for Yellowstone.

10 June Saw one half curl  
ram of 1st bench <sup>8:00</sup> first  
sighting in several weeks  
Kayakers floated by on Big ck.

- Air traffic finally decreased after 3 busy days of planes flying over toward the Middle Fork (boaters?)
- Work continues on new cabin: back fillingptic system and laying tile
- Jeff, Lisa & Greg walked up Pioneer CK - found Cougar killed ewe; saw saw whet owl, sharp shinned hawk & rattlesnake

June, Tuesday

Joe Corllett flew in David Crowder of Idaho State Historical Society with Kenneth and Ann Curtis; Kenneth is the nephew of Jesse Taylor and David is the grand nephew of Dorothy. Jeff, Lisa & Greg to Cabin CK. saw 1 yearling cow & 1 yearling bull moose. Confirmed 1 eagle in eagle



nest. Keep seeing cow  
elf with calf near  
Brown's Basin.

12 June - Tiled new cabin;  
moved lab cabinet from  
old lab to new cabin - had  
to disconnect water. Back filled  
septic tank;  $\frac{1}{2}$  curl ram <sup>meade</sup> boiler

13 June - Greg to Middle Fork  
for overnight - raptor survey  
Lisa doing intensive survey  
around ranch area;

Jeff worked on water in  
old lab; put in trim in  
north bedroom of new cabin

14 June Saw 2 immature  
and 3 mature bull elk  
going up to 2<sup>nd</sup> bench 08:30

Jeff worked on corral after  
it was partially knocked  
down by horses - corral  
is in bad shape, looks like  
its been gobby rigged for  
years

15 June, Saturday - several ewes (I think, quail species) on 1st bench this morning; 5 cow elk on 1st bench this evening. band-tailed pigeons on ranch last couple days

16 June, Sunday - 7 Kayakers on river - two came up to visit - one a UI grad student in clinical psychology & one a Coeur d'Alene high science teacher. Lisa up to benches and beyond looking for raptors. Jeff phoned Pat Kennedy, an accipiter expert, for advice about finding Sharp Shin nests. She suggested that they are late nesters and may not have young yet and that we use a tape recording of their distress call to help locate nests. Greg worked on irrigation in pasture across Big Creek. Jeff

irrigated, tried to catch up  
on journal reading

17 June - Monday - Everyone  
helped dig out irrigation  
ditch next to Cliff Ck and  
repair trail where it had  
been washed out by overflow  
and clear some fallen  
trees. Jeff & Lisa cut  
airstrip. Greg backfilled  
Septic with help from  
Jeff & Lisa & Gerte. Lisa  
laid tile. Greg & Jeff  
moved equipment & furniture  
in new cabin. IH takes  
a couple hours to work  
on airstrip with weed  
eater and takes about  
a pint of ~~gas~~ gas. Pulled  
big braid rdg out of cabin  
draped over line, beat  
with broom then squirted

3 band tailed pigeons i.d ed  
with hose and scrubbed with  
scrub brush and squirted  
again - looks much cleaner.  
Saw 7 ewes with 6 lambs  
around 1300. No collars.

18 June ewe with lamb  
Lisa & Greg to Brecking Ck  
overnight to look for  
raptor nests. Met Dave Giles<sup>& 2 men</sup>  
from Flying B on their way to  
Root Ranch with 11 horses &  
2 mules. Said they would  
have a youth camp for 9-12 year  
olds next week.

19 June Saw 4 cow elk with  
2 calves above Rush Ck.  
Lisa & Greg back - found possible  
Kestrel nests - further i.d.  
needed. Continue seeing tanagers  
evening & black headed gros  
beaks, band-tailed pigeons.  
Also seeing lazuli buntings,  
Calliope hummingbirds

20 June, Thursday - 3 ewes with 1 lamb on 1st bench. Tom chased the ewes who turned on him at the edge of bench, chased him & butted him in the behind. The ewes were shedding out their winter coats.

21 June Checked on the eaglet at Cabin Ck. He's growing & getting dark feathers on back. Two men shooting guns on the other side of Big Ck so didn't see any moose. Met a backpacker named Steve Peck who did an internship here in the 70's. He said the experience profoundly affected his life and emphasized the importance of having undergrads do a research study no matter how clutz they may be. He studied Columbian ground squirrels.

22 June - Blue Eyes fell on the bridge below the cabin, broke the bench and cut his leg, exposing a tendon & cutting a vein. We had to fly in Mike Dunbar to stitch it & bring antibiotic. He checked, wormed & filed teeth of all horses while here. We heard a plane crashed on Sheep Cr. by the Flying B. Martel Morache hiked in from Thunder Mtn. He said the trail was poorly marked and sometimes the map was incorrect. An outfitter's camp at Beartrap Saddle with multiple spur trails caused him to lose the main trail for awhile.

26 June - Wed. 4 elk on lower bench haven't seen any activity for days

27 June, Thursday 13 elk or  
bech; 3 calves; 1 bull  
seen early morning. Elk  
activity on benches all day  
5 calves seen in all.  
Mike Dunbar into drain  
T.F. Skateboard's Ceroma;  
had grown to cantalope size

Elk activity up & down  
benches all day. Many  
more seen in evening.

Continued intermittent  
rain squalls w/ some  
thunder & lightening.

29 June Saturday - Kitty Duernsey  
flew in with husband, Vern; Harry  
& Sylvia Peterson. Dean Mendee  
arrived from Moscow. Jeff spent  
day with Don Mendee shoeing  
horses & mule. <sup>lightening struck</sup>  
<sub>tree behind cabin</sub>

30 June, Sunday - Jim & Pat  
Pek arrived from Moscow

Kitty & Jeff saw 2 elk with  
calves on way to Goat Ck.  
13 elk on benches in p.m.;  
seemed to be cows w/out calves  
in sight.

1 July, Monday Kitty & Verr  
saw ewe with lamb across  
from end of airstrip

2 July, Tuesday Hendee, Guernsey  
Peterson left. Peeks, interns  
& Jeff sampling bench behind  
cabin, Pioneer Ck; <sup>hot weather</sup> is here

3 July, Wednesday Peek et  
al. Sampling Ram Basin  
& Rush Ck.  $\frac{1}{2}$  curl Ram  
on lower bench. <sup>temperatures</sup> in 90s  
<sup>saw Hawk</sup>

4 July, Thursday - Peek, Yeo,  
& interns off for long day  
to sample Mule High

5 July, Friday - Peeks left. Ewe  
on 1st bench. Doe & fawn across  
from Cliff Ck pasture. Eaget still  
in nest at Cabin Ck; growing  
darker



7 July Sunday - 6 bull elk on airstrip, 4 with antlers. Ewe and lamb west of Cougar Ck on talus slope. Drained T.F. Skateboard's Ceroma again - it was huge

8 July Monday - Called Mike Dunbar he recommended watching the Ceroma & draining when necessary. Said he'd call WSU vet school to see if they could suggest alternatives to draining or lancing. Ewe on 1<sup>st</sup> bench for 2 hours later (1500) 3 ewes & 1 lamb were seen dropping down from 1<sup>st</sup> bench

9 July, Tuesday - 3 ewes & 1 lamb on 1<sup>st</sup> bench at 0900. 3 ewes on first bench at 1300. Rattlesnake in front yard by rhubarb plant. We moved it across the river.

T.F.'s Ceroma broke open & flesh protrudes. Called Mike Dunbar he's out of town. Called Dr. Stolt in McCall; he's flying in this

2 landings = Dr. Stoll with McCall  
Minshall's Bear with Bob's air  
Challis

afternoon to put in a drain & give antibiotics - The ceroma had turned into an abscess. Rather than putting in a drain - Bob Stoll lanced it open & cleaned it out. He also looked at Blue Eyes & gave us different medicine for treating him. He said the stitches didn't take so we have a different type of healing situation - now. Wayne Minshall's group arrived to do stream ecology work - a big thunderstorm hit right after they settled in. Two backpackers both alumni of UI stopped by - one is a journeyman plumber and will help with the cabin tomorrow.

3 landings <sup>Bob's air plumber package</sup> Arnold twice (mail)  
10 July, Wednesday - 6 cow elk on 1st bench 0700. Minshall et al. Sampled Cougar & Cliff Cks

11 July, Thursday - Minshall et al sampling Goat and Duncie cks

1 landing Wilderness Aviation to pick up <sup>Barton</sup>

Ed Barton a 62 year old backpack appeared at 9:00. He fell Monday night, hurt his leg up Goat Ck. and walked & rested until arriving at Taylor Ranch. He called out to Wilderness Aviation to pick him up. He left his pack up Goat Ck & had been sleeping out with no gear & little food. Wilderness Aviation picked him up at 2:00. Lactating ewe seen up Goat Ck. Dead lamb sighted by Cougar Ck; no sign of predation.

12 July, Friday - Minshall et al off for Chamberlain. Lisa found old eagle nest up Cliff Ck. Rattlesnake in irrigation ditch by airport shed. Moved it across river. Plumber & helper flew out w/ Arnold.

13 July, Saturday - 1 ewe on 1st bench 11:00. Big coyote up Goat Ck. Large population of knap weed at mouth of Goat Ck.

4 bull elk across from Sheep-  
eater house pit flats 1730.

14 July, Sunday - 27 elk  
(4 calves) up & down the  
benches all a.m. 9 rams,  
one with half curl on  
1st bench 1200 - 1400.

15 July, Monday - 1 ewe on  
bench 1700. 3 person Forest  
Service trail crew through - had  
been flown into Cabin Ck - spent  
a week working on taking apart  
the foundation and will  
spend 3 days on the trail  
between Cabin Ck & the Middle Fk.

16 July, Tuesday - 2 elk on 1st  
bench 0630

17 July, Wed. - Bear on 3rd  
bench 1900

18 July, Thurs - 14 sheep on 1st  
bench 1400. One was radio collared.

19 July, Friday - 1 ewe on 1st bench  
1600 - 12 sighted above 3rd bench.  
Minshalls et al. arrived from  
Chamberlain

20 July, Sat. - Rattlesnake at bottom of path from Taylor Cabin to airstrip by gate. Moved across river. Minsha left for home through Craggs. Unauthorized landing by group of fishermen. They landed without first checking the airstrip though the pilot had never been here before. We had water on the strip with bright orange hoses.

21 July, Sun - Nancy Matthews and Lyn Mineur from the Dean's Office hiked in from Big Ck.

23 July, Tues. John Hendee, Bill Whorf (Wilderness Watch) and Patty Steger (F.S.) flew into Cabin Ck - Jeff met them with the mule to pack their gear. Hendee & Steger had planned to fly out of Taylor Ranch in p.m. but thunderstorms prevented

24 July, Wed. Steger, Hendee,  
Whorf, Matthews & Mineur out.  
Fish & Game flew in unannounced.  
Terry Holowitz & Charlie Petrosky  
to census fish in Rush Ck  
mouth. Big Ck is really  
muddy from the intense  
rain.

25 July, Thurs. - Holowitz and  
Petrosky out. Big Ck still  
muddy & running higher.  
Intermittent thunderstorms  
with intense rain continue.

26 July, Fri - Jeff and interns  
doing vegetation on Rush Ck;  
Big cottonwood blew over.  
Big Creek chalky colored

27 July, Sat. - Big rattlesnake  
in garden - moved it across  
the river with the other 3. Big  
Creek still muddy but not chalky;  
Rush Ck still chalky. Jeff &  
interns put in pit fall traps  
at mouth of Rush Ck. 4 cow  
elk (probably more) seen coming

down from 1st bench to water  
2000.

(on 1st bench)  
28 July, Sun - 3 cows & calves  
0700. Saw 2 ewe & yearling  
ram on Middle Fork <sup>of Salmon</sup> across  
from Fox Creek. The yearling  
and one ewe were coughing.  
Then saw 6 ewes & 3 lambs  
on the same side of the  
river as the trail down  
stream from Fox Ck. - The  
Middle Fk is clear but Big  
is still muddy.

29 July, Monday - 24 elk on 1st & 2nd  
bench at least 6 calves & 2 bulls  
with big racks 0630. Cow & calf  
across Big Ck from housepit flats  
1000. 8 ewes on 1st bench  
1530. Back packing vet, Paul  
McWilliams looked at horses.  
thinks they are healing without  
complication. Suggested we  
use saline solution for  
washing wounds.

30 July, Tues - Many elk up & down benches to river. We've heard them calling at night all week. Big Ck still muddy but clearing. Jess Taylor's great grand niece hiked through with husband. They are geologists in Texas

31 July, Wed - Rattlesnake on bridge between Duplex and Taylor's Cabin.

2 Aug, Fri - 4 ewes on 1<sup>st</sup> bench. Interns out.

4 Aug. Sun - River almost clear, but can still see signs of blowout - eddies now have silty bottoms.

5 Aug. Mon - Lisa Lombardi, intern from late 70's hiked in from Big Ck. w/ friend & 2 young boys (ages approx. 9 and 11) They had planned to stay here & fly out of here, but after a tour went down to camp at the Sheepeater house & flat. Blue Heron in tree by hay shed 0900.



8 Aug Bruce Rich & 3 tech. aids from  
F&G came down Rush Ck.  
doing fish census

6 Aug, Tues - Two rattlesnakes  
by Big Ck. Jeff stepped on one  
as we observed the other. One  
cow elk on benches

7 Aug, Wed - Possible? moose  
sighting in pasture below  
duplex

9 Aug, Friday. 5 ewes & one 1/2 curl  
ram up Cliff Ck; Elk heard calling  
to calves. Set up monitoring  
site in burned over mahogany  
stand.

10 Aug. Saturday - Rich and F&G  
crew flew out. Cow moose  
approx. 2 yrs. old along Big Ck  
close to Cougar Ck. Took pictures  
of colonies of knapweed at Soldier  
Bar & Goat Ck.

11 Aug Sunday - Moose (2 yr old,  
female) wandering all over range  
between 0830-0900! 2 Germans  
riding 2 horses & packing one rented from  
Whitewater Outfitters on their way to  
Twin Peaks Ranch<sup>a</sup>. Wanted directions  
and to buy beer.

12 Aug. Monday - Moose running  
all over ranch again 0500-0600.

13 Aug. Tues. - Went to Middle  
Fk. Fresh moose tracks  
seen on trail around (Closser  
Sheepster) House & Flat.

14 Aug. Wed. - Fire in sec 22  
junction of Rush Ck & West  
Fk of Rush Ck started mid  
afternoon. Spotted by Forest  
Service tankler. We noticed  
smoke in the air about 1600  
Climbed up on bench behind  
cabin about 1815 and saw  
Smoke column. When we  
returned at 1830 F.S. helicopter  
landed to say the fire had  
blown up to 60 acres. They  
tried to jump it when it  
was  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre but it was too  
windy & they couldn't find a  
spot to land a helicopter.  
They're going to watch it and  
if necessary protect the ranch.

15 Aug. Thurs. Fire grew to 300 acres during night. Air is smoky. F.S. decided not to fight it due to steepness of country. Appart tried to jump it & drop slurry while it was still small but winds were too strong to get close enough. F.S. decided to protect the ranch. They set up communications & flew in 2 crews with gear. Will string hoses all around the ranch & set up pumps. Another crew will be flown in tomorrow a.m. Constant helicopter activity. Horses restless in corral. Saw small black bear running down Big ck trail to Cliff ck at 1130.

16 Aug. Fri - Constant helicopter activity all day. People everywhere.

Crews helped with ranch work  
firewood, septic backfill etc.  
after stringing hose. Rain  
started 1600. Very intense  
for August rain, some thunder  
and lightning.

17 Aug. Sat. Rain measured  
.49, really put the fire down.  
Crews will remain until  
Monday so pull out will not  
interfer with outfitter air traffic  
to Middle Fork. Hose & pumps  
will stay in place until Sept.  
in case fire flares up. Big  
Creek started running  
milky about 1500. Rush Ck  
is still running clear.

Crews did lots of work around  
ranch. Took down fence around  
pasture across river. Built fence  
around new cabir (w/ 2 gates).  
Built deluxe outhouse for  
new cabir, built pole fence  
from Big Ck bridge west, started

building a sauna above  
Conyer Cabin, started building  
fence between air strip and  
supper pasture. Fire  
reached 600 acres before rain  
18 Aug Sunday - Went to Gorge  
with 2 crews to do trail work.  
Saw the moose on the way back  
on the other side of Big Ck between  
Cougar Ck & 2nd Sheepeater  
House Pit Flat. Crews continued  
to work on ranch projects. The  
Union Crew finished a deluxe  
outhouse for the new cabin and  
the Redmond Crew finish the  
fence around the cabin with  
2 gates. Rattlesnake removed  
from area around new cabin  
(Found 2 mating rattlesnakes)  
on trail by Soldier Bar (crossing  
Big Ck. pretty much clear  
today.

19 Aug Monday - F.S. crews  
pulled out today. Everyone was  
gone by 1300. Saw Con & string go  
up to Cliff Ck camp.

20 Aug Tuesday - Looked for salmon  
along the airstrip (again) Still  
didn't see any. Big Ck. is low  
and clear. Saw Con come down.

21 Aug. Wednesday - Jette, Mathias, & Tim  
left today. Ron N, Mike Scott & John  
Marshall came in on same flight for  
a couple days. Discussed research  
opportunities; John Marshall sampled  
leaf temperatures of cottonwood, birch,  
Douglas-fir and ponderosa to assess  
transpiration rates.

23 Aug. Friday - Ron, John & Mike left.  
Dean Hendee, Ken Cordell, Director of  
Recreation Research for USFS, and  
Ruth Movahan, Krossel District Manager,  
walked down from Cabin Cr - discussion  
of research opportunities

24 Aug Saturday - Dean, Ken, Kath  
leave. Kon Menden in to shoe  
horses. spotted 3 rams on 1st  
bench, largest slightly less than  
 $\frac{3}{4}$  curl - about noon.

25 Aug Sunday - nonhardy family in  
for memorial to Frank Nonhardy  
who died suddenly while working  
at a dig in Hell's Canyon. were  
here all day. High winds during  
afternoon inflamed Kuchle fire  
went to ~2000 ac. heavy smoke  
in canyon

26 Aug Monday - 2 hotshot crews  
in today - Caren & St Joe Forest.  
Bill Murphy & Tom French in again  
to win the show. fire is within  
a mile of the lookout. Apparently  
Kon Hainhani horses were spotted  
near the lookout. FS set up a  
satellite dish for phone communication.  
Even have a FAX machine!

1st salmon I've seen this year at  
end of airstrip near swimming hole  
27 Aug. Tuesday - fire crews work on  
ranch projects - remove remaining fence  
from lower pasture, finishing saws, trim  
around windows & doors of new lab  
fire spatter along, no major changes  
in its perimeter

28 Aug. Wednesday - fire crew spotted a  
sheep in cliffs across from crossing  
at east end of air strip. surprisingly  
with all the helicopters and  
generators running from 0700 - 2200 hrs

29 Aug. Thursday - more salmon spotted  
along airstrip & dead salmon in pools  
near Cabin Creek. The fire creeps along

30 Aug. Friday - bear seen by fire crews  
across from airstrip climbing up short  
face near gate along Big Creek trail

2 Sept. Tuesday - last 3 days we've  
seen 1-2 ewes on 1st bench every  
day; when white helicopters are  
coming in. Rush Creek fire near  
Rush Cr. lookout - fire retardant dropped  
around lookout

area south of Big Creek between due to fire  
Canyon in 1st bench closed by USFS



9/3-9/6: Rush Cr. fire makes steady progress. Wayne Marshall calls; wants to come in to place sampling equipment in Lewis Cr in case fire burns over drainage.

9/7: Wayne Marshall & Chris come into Big Creek; flown by USFS helicopter to here. Sampling equipment left at Big Creek.

9/8: Marshall's sampling equipment arrives midday. Wayne, Chris, I, & 2 fire crew (Eric & Kim Gayford) wade up Rush Cr. to mouth of Lewis Cr. Got there late so we spent the night w/o shelter, sleeping bags, & a few peanuts & raisins. Very cold so we spent the night huddled around the fire.

9/9: very hungry & tired we hiked straight up narrow ridge from mouth of Lewis Creek to saddle into Pioneer Cr. Very hard going.

five crews are using cow manure near  
coolhouse

and even tougher with no energy  
from lack of food & sleep. Met in  
bottom of Pioneer Cr. by 2 fire crew  
with food. Saf. Jess Taylor's old  
camps in saddle we passed through.

9/10: Wayne & Chris fly out to Chalko.  
weather gets cold & wet. Ranch Cr  
fire not doing much.

9/11: Jim Rehr flies in on mail plane  
to get his mare & milk. Helena &  
St Joe crew demobilizes, replaced by  
La Grande/HC.

9/12: I rode with Jim to Garden Cr.  
then back to ranch on Gray. Jim  
plans to go all the way out to  
Big Creek; <sup>ran into spring crew manure between</sup> Ram Basin & Gobain Basin

9/14: USFS demobilizes. leave pumps,  
sprinklers, etc here. weather cold.  
no smoke.

9/15: ~6 sheep on top of slope above  
1st bench. didn't get a good look at  
them. very low-flying plane (~50-100 ft)

flew up canyon, barely skimming  
trees, flew length of ranch this  
morning

9/17: USFS helicopter in; Craig Lewis  
& Peggy Heffner - budget; contract people -  
began paperwork for stolen chops,  
buckle, and use of ranch during  
fire protection; Ray Arnold flew in  
for empty propane bottles  
hunters rode by; I shooting several  
times at something below the trail  
on the ranch. Didn't see road to  
my eyes but rode on.

9/19: Pat Davis and another hunter  
came through up Proven Cr. with  
sheep tags & other gear (Dick  
Winton & Daryl Stanton?) stopped  
by on horses to view range & learn  
some of its history. Both went to  
Ct in 1950's. 1 doe & 2 fawns in  
corral & hay stack. Pasture is  
pretty well eaten down. 6 horse

for 4 months is a bit heavy for  
the anatomy & main posture. 6 were  
sighted this afternoon on low bench  
west of 1st bench. no collars seen.  
but didn't get a good look at all of  
them.

9/20: Bear tore apart compressor near  
Taylor cabin for second night in a row.  
Chuck Hawkins, USFS, investigator flew in  
to question me about stolen truck. told me  
there was cavalry cannon abandoned during  
sheepstealer campaign somewhere in lower  
Big Creek. This story he'd gotten from the  
nephew of the fellow who found it in  
recent years. found old 5 gal. can  
with bottom rusted out hanging in tree  
above trail to Rush Cr. bench. I wonder  
if it was used to bait bears or coyotes  
or something. very windy this afternoon  
and warm. smelled a little smoke  
but no plumes of smoke visible from  
Rush Cr. bench.

9/21: Pat Dorcas came of Pioneer Cr. Today. He found a large ram (>full sized) skull with horn sheaths. windy most of the day. climbed to second bench & watched smoke plumes in Rush Cr. can see entire faces burned off. appears that fire has reached mouth of Lewis Cr.

9/23: eventful day. Mark Douth, Mt safety person, & Art Partridge flew in this morning. Art blew up a box of blasting caps found in the old propane freezer behind the Conyer cabin. Quite a bang. Completely disintegrated everything. Blew it on the gravel bar along the airstrip. I discovered a box of coyote gitters and strychnine poison in the Taylor cabin attic. Mark & I discovered another can of strychnine in the shops. All these and many more toxics & hazardous wastes were flown out. all the melatonin was flown out too. So I'm finally getting most of the harmful stuff out of

here. Neil Roach? stopped by with a  
very lame Appy mare. We gave her  
some penicillin for an infected foot  
from a puncture wounds. She had  
a mess of other wounds which I doctored.  
Watch a nice size cinnamon-colored  
bear in the main pasture by the  
bridge. It was feeding on something  
but was very watchful. Beautiful  
full moon tonight. Fine Indian  
summer day. As it gets darker, deer  
have come out into the main pasture  
feeding. I imagine they'll be hitting  
the hay stack soon.

9/24: bear tore my laundry off the  
clothes line. Along with deer, the bear  
has been eating into ash berries around  
cabin. streams are getting colder. found  
7 juvenile salmon (w/par marks) in  
main pasture irrigation ditches. apparently  
they're moving downstream into warmer  
water but getting diverted into the

ditches, so I shut down all the  
ditches.

9/27: John Murdy flew in today. He'll  
manage the place until Ray Guse  
comes in November. Steve Gittle  
stopped by for a while. Reported fire  
lines on Dunes Creek in response to  
Golden Creek fire and back burning  
Gout Cr which burned by their camp  
in Gout Basin.

9/28 Jess left this morning with the stock.

He is planning to get to the Mormon ranch  
tonight, the ranch tomorrow, and  
fly to Moscow the next day. It has  
drizzled all day long.

10/1 The Forest Service came in today and  
collected the remainder of their hose, pumps  
and radio equipment.

10/2 Arnolds brought in a refrigerator for  
the cook house.

10/11 Two airplanes came in,  
bringing five state fish and

game persons, and an ewe with lamb. The ewe had been darted up Big Creek in the spring, and the lamb was born in captivity. The pair was placed in the middle of the airstrip. Radio telemetry collars were placed on them, and hobbles and blind folds were removed. Both mother and daughter sprung up and headed towards Big Creek, but in minutes were going in separate directions, possibly due to lingering effects of tranquilizers. The ewe crossed Big Creek and started a meandering zig zag up the slope, paying little attention to the lamb. The lamb ran down (west) the airstrip and then back up, as we attempted to herd her towards the creek. Finally she laid down. After another vigorous herding session, we finally got her feet wet. On our last try, she went center stream, but rather than cross Big creek, she ran down the middle



For 75-100 YOS. Finally she did cross, and followed the same circuitous route as her mother, who was by now slowing her upward progression, possibly in waiting. This entire incident took over an hour from the time the sheep were initially released. I was given a number to call if it appears that they haven't gotten back together.

10-12 The ewe came back down the slope near dark last night, but headed up the hill alone. I did not see the lamb. Today I walked around the slopes above Cliff creek, without any sign of lamb or ewe.

10-13 1700 - I looked over and saw eleven sheep, ewes and lambs, going around a corner. I couldn't tell if any were collared. It's the first sheep I've seen in 5 weeks up here (off and on). They must know that:  
1) The fire crews are gone.  
2) Sheep season ends today.

Jim + Holly,

Here's my journal from Taylor Ranch in 1988, that I've been meaning to send for 6 months now.

Hope you're having a good summer.

Love,  
Janice



P.S. Just received a letter from Ray. He said you may be heading back to Taylor Ranch! What did you decide?