



Idaho State University  
Pocatello, Idaho  
83209-0009

Department of Biological Sciences  
Campus Box 8007  
(208) 236-3765

August 15, 1988

Jim and Holly Akenson  
Taylor Ranch Field Station  
Air Star Route  
Cascade, Idaho 83611

Dear Jim and Holly:

We had a great trip! Among other things, we hiked over 150 miles without major mishap, sampled 18 sites (including 8 on Big Creek), collected 130 samples each of invertebrates and algae, measured the dimensions of 800 rock substrates, and determined over 1000 current velocities. Now the work begins!

A couple of noteworthy things concerning our hike out from Taylor Ranch: (1) That stretch between the ranch and Coxey's Creek was about the driest (in terms of trustworthy drinking water) that we encountered on the entire trip. We sure were thankful that Jim had told us about that spring! (We never did find the waterhole at Garden Cr.). (2) Just past Brown's Basin we encountered a Bighorn ewe on the trail. She seemed hesitant to get up. She went a little way down the trail, then came back for her lamb which was 30 feet or so above the trail. She seemed to walk stiff-legged and to stagger a bit as they left. The lamb didn't seem independent enough to make it on its own if the ewe didn't survive. (3) The most disconcerting part of the whole trip was having to follow the tire tracks of a 4-wheel vehicle, from Monumental Creek to the trailhead at Smith Creek. We also passed a number of places where the intruders had hacked down living trees and chopped out deadfalls. A rain on our last day pretty well obliterated the fine details of their tread marks, so I doubt that they will ever be caught. I wonder if they crossed the pack bridge at Monumental?

We did get back home with our broken trailer, although it was touch and go all of the way. The trailer virtually disintegrated at every seam and bolt from the vibration, especially in the stretch from Big Creek to Stanley. We eventually had to stop and have some emergency welding done to hold it together. Luckily we found a kind hearted soul at work in his shop who took pity on us even though it was Sunday.

Our stay at Taylor Ranch was one of the highlights of our odyssey. Thank you both very much for your hospitality and generosity and for helping to make our trek a truly memorable one. I hope that we will be able to utilize your great facility again in the future for conducting additional research on stream ecology (and for learning more about horse/mule packing and farming). We also hope that you will be able to visit us in September and teach us how to get our horses working as a team. Maybe you could also help us develop a hitch for fastening a top load to the saddle type panniers at that time. It seems to me that we might have to invent something new for that one.

Best regards,

*Wayne*

G. Wayne Minshall

P.S. I will send reprints of our work in the Salmon River basin later when I have more time to sort through them.

*Hi Jim & Hally -*

*We found your letter when we arrived home. Sorry about the rules we inadvertently broke - especially not mopping the lab floor or carrying out our non-burnable garbage. Hope that didn't cause you any major problems. When I asked Sarah what to do with the trash, she said to separate it - but didn't say to carry it out. We sure enjoyed our visit. I'm very envious of your neat living & working conditions! Don't know why you'd ever want to leave. Do you know yet when in Sept. you'll be coming down to INEL? We may try to get up to Cooke City, Mont. for a brief visit sometime next month - so as soon as your plans are finalized, could you let us know? We sure don't want to miss your visit! Things are starting to calm down here. We hauled >127 hay (in 85-90# bales!) last week - Hope we're done finally. Putting hay up loose looks better all the*

time! Things are so dry here there's all kinds of fire  
danger. One big fire came fairly close to our farm  
while we were gone & we've had lots of smoke, ash, etc  
from a big fire on Walker Creek this past week -  
Fire fighting planes flying low over our house -  
fires lighting up the sky at night, etc. Wild place!  
Hope all is well with you. See you next month.

Peace -  
Judy

# NEWS RELEASE

March 10, 1987

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Payette National Forest

*I heard Ed say that if these were held in '88, they would be only for pilots or those who would arrange their own transportation - though he may change his mind.*

### Volunteers Sought For Backcountry Air Strip Maintenance

The U.S. Forest Service is again seeking fly-in volunteers to perform general maintenance at a few of Central Idaho's remote airstrips this year. The Forest Service initiated this program last year and felt that it was very successful.

Needed maintenance includes runway surface smoothing, spot grass seeding, removal of small trees, rocks and brush, installation of water diversions, smoothing of rodent holes, and drainage maintenance.

Work days planned for the 1987 season are: May 23 at Cabin Creek, June 6, at Chamberlain, and July 11 at Cold Meadows. All supplies and materials will be furnished by the Forest Service. All services will be performed on a volunteer basis. Pilots, as well as interested non flying people are invited to participate. If you wish to be a part of one of these work days and need transportation we will try and help secure a ride for you. If you are a pilot and willing to help with transportation you may work together with us to coordinate.

If you have further questions, or are willing to help with this volunteer effort this year please contact:

Ed Allen  
Krassel Ranger District  
Box 1026  
McCall, ID 83638

or call: (208) 634-8151 ext 261

Replies should be made by April 30, 1987.

RECEIVED KRASSEL R.D.		
MAR 09 1987		
DR	1	<i>Ed</i>
EC		
FMO	2	<i>RB</i>
REC	3	
F/WL		
BMA		
CLK		
<i>ED</i>		

Big Creek	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chamberlain	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cold Meadows	<input type="checkbox"/>
Southfork	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

The Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, is committed to the policy that all persons shall have access to its programs, facilities, and employment without regard to race, religion, color, sex, age, or national origin.



Phone: (208)634-8151  
P.O. Box 1026 McCall, ID. 83638

Cold Meadows  
Saturday Aug 8

Hi,

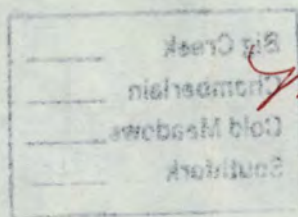
Holly, you'd asked something about these airfield days when we were there in the spring... no big deal I know, but had this release & thought I'd pass it on for general interest.

Hope Lewis & Ray got out OK & Rod brought some fishermen-for-Black Lake in about 1 pm. I didn't talk to Rod, but wondered if Jaylor was on the back haul— Given it was mid day, I doubted it, but you don't have to go by F. S. restrictions.

There was frost still left in the shade when we returned yesterday — & again this morning. Hard to imagine the climate difference betw. there & here.

I always like our work swings & camp spots on Big Creek. And visiting with you.

Thanks again for everything —



Margaret Roly