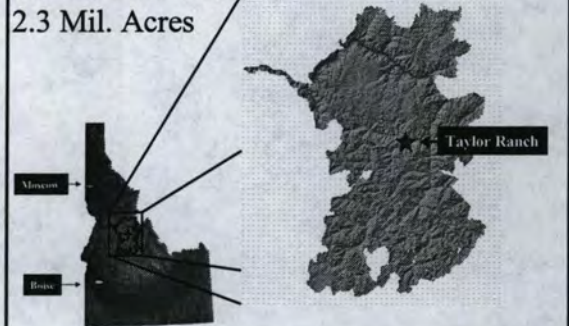


**The Idaho Backcountry:
A History of Taylor Ranch**



Jim Akenson

**Frank Church River of No
Return Wilderness,
2.3 Mil. Acres**



**“Cougar” Dave Lewis
Warren Times Newspaper, April 1888**



“Cougar Dave Lewis, who lives over in Middle Fork country took out and was paid bounty for 12 cougar, 1 bear, and a coyote.”



Lou Caswell

Caswell Diary, Cabin Creek February 9, 1900



"Went to strychnine bait on Horse Mountain and found 2 tremendous big dead lions. One of the lions had eaten a hole in the skin of the other lion and spoiled it. Brought home the lion tallow to make soap."

(The 3 brothers recorded killing 25 cougars, 5 bears, 2 coyotes, 1 bobcat, 1 wolf, and 175 ungulates in 5 years)

A Century of History

- Three Phases
 - Homesteading (1899 - 1927)
 - Outfitting (1915 - 1969)
 - Science/Education (1970 - present)
- Three People
 - Frontiersman (Dave Lewis)
 - Outfitter (Jess Taylor)
 - Scientist (Maurice Hornocker)

1911 Lewis Place

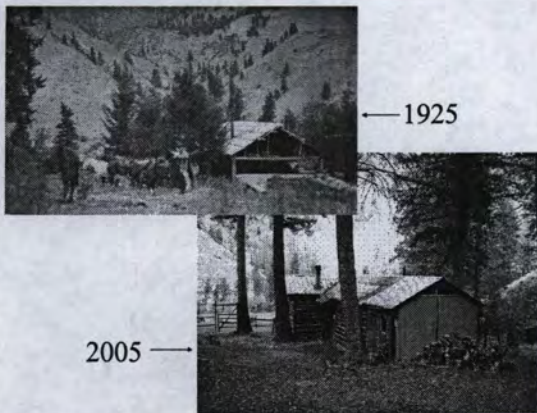


1899 - 1910 used site, but not as permanent resident

Early Forest Service and Big Creek Residents



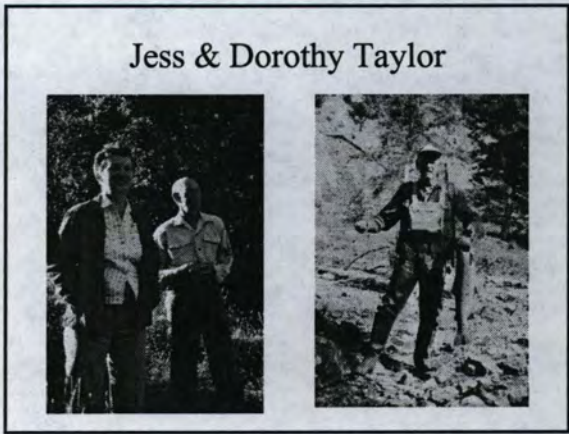
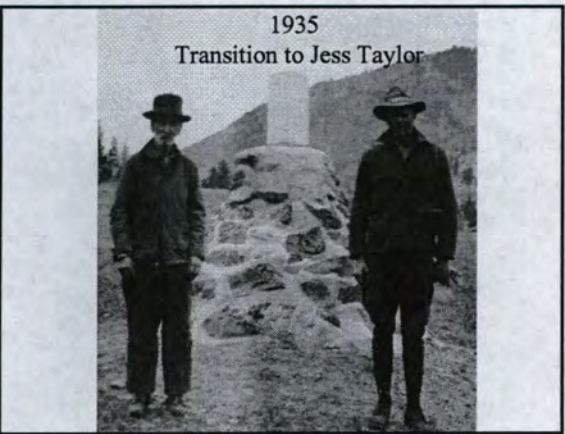
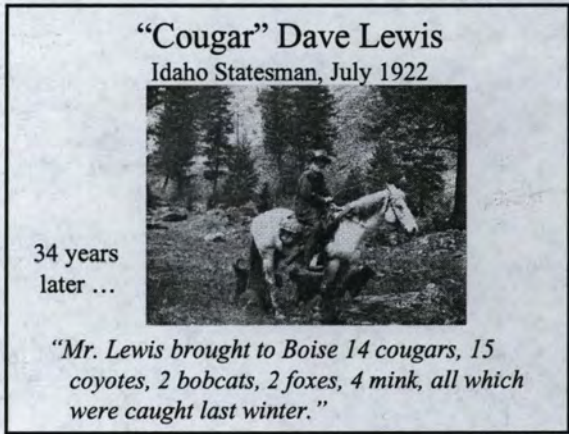
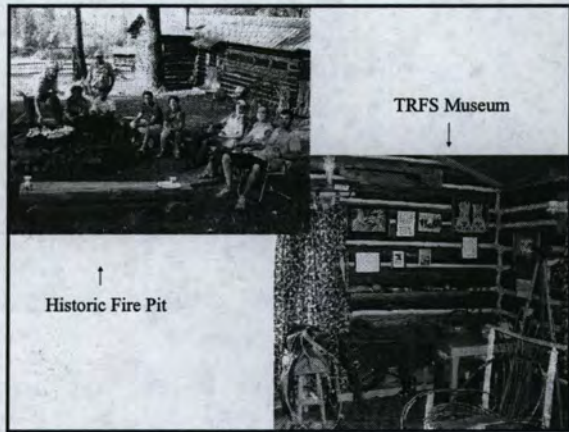
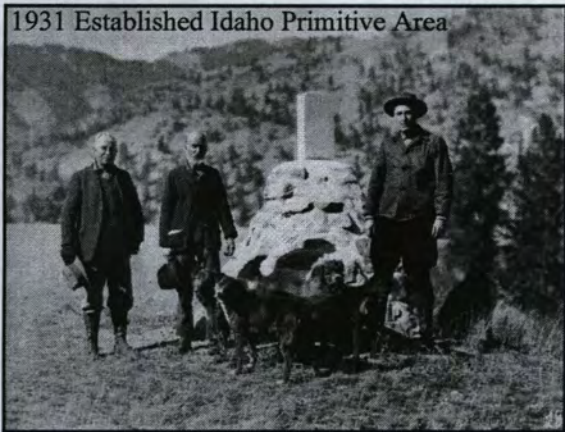
....sometimes "one in the same"

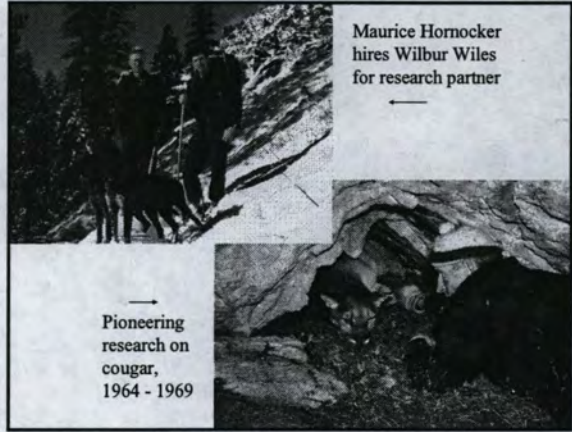


The Lewis Place and surrounding land became part of the Idaho National Forest in 1919.



Forest Homestead Act in 1906





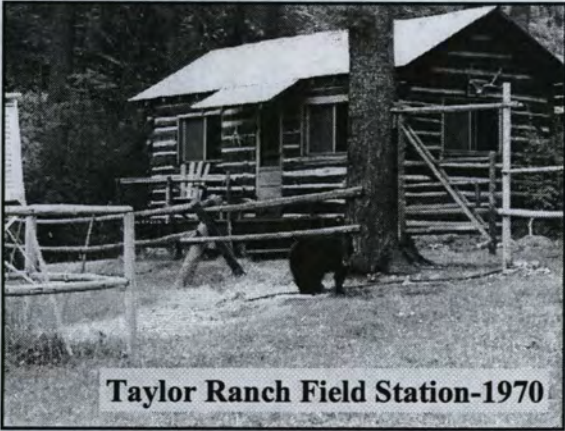
Big Creek Winter Range



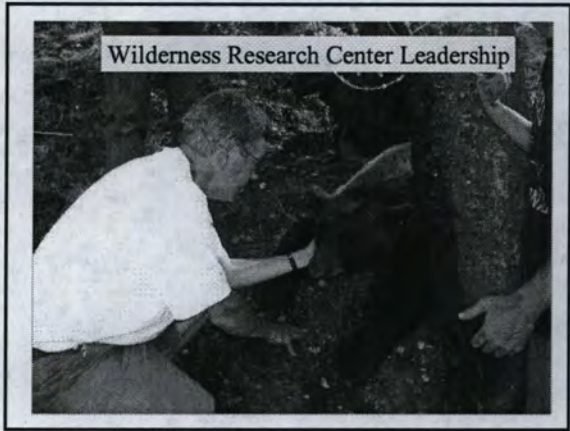
Maurice Hornocker



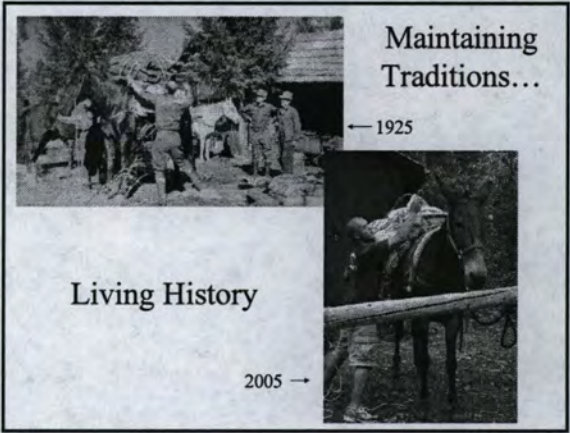
Vision of a Wilderness Field Station for University of Idaho



Taylor Ranch Field Station-1970

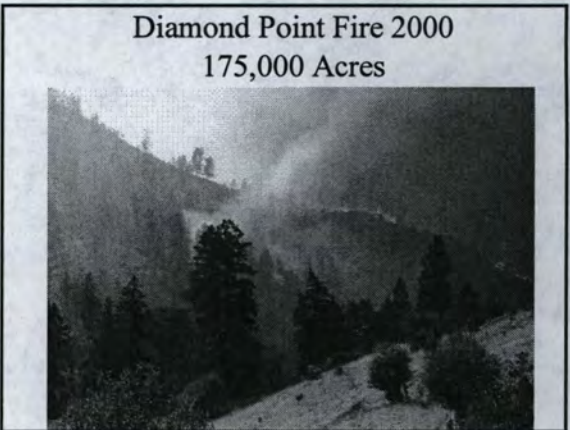
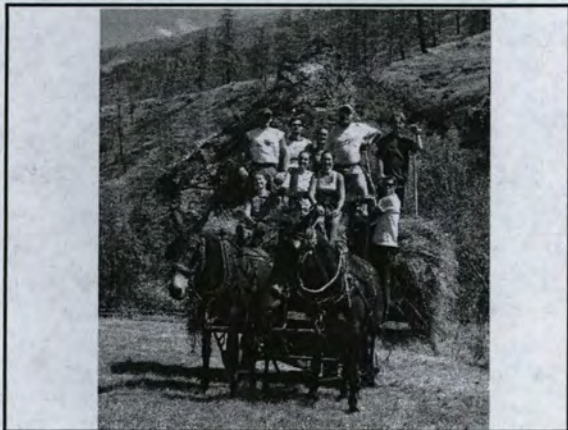


Wilderness Research Center Leadership



Maintaining Traditions...

Living History



Diamond Point Fire 2000
175,000 Acres



Holly Akenson
Jim Akenson

←

→
Pat Cary Peek

90 year
comparison

Big Creek
Fire History

America's Wildest Classroom

Biology

Archaeology



Lou Caswell:
"Wolf howled, the
first time"

Dec. 7, 1895,
Caswell Diary
from Cabin
Creek on Big
Creek.

