



# MULTIPLE USE IN ACTION

## PUBLIC LANDS - NATURAL RESOURCES WATER - RECREATION

VOLUME 1, NO. 1

MULTIPLE USE IN ACTION

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# The Wilderness: Just How Much Is Wild?

by Eric Julber  
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The prevailing philosophy in this country with regard to the use of areas classified as Wilderness has become a type which can be termed the "purist-conservationist" philosophy.

The purist is, generally speaking, against everything. He is against roads, campgrounds, ski lifts, aerial tramways, and restaurants. He has very strong ideas about who deserves to enjoy natural beauty, and ideally, and purist would reserve beauty for those who are willing or able to walk, hike, climb, crawl, or cliff-hang to achieve it. These purist standards have been embodied in the Wilderness Act of 1964, which provides that such areas, there shall be no "permanent road . . . no temporary road . . . no mechanical transportation, and no structure or installation."

The practical effect of this philosophy, now frozen into law, is to make the most beautiful areas of America "off limits" to anyone who is not willing or able to backpack into them. In other words, 99% of the American people fit into that category.

Recently the President's Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission, reported following a survey of 35,000 American households, that hiking is quite low in the preference order for outdoor activities, "only three percent listing 'some' preference for hiking." The survey concluded: "Hiking is not generally popular . . . with a pack, it becomes a strenuous activity, and to engage requires considerable physical effort. Among those who have tried hiking, but did not like it, more than half say it is too strenuous for them."

Who, then, under our existing purist standards, are the users of our magnificent Wilderness system, whose size has been estimated at 20 to 40 million acres? Ac-

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## Whose Land Whose Water

by Jack A. Barnett

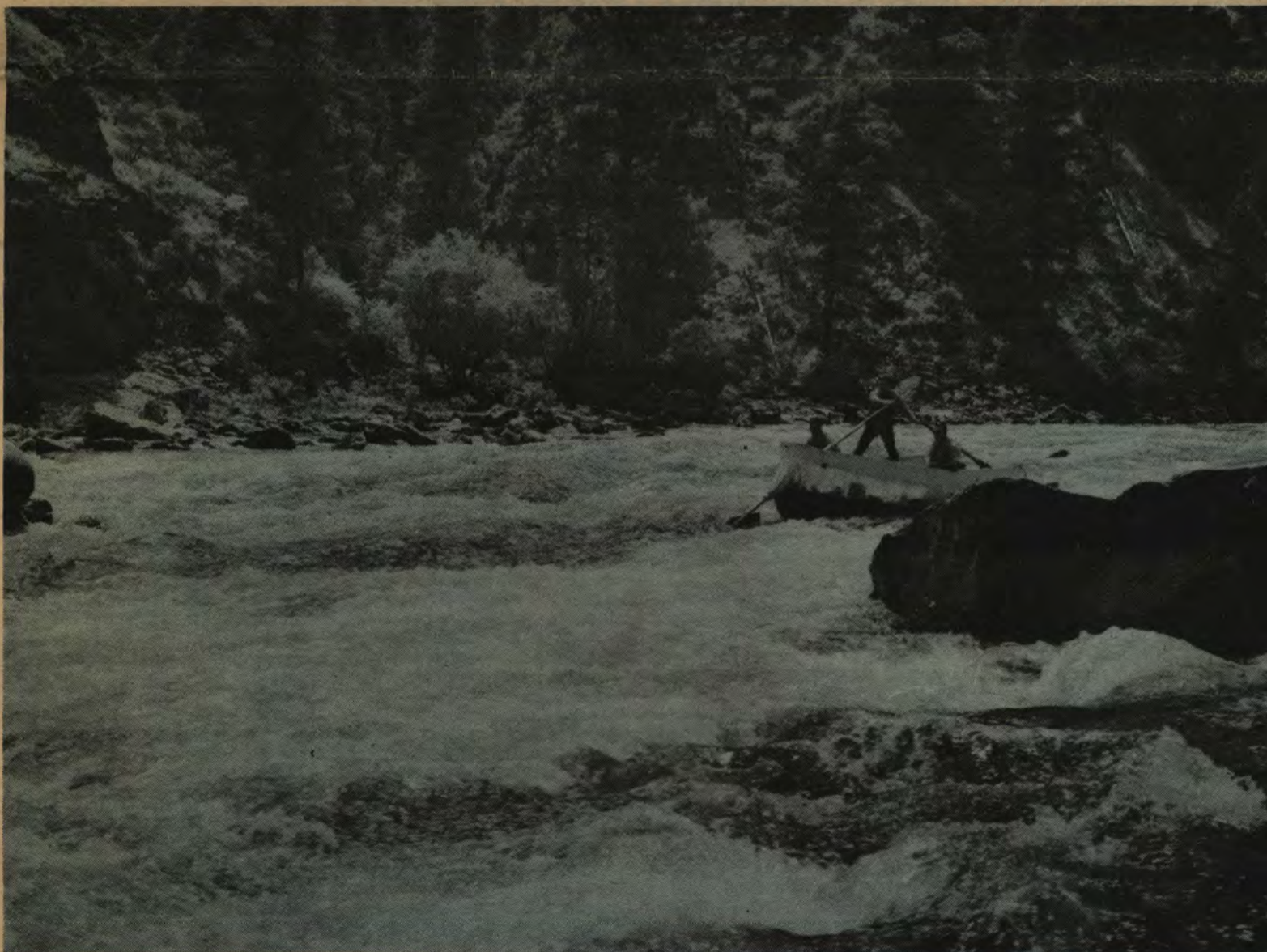
Executive Director, Idaho Water Users Assn., and member of Citizens Advisory Committee to U.S. Forest Service for Wild River Study of the Salmon River.

The State of Idaho owns and controls the water resources within the state and is the owner in the true sense of the word of all land administered by the State Land Board! True? Maybe? Maybe not? Perhaps the state is only in an administrative trust position and can function only until, in the national interest, administrative authority is changed. Could there be a question of State's Rights versus Federal Rights? You bet! Will these questions be decided by Idaho's Legislature or by the vote of two Idaho U.S. senators and 48 other U.S. senators and by the vote of two Idaho U.S. representatives and 433 other U.S. representatives? Will these questions be settled by the Executive Branch in Boise or the Executive Branch in Washington, D.C.? Will final judgment come from the courts? In our democracy, will the final outcome rest with the vote of Idaho's citizens and the citizens of the nation, with Idaho having less than one-half of one percent of the vote? A student of recent history would wager that the position of State's Rights will be lost through attrition, non-action, and forfeiture. Idaho may not even raise a challenge.

Many have felt that since statehood, the water resources within the state are to be administered by the state. To many minds, the water was owned by the state and water rights could be obtained, as guaranteed by the constitution, by the citizens of the state. Many have further assumed that ownership to land guaranteed certain rights to the use of the surface of the land and that, further, these rights were enjoyed by the State of Idaho on all lands owned or controlled by the state and the State Land Board. Today, these "rights" that some have felt would never be questioned are in reality being seriously questioned and, in some cases, the rights are being modified or reserved by the federal government.

The Salmon River is an appropriate and current example of the rights in question. Along the

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# Accomplishments In The Coeur D'Alene Mining District

by Fred Zerza

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The Coeur d'Alene Mining District of Shoshone County, in North Idaho's panhandle, is virtually synonymous with metal or "hardrock" mining in the state. It is truly the silver-producing capital of the United States.

Mines in the district — notably the Sunshine, Galena, Lucky Friday, Bunker Hill and Crescent — produce over 19 million ounces of silver each year. This is about 45 percent of the nation's mine production of the valuable metal.

Although it is unquestionably the most glamorous and economically significant, silver is by no means the only mineral taken from the district's rich and geologically unique mountains. Lead, zinc, antimony, copper and gold are also extremely important mineral commodities common to the region. Since 1884, the Coeur d'Alene District has accounted for over \$2.5 billion worth of metals, placing it among the 12 most productive mining districts in the world.

Mining in the Coeur d'Alenes is carried out exclusively by underground methods. Most of the mines are, in fact, presently operating at levels 4,000 to 6,000 feet beneath the surface. They are among the deepest mines on the North American continent and geologists are convinced ore bodies persist at much greater depths.

There is no question that mining and mineral processing operations have, during the past 80 or 90 years, left their mark on parts of the district from an environmental standpoint. The earth, the water and the air have suffered varying degrees of deterioration. Virtually all of the damage has been confined to the valley of the Coeur d'Alene River's South Fork — an area comprising less than 1,700 acres or three thousandths (.003) of one percent of the State of Idaho.

One of the earliest victims was the South Fork itself which, for all purposes, was sacrificed as the district began to grow and develop. This occurred, of course, in an era of operational priorities and values which accorded environmental quality very little, if any, consideration.

It was perfectly acceptable at that time to dispose of mine and mill wastes (tailings) by dumping them directly into the nearest stream or river, resulting in the elimination of all fish and most other aquatic life and vegetation. Such was the fate of the South Fork.

Today, however, the river and its tributaries are free of such wastes. All mining firms operating in the district have, since 1968, piped their tailings into large ponds where solid materials settle out and are permanently impounded. Tailings enter these ponds in slurry form and the water, minus the solids, which exits is clean and in no way an environmental liability.

The Bunker Hill Company's 150-acre tailings pond has been in service since 1929. In addition to collecting all of the firm's mill

wastes, the huge pond has served the city of Kellogg as a sewage disposal facility, also eliminating domestic sewage as a source of water pollution in the Kellogg area.

Beginning in 1932 the district's major mining companies were engaged in an environmental control program of sorts near Cataldo, site of the historic Cataldo Mission. In this area, the topography is quite flat, and the Coeur d'Alene River meanders leisurely. It thus served as a natural tailings pond, allowing suspended materials to settle out in substantial quantities.

The mining firms jointly operated a dredge in the river bed at Cataldo to remove the sand-like tailings. Millions of tons of the material were taken from the stream channel during the 36-year life of the dredge. It was, of course, rendered unnecessary with the completion of tailings pond construction in 1968.

It should be noted that the volume of tailings has been substantially diminished with the development of a process known as sandfill technology. It involves pumping tailings material back underground in slurry form to fill mined-out areas. This method alone has reduced requirements for surface disposal of tailings by about 50 percent.

Seldom in the history of this nation's minerals industry has environmental awareness and concern been demonstrated to the extent that it was, during 1972, by the Hecla Mining Co. of Wallace.

The firm required a site for construction of a new tailings pond for its Lucky Friday Mine, the third largest silver producer in the U.S. and an employer of 225 people. With flat ground extremely scarce in and around Mullan, where the Lucky Friday is located, Hecla was faced with only one viable location for the pond, but it involved relocation of a 3,250-foot section of the upper South Fork.

The Idaho Department of Fish and Game designated that portion of the stream a native cutthroat fishery, and with that in mind Hecla embarked on one of the most elaborate stream rechannelization programs ever undertaken in the western U.S.

In Kellogg, 100 acres previously used only for the storage of mine and mill wastes have been reclaimed by Bunker Hill. The land has, within the past seven years, been developed into a 70-lot subdivision, a new junior high school and a 40-unit apartment complex. Consequently, the critical shortage of quality homes in the Kellogg area has been substantially alleviated.

Severe forest fires during the early 1900's and high concentrations of sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) from smelting operations thereafter had the combined effect of eliminating much of the vegetation on the mountainsides around Kellogg. SO<sub>2</sub> levels were simply too intense for plant life to come back following the fires.

In recent years, however, a great deal of the missing vegetation has returned voluntarily due to the drastic reduction, by Bunker Hill, of SO<sub>2</sub> emissions from its lead

smelter. Although the firm initially began recovering SO<sub>2</sub> at its zinc plant in 1954, the smelter posed a more complex problem. An elaborate research program led to the installation, in 1970, of \$6.5 million worth of SO<sub>2</sub>-control equipment at the smelter.

In all, Bunker Hill has invested \$20 million in the development and installation of air pollution abatement facilities. The firm's present sulfur dioxide control capabilities are the most comprehensive and technologically up-to-date in the world for a non-

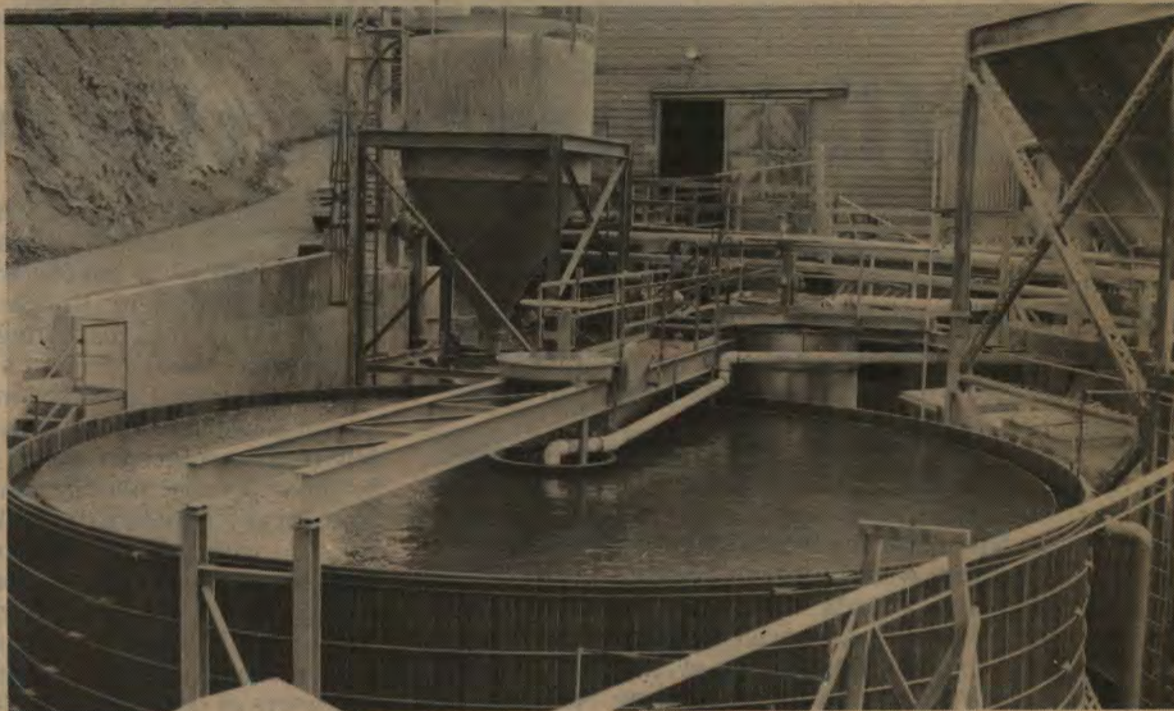
ferrous smelting operation.

To speed reclamation of damaged areas in the Coeur d'Alene District, the mining industry, working closely with the University of Idaho, has initiated a mined land rehabilitation program. Actual field work began in 1972 in the form of research aimed at determining the types of plants which will succeed in the region, given the varying soil and climatic conditions.

This work is a prelude to a much larger research and reclamation program planned for the district

which will include the valley floor, tailings pond dikes and slag piles as well as the mountainsides.

The mineral industry's environmental problems cannot be solved quickly, easily or inexpensively. But through awareness and determination they can — and are — being solved. Many of the industry's accomplishments during the past decade or two have been more or less unheeded by the public. Substantial progress has nonetheless been made, and it will continue to be made — at an accelerated pace.



This waste water treatment facility at the Bunker Hill Company lead smelter removes metals and other solids from smelter effluent. The clarified, neutralized water is routed into a settling pond and recycled into the plant's process supply.

## Whose Land

(Continued from Page 1)

Salmon River, as it flows the 425 miles in Idaho, citizens have long felt that they have obtained a real property right when they acquired a decreed water right or a permit and license from the Department of Water Administration. Even today, no one questions the fact that if you want to establish a new water right, a filing should be made with the Department of Water Administration.

Court precedent is already established giving the state the ownership of the beds of the navigable streams in the state. The State Land Board has given leases for gravel or placer operations for many years to individuals wishing to extract valuable resources from the bed of navigable streams. It seems surprising that now this right of state ownership could be questioned.

Today the U.S. government, Department of Agriculture, U.S. Forest Service, acting under instructions from the federal Congress is considering recommending the taking of all or a portion of the before described rights of the State of Idaho and its citizens along 237.1 miles of the Salmon River. This beautiful natural resource, our fabled "river of no return," with which we are all concerned and, as citizens of its native state, proud, could well be our "river of no return" in a new sense. By the Scenic and Wild River Act of 1968, many streams were, by the instance of that act, designated Federal Wild and Scenic Rivers to be administered by the Forest Service. Included in that act was the Middle Fork of the Salmon River. A current study concerns itself with the possibility of including additional miles of the Salmon River along the main stem from the North Fork to its confluence with the Snake in this national system. The main stem of the Salmon River in this reach is a tremendous resource. In places it is wild; it is scenic. For boating

and recreational purposes, the value of certain reaches of the main stem of the river cannot be equated to dollars and cents. Even though there is a tremendous hydropower value in that stream, if it were to be dammed, many of us at the present time would strongly resist that economical gain at the expense of this unique uncontrolled and free-flowing stream.

It should not be inferred, however, that some of the proposals now being considered by the Forest Service are not, to local land owners along the river, very upsetting and controversial. They are! Four different types of recommendations for control can be made to Congress. All or portions of the 237.1 mile reach in question can be designated as a "wild river," a "scenic river," a "recreational river," or a river "uncontrolled" by the Forest Service. The river, in some areas, is surrounded by private lands now used for ranches, homes, communities (Riggins), and businesses, while in other areas the river flows totally through National Forest, some of which is now or may become primitive or wilderness areas.

Classification of the river is not intended to only limit activities on the river, but also on the adjacent land. To carry out the act, right-of-ways or scenic easements must be obtained to control activities on private or public lands as far back as a quarter of a mile or, in some cases, more; back to the terminus of the line of sight from the river. Control of roads, timber harvests, mining, grazing, farming, all activities of man?

The vision of a float trip on the Salmon River mixes well with words like, "environment," "ecology," "preservation," and "future generations." We must be careful, however, to step back and look at the total picture and the precedent that is being set. The over-riding question that some are fearful to raise is whether or not the federal government does, in fact, have the right to make the designations and administer the

streams and the navigable stream beds within the state. Some have feared to raise this question because it may be alleged that they have ulterior motives of development in mind. Some have felt that to question the authority of the federal agency would be to question the intent of preserving the resource. Perhaps others feel that it is just plain un-American. This is not the case. The question is clearly State's Rights versus Federal Rights. If we allow, without a challenge, the federal Congress to designate more of the Salmon River as a wild and scenic river without, as a state, raising these issues, we add to the precedent already set by the action on the Middle Fork of the Salmon River, establishing the right to do so.

This may be our "river of no return." If this kind of action can be taken on the Middle Fork and the main stem of the Salmon River, as well as the Bruneau River, the Moyie River, and the St. Joe River, then why, in the national interest, can't similar acts take the Weiser, the Bear, the Lost, or the Snake River? Now is the time for the State of Idaho to act, and act promptly. A very voluminous attorney general's opinion was prepared in March of 1970, concerning the effect of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act on state lands. Concern was briefly presented in Washington, D.C., but there have not been follow-through efforts. Now is the time for the legislature of the State of Idaho to assert itself and state again the rights of Idaho and its citizens. It may also be the time to consider if Idaho's citizens wish the state legislature to act to designate the Salmon River as a state wild river. An act such as this could leave the decisions of the Salmon River within the control of the citizens of the State of Idaho and state government, wherein the decisions belong. The federal government already has control of two-thirds of the land within the state and the natural resources that go with this tremendous block of land. Isn't this enough national control of our Idaho?

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# Mined Land Reclamation In Southeastern Idaho

by Gordon A. Aland

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Idaho's phosphate industry is now 65 years old and the history of its development admittedly does not have the glamour connected with the rise of gold and silver mining in the state.

There are no Noah Kelloggs or Wyatt Earps associated with phosphate rock. No one has ever rushed into the saloon shouting, "Phosphate, phosphate." There have been no phosphate rushes.

There are stories, however, of early prospectors chasing "stains" in the Phosphoria Formation. Near Stauffer Chemical Company's Leefe, Wyoming, operation is a small "dog hole," barely large enough for a man to crawl into. A short distance from the entrance is a solid face of Rex Chert. Close examination of the face shows small indentations, and it is easy to picture the frustration of the kneeling prospector trying to advance his tunnel through the hard chert with a hand-held Star drill. In the hills east of Bennington, Idaho, is an old, timbered portal, partially caved in, that has phosphate ore on the small waste dump. Legend has it that the prospector died penniless in a saloon in Montpelier unaware of the value of the "waste" rock he was tunneling through.

Idaho phosphate mining had a modest start and an erratic development. Original shipments of ore, made prior to 1907, came from the same type of mines, if not the same scale, from which phosphate ore is produced today. Some ore was produced from hand pits where high-grade material was readily accessible on the surface. This was sold locally for direct application on the soil. This small production made the now-idle Waterloo Mine at Montpelier, the oldest major phosphate mine in Idaho, and San Francisco Chemical Co., now Stauffer Chemical Co., the oldest and most continuous major mining company in the Idaho phosphate industry.

Phosphate production continued on a relatively limited basis until 1945 when the industry started to grow substantially. Today it is a keystone of Idaho's economy, particularly in terms of employment and payroll, the purchase of equipment, supplies and services, and as a source of federal, state and local taxes. Present operators include such major firms as Agricultural Products Co., the Bunker Hill Co., Monsanto Co., FMC Corp., J. R.

Simplot Co., and Stauffer Chemical Co.

The methods of mining phosphate rock have undergone extensive change. Although initial production from the Waterloo Mine was from hand-dug "open pits," underground mining was the principal method used in the early days. This kept waste rock, at the mouth of the portal, at a minimum. In 1941 the Teton Phosphate Co. opened up a small open pit operation near Bennington, starting an economic trend. Today, all the phosphate mined in Idaho is from open pit mines. Open pit methods require removal of larger amounts of waste material, commonly called overburden, and it must be stored near the periphery of the pits.

As the overburden disposal areas began to grow in size, the industry recognized the need for implementing reclamation programs. However, reclamation technology was virtually non-existent and mine operators were faced with the problem of developing adequate procedures. The problem was intensified by the very nature of the area in which mining occurs. The average elevation is about 6,000 feet and precipitation is about 14 inches annually — most in the form of snow. The natural vegetation is generally sparse, consisting largely of sagebrush and grasses.

In the mid-sixties the U.S. Forest Service became involved in mined land reclamation because large acreages of phosphate reserves are located on Forest land and mines operating on Forest lands were then experiencing partially successful reclamation results. The Forest Service in cooperation with FMC, Monsanto, El Paso Products Co., and the J. R. Simplot Co. entered into a five-year comprehensive study. The program's primary objectives were soil stabilization, water quality protection, and restoration of esthetics.

Beginning in 1966, some 716 test plots, ranging in size from several square feet to several acres, were established at Monsanto's Ballard Mine, Simplot's Conda Mine and El Paso's Mabie Canyon Mine. More than 11,000 trees and shrubs as well as 18 species of grasses and forbs were planted on these plots.

In many cases, plants of the same type were placed on plots characterized by substantially different environmental conditions. Soil temperature, nutrient level, angle of slope, moisture and elevation were some of the variables. Similarly, the planting process differed widely with

respect to soil treatment and means of seed distribution.

Although the last test plantings were completed in 1970, the experimental areas are to be observed for many years. Each year of charted plant performance adds meaning to the study.

Observations to date have shown that the introduced plants, in certain cases, fare better than the native species. Such a comparison is readily apparent at the Ballard Mine where a mined area, replanted in 1966, now contains a much greener and more desirable selection of vegetation than the adjacent slope which was untouched by mining.

Phosphate beds vary geologically from "flat-lying" to "steep-dipping." The former type, which allow continuous mining, are more ideally suited from a reclamation standpoint. After the first cut, some of the mined areas can be used for overburden disposal. From that point, such areas can be engineered for stability, revegetation and, therefore, esthetics, as they are completed.

Unfortunately, a majority of the phosphate mines in Idaho have the steeper dipping beds. This often means several years of placing waste dumps around the periphery of the pit. Due to the varying degrees of dip and the differences in topography, each mine has its own peculiarities that have to be accounted for in developing a mining and reclamation plan.

Nevertheless, reclamation is now being "engineered into" mining plans as they are developed. It is the continuing policy of Idaho's major phosphate operators to reclaim at least as much land as they disturb each year. To date, more than 700 acres have been reclaimed.

At the Gay Mine, operated by the J. R. Simplot Co. on the Fort Hall Reservation, the beds are fairly flat-lying and during 1972, two-thirds of the overburden was placed back into mined-out areas. The Gay Mine has had a formal restoration program in effect for the past five years. The Conda Mine, also operated by the Simplot Co., has steeper dipping beds. At the Conda operation, the Simplot Co. was able to put one-third of last year's waste into mined-out pits. In the near future, tailings from the Conda mill will be placed into mine pits for disposal.

At Stauffer Chemical Company's Wooley Valley Mine, operated by Triangle Mining Co., the operating philosophy is to "rehabilitate disturbed areas, minimize erosional effects and consider the

esthetics." The firm has implemented this program by salvaging topsoil where possible and using it to cover disposal areas, repeating efforts to revegetate and leaving trees standing in mining areas wherever possible.

Monsanto originally embarked on a revegetation program at its Ballard Mine in 1958. Largely experimental plantings included various types of grasses, shrubs and trees. Monsanto ceased operations at the Ballard in 1969 and, although there is no legal obligation to do so, the firm is today continuing a reclamation program there on a budgeted, voluntary basis at the rate of about 75 acres per year. In fact, costs of the reclamation work amount to twice as much as the present market value of adjacent grazing lands. Meanwhile, at its new Henry Mine, Monsanto is reclaiming

concurrently with mining operations. Faces of the mine's overburden disposal banks are engineered so that revegetation can occur almost immediately upon completion of each terrace.

The reclamation ethic extends also into the exploration phase of phosphate operations. Today, modern electronic exploration equipment is used but there is still no substitute for drilling, and drill holes are essential to establish quantity, grade and specific location of a deposit.

FMC Corporation's Mineral Development Department, headquartered in Pocatello, affords a prime example. In their search for new deposits, FMC geologists plan their drilling so that road building and drill site construction can be held to a minimum. Reclamation of roads and drill sites is initiated when the exploration program is completed.

## The Wilderness

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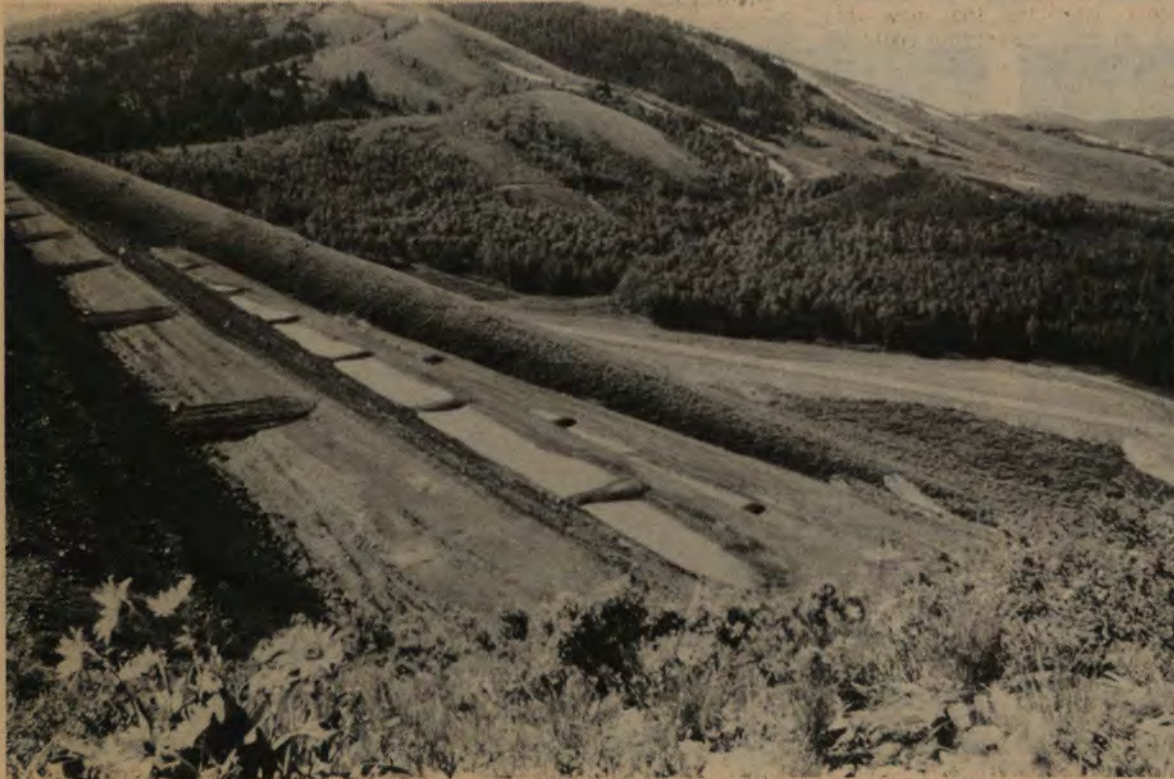
According to a recently published report from the Government, (the ORRRC Study Report No. 3) in 1960 only 400,000 persons spent one or more nights in the Wilderness areas; total "visits" were 1½ million, but these visits include repeated visits by the same persons. Total "man-days" in 1960 was 2,818,000. But since the average stay was five days or more the number of actual persons using the Wilderness areas was obviously less than one million. These users — less than a million of them — are shown by the statistical analysis to be the financial and intellectual elite of our country! This same report said, and I'll quote, "More than 75 percent had at least a college degree. Even more striking are the high proportions of campers who have done some post-graduate work or hold advanced degrees. Higher income levels . . . professional and semi-professional people and those in white collar occupations account for approximately three-quarters of the same interviewed . . ." This, then, is our wilderness user: higher income bracket, an intellectual, a holder of a college degree or even an advanced degree. Should 20 to 40 million acres be set aside just for these few?

What about the working people that don't have time to hike for days to see this beauty? What about the farmer who is too tired to do further physical labor on his vacation? What about those who are too old or too young, or the frail, or even those who are just plain lazy? Should they be taxed to maintain the Wilderness areas? Statistics show that a total of less than 50,000 acres of developed campgrounds and picnicgrounds have been set aside for this group. The disparity between what is provided to the elite and what is provided to the common American is 600 to 1.

In Europe, the most remarkable view-points in the country have been deliberately made accessible by some type of comfortable transportation. What an irony that in Europe — the old world, land of aristocracy — the common working people can see the wonders of Our Creator, while in America — land of the common man — the common people are excluded!

I think the purist philosophy which keeps the American people out of their own land as embodied in the Wilderness Act, is an unwise misuse of our Wilderness resources, and causes us to starve for recreational facilities in the midst of plenty, much as Hindus starve, but will not eat the sacred cows that wander all around them.

A situation where the most beautiful land in America is sequestered by physical barriers against use by 99% of our citizens, and preserved for recreation use by 1%, who on examination, prove to be the intellectual elite, is reminiscent of the practices of the European aristocracy, who until very recent times, kept vast areas of magnificent land as hunting preserves, from which the common people were excluded. A philosophy which creates in actual operation a de facto discrimination against vast segments of the American public on the grounds of taste or stamina is as unfair to the individual thus excluded as discrimination due to race or color.



Terracing, contour trenching and revegetation are among the methods used to stabilize mined areas in Southeastern Idaho's phosphate region. This is a terraced and trenched overburden disposal bank at the Monsanto Company's Henry Mine.



# How Much Land Do We Need for Recreation?

by Fred H. Bleckmann  
Stanley Basin Guide

Many people, and this includes a lot of city dwellers, who escape on ever longer and expanding weekends and vacations from mounting business and professional pressures, plus ever-increasing pollution where they live, do enter our Federal Playgrounds to re-create themselves. The numbers will grow ever more.

The Stanley Basin and the newly created National Recreation Area are no exception to this rule. A natural consequence and desire to a repeating visitor, who found his "niche" in this beautiful part of Idaho, is to own a small piece of land, a parcel of "TERRA FIRMA" for himself and his family. Back in his mind is the wish to move there in his retirement when the family is grown up. Others dream of owning a cabin or some type of rental unit or condominium, to serve as a second home.

This could be one of the reasons that unesthetic looking vacation homes have gone up in some areas which disturbs the fantastic natural beauty surrounding it. The parties owning these places are all wonderful people, who feel close to nature, or they would not have come to this area in the first place. Their means may not be affluent while they bring up a family. Another reason prevailing in the Stanley Basin is the fact, that the hardly four per cent privately owned land in Custer County is on the valley floor and of course has hardly any trees and nearly all the private land subsequently is around Highway 93. It is practically impossible to build a home which cannot be seen from a transportation artery, of course there are exceptions. The privately owned land in the Stanley Basin belonging to Blaine County does not fare better.

We all know the reason for the private land over there being treeless reverts back to the sheep and cattle pioneers, who homesteaded the land to have the animals graze on it.

This condition existing has some private land owners "in dutch" with parties of purist leanings, who would rather look at the unfolding pristine mountain beauty without interference of a house or mountain cabin. Also have poor land practices taken place like anywhere else in the land.

To preserve the natural beauty in the Stanley Basin has after many years brought about

protection by our Federal Government, by creating the National Recreation Area.

It is only natural for the private land owner to find compatible ways with the National Recreation Area planners, to use the private land to the satisfaction of both parties.

For most of the owners, if not for all of them, it amounts to a matter of economics when it comes to land use. Many have much of their life's savings in the Stanley Basin Area, which as time goes along, they have to use in their retirement. It is their "nest egg." Some are not professional ranchers or sheep people.

The conflict right now is that no money has been funded, according to the Forest Service, when the National Recreation Bill came about last year. To only lease the land out for a few summer months of cattle grazing does not compensate the private land owner for the acquisition price of the land, though it may cover taxes. Many bought the land for recreation land prices and cannot afford to look at their land for too long. They have to use it for other purposes incidental to recreation. Many still make heavy payments for the land.

In anticipating the bill, the Forest Service had several years to plan for land use. Long promised land use guidelines have still not been made public to the land owners concerned.

I cannot see that land use guidelines can be ignored for long, we cannot expect less, but only more and more people to come to this beautiful and primitive land, to have more strength and beauty absorbed for the "rat race" at home.

It is mandatory that naturalists, vacationists, fishermen, botanists, wild flower lovers, hunters, hikers, mountain climbers and plain tired city folks are all being accommodated. They are all taxpayers and search to revitalize themselves.

By right many people frown upon small lots close to the highway which probably would disturb the view towards the majestic Sawtooth Mountains. But how should the land be used without clashing with the owners' rights and the facts mentioned in the above paragraphs? Should clusterlike developments arise, located in draws, in small canyons or places not so very obvious? What about the owner who happens to own land on both sides of the Salmon River and people would like to save it for posterity? There are many other questions to be answered.

Should Forest Service enter discussions, to make developments compatible? Alternatives for land uses must be started. In the past few months the Forest Service has mentioned again and again, they have no desire, nor the money to enter the land business. Neither is

money funded for easements or other land compensations expressed in the bill.

Which route then wants the Forest Service to use to keep the private land in the Stanley Basin in its pristine state? Shouldn't the Forest Service offer alternatives

for land use if no money in the bill is available?

As the ever changing beauties in the Stanley Basin unfold themselves in the spring and summer, soon to be here, people hope the preceding questions are going to be answered.



A water skier enjoys throwing a high rooster tail on his slalom ski on Priest Lake at Indian Creek Campground.

## Sawtooth Mountain National Recreational Area

by Aden Hyde, Publisher  
Eastern Idaho Farmer  
Idaho Falls, Idaho

Twin Falls — Development of the Sawtooth National Recreation Area this summer depends upon one thing, according to Ed Fournier, supervisor of the Sawtooth National Forest.

That's money. "We have a program," Fournier said. "We know what needs to be done to expand the recreation facilities in the Sawtooth National Recreation Area."

"I have not seen President Nixon's budget proposals and have no idea, yet, just what we shall have available for area development," Fournier said.

"We do have a program," he continued. "We know what we'd like to do and, if funds are

available, we'll get at them this summer," he said.

Proposed for improving and expanding the facilities for the accommodation of an increasing influx into the Sawtooth region are several new campgrounds. They are to be located in the vicinity of Big and Little Redfish lakes and near Petite Lake. Facilities for area visitors are currently inadequate; frequently are filled by midafternoon during the peak of the travel season.

The fact that the region has now been designated as a Recreation Area, with attendant national publicity, is certain to increase the number of people visiting the region. Facilities to provide for them is a "must," Fournier said, if this program can be funded.

In 1971, about 600,000 people visited what is now Idaho's first and only National Recreation

Area. The 1972 visitation record was not immediately available but unofficial reports indicate increasing popularity of the region, measured by the number of those who visit it.

But more people bring more problems, Fournier pointed out. One of those is pollution, particularly of lakes and streams.

"We have planned and are proposing," Fournier said, "a sewage disposal system to serve particularly the areas near Petite and Redfish lakes. This is a must; waters in the area must be kept clean."

One other major undertaking, not specifically geared to area visitors, involves mining.

There are, Mr. Fournier said, about 5,000 mining claims within the recreation area. Each one of them will be checked to determine

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Jumping across mounds of snow in the Idaho back country lands, an outdoor adventurer finds new vistas opened for him when he takes a jaunt in his handy snowmobile.



Cross country skiing on Idaho's famous powdered snow in a National Recreation Area is rapidly increasing in popularity since conversion from U.S. National Forest Status.



# Southwest Still Eyes The Snake River

by William F. MacKnight  
General Manager,  
South Idaho Press  
Burley, Idaho

The Southwest still eyes the Snake River segment of the Columbia Basin as a source of water at some future date despite many assurances which have lulled many leaders of this state into a pleasant slumber. First is the moratorium which was passed in 1968 by Congress which banned studies of water diversion for 10 years. Time is running out on that barrier and Idaho in the meantime is doing little to launch extensive land use developments that would prove to Congress and the Southwest that Idaho needs this surplus water.

For two consecutive years now, the surplus flow in the Snake past Milner Dam has reached nearly 5,000,000 acre feet. In a two-year period, the surplus water, gone to waste flowing down the Snake and Columbia to the sea would fill all existing storage reservoirs nearly three times. That's a lot of water.

Lowell Dick, former Twin Falls newsman, writing in the San Diego Union took note of this sudden charge of surplus water. The heavy flow is noted flowing past Milner where major southern Idaho lands are presently well funded with the precious H<sub>2</sub>O.

Mr. Dick observes that the flurry of activity in Idaho a few years ago after the moratorium was activated resulted in several programs principally the creation of the Idaho Water Resources Board, support of the Lower Teton Dam and the Lynn Crandall Dam below Palisades. To acquire these heavy Milner-flow surpluses, the Swan Falls-Guffy project was initiated in a partnership with the Idaho Power Co. However, all of these projects have been stalled by the environmentalists in the state, even the Teton Dam is in litigation while the initial construction takes place.

Mr. Dick's feature on Idaho waste of water was quoted in full by the Los Angeles Times and excerpted from by the Arizona Republic. Then we hear these people in Idaho who say "they don't want our water anymore!"

A short reprieve on the pressure side has resulted from the \$2 billion California Water Project and the Colorado River Project where millions of acre feet of water are being transferred from Northern California to Southern California.

Likewise millions of acre feet of new water have been found for Arizona along the Colorado River. The 307-mile aqueduct from Buckskin Mountain west of the Colorado River at Lake Havasu City has been funded. An 800-foot lift will deliver this water to Phoenix and Tucson in seven years.

But only a few years will lapse before the pressure will be on for more water and about the only place the Southwest can get it is from our surplus.

Is it any wonder now that covetous eyes of Arizona, New Mexico and California are closely watching just what Idaho does with its water? Ten million acre feet of surplus the past two years gone to waste raises some eyebrows. Yet Idaho is mired down on any development below Milner. Take the \$56 million Swan Falls-Guffy project which languishes on the drawing board because of the ecologists and alarmists who fear acreage expansion will depreciate farm crop prices or disturb environment.

The only place where people worry about new farm land affecting crop prices seems to be in Idaho. Other states with a fallow plot of ground labor strenuously to convert it to production. Take the Colorado River Project where \$2 billion will have been expended mostly for power but 185,000 acres of irrigable lands were included for development. This land, mind you, requiring four times the O&M cost that more fertile lands of Idaho's Snake River plains require.

We must keep in mind that a project agreed upon today is still years away from reality. It took 22 years from the first joint approval of Palisades Dam until the first water was impounded. The Swan Falls-Guffy project if a green light could be obtained today would be at least a decade away on the Mountain Home phase not to mention other arms of the project. Even replacement of the American Falls Dam an already proven project they predict will take nine years before it is realized.

Meanwhile the state of Washington presses for authorization to reclaim a half million acres of new land on the Grand Coulee project. Oregon has plans for extensive land reclamation totaling up to 200,000 acres on various projects spread over the eastern part of the state, much of it arable now because of rising water table along the backwaters of Columbia River dams.



Waters of the Snake River winding through Hell's Canyon on its way to the Columbia.

But in Idaho there is a marked opposition to opening new lands. This would be slightly logical as a means of maintaining higher prices for farm crops but Idaho cannot do this alone while our sister states pay little attention to this concept.

So, we are losing time, "fiddling while Rome burns" so to speak by not aggressively promoting full, optimum use of our land and water resources. And if we don't, we stand to lose it to the states that need it most. An article in U.S. News and World Report sum the water issue up quite conclusively in these words: "Eventually some U.S. government scientists maintain a drastic reordering of priorities will become necessary. It is inevitable, in their view, that widescale irrigation will have to stop on many lands, and water diverted from those projects and surpluses that still exist to the projects of the Southwest's growing and thirsty cities." Mind you, this observation was made in July of 1972.

So it is up to Idaho citizens whether we play ostrich and forget water development, believing these threats were just nightmares and will go away tomorrow. Or, study, research, plan and formulate the use of our most precious heritage.

The transfer of water from one basin to another will be a political decision on the federal level. Idaho has but two representatives in the Congress. Compare this minuscule figure with 43 from California, four from Arizona. And even our neighbors in Nevada and Utah can hardly be counted on in this showdown for support. Wyoming

and Colorado would have little to gain from such an alliance with lonely Idaho.

There we have some cold turkey for consideration. How much longer will the substantial, basic citizenship of this state sit idly by and watch the newly created Water Resources Board wrestle with so-called environmentalists over pseudo premises of progress? Time is marching on for Idaho and precious moments, yes, even years, are being lost, now today by vociferous, uninformed and short-sighted protagonists. Idaho's inherent and historic potential for future generations is being sold down the river, first by deception and secondly by procrastination.

## Sawtooth Mountain

(Continued from Page 4)

whether the claim has a valid base for mining development.

"This will surely prove to be a major undertaking and responsibility," Fournier said. "It involves skilled mining engineering help to do an effective job. We do not want to make any mistakes. An effective job will take time — and money."

Earlier, Mr. Fournier said that a complete restriction on mining operations within the recreation area is not contemplated.

"I believe," he said, "that mining could prove to be a major tourist attraction in the area if it can be properly managed without marked adverse impact on the environment. Most of our visitors, especially those from the East, have never seen an operating mine."

About 900 miles of trails presently traverse the 754,000 acres included in the Sawtooth National Recreation Area. Part of the program for development of the region involves improvement of present trails and adding to that mileage.

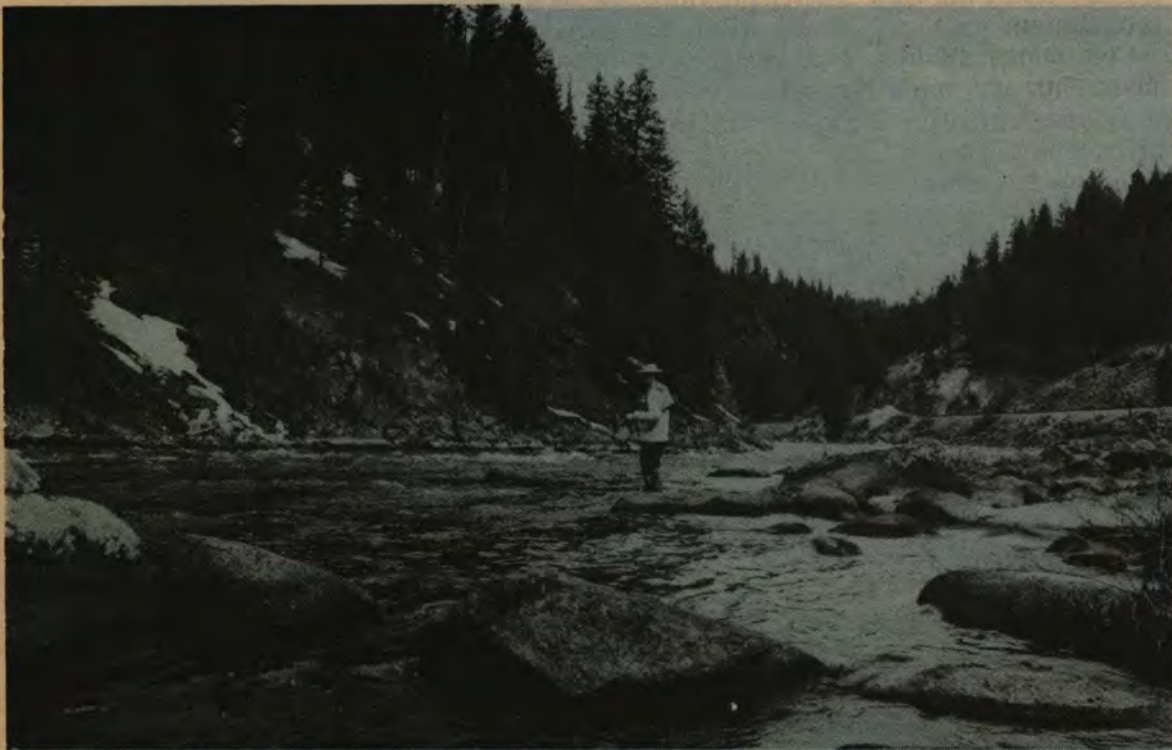
One feature of the region's use since it was converted from U.S. National Forest status to that of a National Recreation Area is its rapidly increasing winter popularity.

That's particularly true of cross-country skiing largely in the area south of Galena Summit, the headquarters of Wood River.

"This winter sport is increasing rapidly in popularity," Mr. Fournier said. "Mostly the participants are from Sun Valley. This is rough country but they travel chiefly in stream bottom areas."

In addition, snowmobiling, particularly in the Stanley Basin part of the Recreation Area, is also attracting more winter visitors.

"This is a wonderful outdoor region and it offers vast possibilities for increased public enjoyment of Idaho's mountains, lakes and streams," Fournier said. "But it's going to take money to do what we'd like to do to make it possible for people to enjoy these outdoor assets. What we can do may be limited this year by that factor."



Many spots along Idaho's water ways are ideally suited for fishing. To keep it this way will require continued supervision and extensive planning to fit our program of multiple use.



Boating and skiing is a growing recreation at numerous locations on Idaho Water. With continued growth in population, demand can be expected for more facilities.



# Range Management On National Resource Lands

by Jens Jensen

Bureau of Land Management, Idaho State Office  
Staff Range Management for Idaho Legislative  
Committee on Public Lands, January, 1973

The public domain rangelands of Idaho are on the mend. After several decades of no management and several more of inadequate management, these lands are starting to get the attention needed to bring them back to their full potential.

For a long time, the average citizen saw these rangelands only as a space which held the more productive areas of Idaho together. In reality, they are an important part of Idaho's environment which provides significant watershed, wildlife habitat and livestock grazing values.

The National Resource Lands, as the public domain is now referred to, are closer to the general public than they have ever been because of the population build-up in the western states. Many of the population centers are located adjacent to the public lands. People have an interest in these Resource Lands because they are physically accessible with modern means of transportation which are fast and literally unlimited by terrain. Coupled with this is the desire of urban dwellers for open space. Consequently, what were formerly occasional uses are multiplying and new uses are rapidly being developed.

Uses which appear to be expanding most rapidly are cycling (motorcycles and bicycles), dune buggies, skimobiling, and other off-road vehicle uses. Also, hiking, trail riding and other non-motorized methods of utilizing open spaces are increasing.

In some places these uses tend to overshadow historically important uses of the Resource Lands such as grazing, watershed and wildlife.

In reality, the Resource Lands of Idaho continue to be highly important for grazing use. In addition they are capable of producing much more forage than they are now in terms of both quantity and quality. Most of these rangelands are currently producing only one-half to one-third of their potential. It is often argued that since livestock grazing has been a cause of rangeland deterioration, the elimination of grazing use would automatically result in an improvement in range condition. However, experience shows that such is not always the case and in actuality, present rangeland conditions stem not so much from overgrazing as from undermanagement.

Managed grazing, accomplished with specific objectives in mind, will even out competition among forage plants and when timed correctly can stimulate the more desirable plants to compete and produce better.

Range plants, whether grasses, forbs or shrubs, must occasionally have the opportunity to manufacture and store food, gain vigor and reproduce. If the grazing management program does not make provisions for these growth needs, the range will deteriorate. In other words, rangelands cannot improve if used for the full grazing season each year despite reduced stocking rates. Fortunately, specialized grazing programs can be designed where the forage plants will have the opportunity to periodically make "normal" growth.

In developing any program of this nature, the physiological needs of all plant species must be understood, especially those which are most desirable from the standpoint of soil stability, habitat and forage production. The manager must know the impact of grazing on each species, as well as the critical seasons of grazing with respect to growth, seed production, vigor, etc.

A. L. "Gus" Hormay, Range Management Specialist for the Bureau of Land Management, is well known in Idaho for his expertise in range management and for the training sessions he has conducted on the rest rotation system of livestock grazing. He has summed up the role of livestock management in these words:

"Management must recognize that all renewable rangeland values stem directly or indirectly from vegetation. Sustained high-level production of these values, therefore, depends on proper management of the vegetation. The principal tool the rangeland manager has for managing vegetation is livestock grazing. It is the only force under firm control of the manager that can be applied on practically the entire range area.

"Livestock grazing is desirable, if not essential, on rangelands for several reasons. A large portion of the vegetation on rangelands can be converted to more useful products only by livestock. As the Nation's population grows, an increasingly greater portion of its meat supply will have to be produced on rangelands. Arable lands will be used more and more to produce grain, vegetable, and fruit crops for human consumption. Furthermore, desirable vegetation and the overall productive capacity of rangelands can be increased more rapidly with livestock grazing than without.

"Livestock can be used to perform many important functions that can be achieved no other way over the entire or major portion of the range. They can be used to trample seed into the soil, thereby promoting more forage and a better soil cover; to remove stifling old growth on plants, thus increasing plant vigor and production of usable herbage; to stimulate adventitious growth and higher quality forage; and to reduce fire hazard.

"The biological facts for development of a sound grazing method have been known for a long time. As far back as 1914, A. W. Sampson outlined many principles of good grazing management. However, relatively little use has been made of these facts and principles. Reluctance to relinquish certain established ideas on management, even though proved ineffective in practice, has been a major deterrent to the development and use of better grazing methods."

## Allotment Management Plans

An Allotment Management Plan (AMP) is the basic vehicle which sets out management objectives for a grazing allotment. It also brings together information on all resources in the area covered. It is a cooperative venture developed by the managing agency, the range user and other interested parties such as the Fish and Game Department.

The first step in developing an AMP is to gather and analyze basic data. The analysis must consider the effects vegetation changes will have upon the forage and habitat requirements of individual wildlife species as well as the effects these changes will have upon livestock production, soil production, water quality, and natural beauty. Resource user demands, social, economic and other available information must also be considered.

After a complete analysis, the specific objectives or goals to be accomplished in the allotment are determined. An example of a specific objective might be to improve bitterbrush for deer in a particular area.

A grazing system is then developed to accomplish the objectives. Most grazing systems incorporate sufficient rest from livestock grazing to give key plants the opportunity to increase in vigor and produce seed. Grazing use is scheduled to trample the seed into the ground and follow-up rest is provided for seeding establishment.

Continuous studies, evaluations and necessary adjustments are made throughout the life of the plan to measure vegetative trend and to ensure the objectives are accomplished.

## Grazing Systems

Each grazing system must be tailored to the situation. It may be as simple as the two-pasture deferred system where one pasture is grazed early in the season one year and later the next year. Perhaps the simplest means of achieving an increase in range condition through grazing management is to adopt some variation of what is called "rotation" or "deferred grazing." This means dividing the allotment into several pastures. The number of pastures will depend on the phenology or growth habits of the key species, topography, availability of water and the particular grazing system to be used.

## Rest Rotation

A very specialized system of grazing management is "rest-rotation grazing." One of the major differences between this system and any other is that a portion of the range is rested each year so the desirable forage plants can gain adequate vigor so that seed or other reproduction is attained. By rotation, all segments of the range are afforded the needed periodic rest.

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# Swan Falls— Guffy Project The Facts

by Dr. Robert R. Lee

The Swan Falls-Guffy Project, authorized for construction by the Idaho State Legislature in 1971, has been the latest water resources project to be attacked by extreme preservation groups in Idaho. What are the facts concerning the project? How would it benefit Idahoans and what are the costs?

The Swan Falls-Guffy Project would be located approximately 30 miles south of Boise on the Snake River. The project would cost about \$60 million; nearly one-half the cost would be for two dams to be financed by the Idaho Water Resource Board and the remaining one-half for power facilities which would be financed by the Idaho Power Co. The new Swan Falls Dam would replace a smaller existing dam and have a reservoir depth of about 65 feet. The Guffy Dam would be about 12 miles downstream and would have a reservoir depth of about 40 feet.

The main purpose for the project would be for the generation of hydroelectric power to meet peak power demands in the Southwest Idaho area. The project would have an installed capacity of about 165,000 kw and produce about 500 million kilowatt hours of electricity each year. Only Dworshak Dam and the Hells Canyon Complex would be larger in power capability in Idaho.

The project would produce clean, nonpolluting power to help meet critical energy needs and would save the equivalent of 25 billion pounds of coal, 225 billion cubic feet of natural gas or 1,603,000,000 gallons of oil over a 50-year period.

The project would also have recreation facilities owned and managed by the state which would cost nearly 3 million dollars to accommodate the expected 120,000 visitor days per year compared to about 5,000 visitor days at present. Artificial islands would be constructed in the backwaters of the Swan Falls pool to replace islands flooded by the two dams and provide for goose and duck nesting and hunting.

The Idaho Water Resource Board would receive a net amount of about \$1,500,000 per year for 50 years to be used to finance water resource projects in the Southwest Idaho Water Development Project, if feasible; otherwise in the Idaho Power Co. service area, ie, most of southern Idaho. Such development could only begin after the board receives funds in about 1977.

The possibility of nitrogen supersaturation would be reduced because an enlarged Swan Falls Dam and Guffy Dam with greater power capability than at the present Swan Falls Dam will reduce flood flows over the spillway.

Against the fossil fuel savings, the recreation facilities, the \$1,500,000 per year for 50 years and the reduction of nitrogen supersaturation must be weighed the following losses:

1. The reservoirs would cover approximately 30 small islands covering about 150 acres. In 1972 the U.S. Bureau of Sports Fishery and Wildlife found two goose nests on the islands. The major goose nesting areas are downstream from Guffy in the 105-mile stretch of the Snake River to Brownlee Reservoir. A few deer occasionally frequent the islands and there is some duck nesting.

Artificial islands would be constructed near Grandview and will be managed for duck and goose nesting and hunting. Production of ducks and geese should be greater than at present and waterfowl hunting would be enhanced.

2. The reservoirs would flood an additional 20 miles of river above the backwaters of the present

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# Timber Industry Seeks Approval of Environmental Policy

by John Martin

Executive Secretary  
North Idaho Forestry Assn.

The first reaction of the timber industry in Idaho to the Environmental Policy Act of 1969 was favorable. Timber industry leaders accepted the fact that we had made mistakes and that we had to do a better job of what we were doing in the future.

But some agencies which manage the public forest lands have made the cooperation of the industry difficult at best by adopting a negative approach to administering environmental restraints on timber harvest.

This approach will result in serious economic problems and waste of our renewable forest resources at a time when the nation will need 20 million new homes in the next ten years, and at a time when insects and disease are destroying as much timber each year as is being harvested.

Instead of requiring timber industries to do a better job of timber harvest without damaging the environment, some agencies have often simply said "don't log." Or else, they are asking for untried, costly harvest practices which do not make sense in all circumstances.

The Environmental Policy Act does offer some important opportunities for improvement of timber production and management. The timber industries are trying to take a positive approach to the situation, turning the environmental requirements into something constructive.

With cooperation and a like positive attitude from the public agencies, the timber industries can convert federal regulations aimed at curbing air and water pollution from timber manufacturing into economic opportunities for all concerned.

But, if timber industry is to continue providing wood and wood products, at a cost the consumer can bear, the timber managing agencies must also take a more positive approach to timber harvest on public lands.

The forest products industry has long been aware that it is the one industry that deals with a

renewable resource and must manage the environment for continued protection of the total forest to assure a continued supply of forest resources. Perpetuation of the forest by use is a guiding principle of the industry both on its own and public lands. Through proper planning and management, we can make better use of our available lands, utilize and enhance the recreation potential, and, at the same time, obtain higher yields of trees and other renewable resources of the forest.

And to the consumer of the products of our industry, wood is the environmentalist's dream. It is renewable, biodegradable and replenishes the earth's oxygen supply as it grows. Wood is the most versatile material on earth, and can be processed with the least amount of energy of any natural resource today.

The forest products industry has been striving toward better harvesting methods, more complete utilization of the timber obtained from the national forests and improved and greater reforestation efforts to meet genuine environmental concerns of the public. However, another sector of the public, less concerned with the total resource management, has been swayed by the siren song of those who seek even more wilderness areas.

The removal of large blocks of National Forest Lands from growing and harvesting trees is a major threat to raw material availability, but it is by no means the only log supply concern. New Forest Service landscape policies, streamside leave strips and other practices for forest environment protection, which the forest products industry in Idaho generally endorses, necessarily curtails supply. And lack of funding by the Congress for modern management practices further reduces or indicates future harvest level reductions.

The economic effect of reduced harvest levels may be even greater than the obvious actions would indicate. Reductions in log supply would cause plants to operate at less than efficient capacity and would create general raw material uncertainty throughout the

existing industry. Capital investments to modernize might be drastically curtailed. Many investments planned to meet environmental standards, to improve utilization, and to increase efficiency would become uncertain business risks.

In public statements, in congressional and state legislative testimony, and in news articles, the Idaho Forest Industries has applauded the Forest Service's goal of quality management of the national forests. Similarly we have approved and generally urged adoption of the recommendations of Senator Church's Public Land Subcommittee regarding clearcutting and related forest management recognizing that both the Forest Service and the forest products industry have been improving harvesting, forest regeneration and overall forest management and use long before the current, "Era of the Environment," came into being.

Wilderness is but one of the multiple uses of the national forest, but is getting the lion's share of the attention these days much to the detriment of other needed forest uses that will satisfy the needs of far more people, who will benefit from harvesting of the renewable resources of the forest and non-wilderness recreation areas.

There is an increasing demand for all forest resources caused by both increasing population and increasing leisure time available to the American workman.

If man does not harvest mature and over-mature forest areas,

nature will harvest them with wildfire, insects or disease, none of which can be said to be environmental protection devices and certainly would be considered to represent waste of a needed renewable resource.

Too much of our effort in the area of environment protection is like a political campaign. The "ins" point with pride and the "outs" view with alarm. The vast grey areas where both candidates agree on a majority of major issues are carefully avoided. So too with environment protection. Attention goes to those who view with alarm and in some cases point with pride. But little is said about the solid accomplishments where an industry has instituted steps to meet the programs deemed necessary by those who are qualified to recommend programs that are enhancing or improving our efforts to protect the environment.

These actions tend to polarize and delay the establishment of sound workable environmental protection programs. We have seen enough of this and it is time for citizens and taxpayers who pay the bills for these programs to demand more cooperation from all concerned with these programs in government.

We must deal with the problems we've postponed for decades and with new problems which will be with us for future years.

I would emphasize that solid progress will be made in inverse proportion to the degree of emotion in the rhetoric involved.

As our society has come over the past few years to a shocked awareness of the mess it's making of its home, a kind of panic has set in. And when panic comes — logic leaves.

Logic is the only tool at our disposal with which we can accomplish the task we are undertaking.

It is logic when proper cutting practices are required for individual timber sales to assure minimum damage to the soils and streams, leaving of proper seedbeds for future forest growth under a program that will provide a fair return to the logger.

It is panic when clearcutting is banned in all forest areas because it is damaging to some forest areas.

It is logic that keeps a dam from being built when it is not needed for flood control and irrigation or when the power it can generate can be obtained by other — clean methods.

It is panic that keeps any kind of energy-producing plant from being constructed until the nation finds itself without the power to sustain itself in the manner to which it's become accustomed and which it doesn't want to give up.

It is logic that requires a producer to eliminate sources of pollution in his method of production.

It is panic — mixed with stupidity — to expect this to be done without expecting to pay a higher price for the product.

It is logic to set aside certain areas in the forest for enjoyment of the forest solitude and natural processes undisturbed by man.

It is panic to halt harvesting of renewable resources of the forest on major portions of the forest when needed wood products are in short supply and production of substitute building materials causes even more pollution problems in other areas of the nation and depletes our non-renewable resources.

It is a mark of national insanity that certain producers — notably those who utilize renewable natural resources — must include years of litigation expenses automatically into advance cost estimates for a project.

We can't stop mineral production and expect lower costs for batteries, photographic supplies and lead radiation sheeting.

We can't eliminate the forest products industries and then complain because the cost of a new home is too high.

We can't panic ... but we can't delay any further in finding acceptable solutions to our problems.

The consumer and the taxpayer must be taught and told truthfully that he must pay for the clean air and water if he wants to enjoy the benefits of the technology that pollutes that air and water.

The producer must be taught to realize that he must provide for the renewal of the resources he uses in his production and that he will be helped rather than penalized by the long-term results of his concern for these resources.

Governmental agencies must realize that it is not their function to assign the costs of a balanced environment to either producer or consumer.

It is their function only to assure that adequate laws protection that balance are on the books and to enforce those laws fairly.

Concerned citizens' groups and professional groups must realize that neither business or government can pay the bills alone.

In the final analysis the individual pays either through higher taxes or higher prices.

The payment for clean air and water, for good land which is retained in its natural state must be extracted from all our pockets.

That payment in fairness should be made on an individual basis in direct proportion to the amount consumed, for it is consumption at base which pollutes.

## Range Management

(Continued from Page 6)

For example, a three-year rotation may involve three pastures. Each year one is grazed during the growing season, one is grazed after seed is ripe, and one is rested. Thus, every third year a given pasture gets complete rest.

Livestock use at the correct time scatters the seed and tramples it into the soil. Rest the following year allows new seedlings to become established. It also allows older plants to regain vigor, rebuild their root systems, and develop the ability to produce seed. Some vegetal material remains on the soil surface as litter for erosion protection. The periodic full use of each pasture by cattle results in a "hedging" effect for browse species which stimulates new growth and develops a form class that prevents overuse by wildlife.

Timing and duration of rest is determined by plant growth requirements of the important vegetation species, climatic factors, and the condition of the range.

### Progress

In 1965, the Bureau of Land Management began to implement allotment management plans. This program has shown a marked improvement in water quality, soil stability and forage production, and last but not least, increases in livestock gains.

In Idaho, we have implemented 90 plans on 2,325,218 acres of public lands. We are currently working to implement another 8 plans on an additional 210,904 acres. We have 117 pending requests from permittees to establish allotment management plans on their area of use. However, due to limited funds, it will be many years before the improvements necessary to implement these plans can be accomplished.

## Swan Falls — The Facts

(Continued from Page 6)

Swan Falls Reservoir to Grandview and 12 miles of river below Swan Falls to the Guffy site. The Swan Falls Reservoir will have a maximum fluctuation of about 1.5 feet. The Guffy re-regulating reservoir will have a daily fluctuation of seven feet. According to a 1972 Fish and Game Department survey there is practically no recreation useage in the 38 miles from Swan Falls to Grandview. There was a limited recreation useage of about 5,000 visitor days at present below Swan Falls Dam. This was due primarily to the fact that the Snake River in this area is slow moving and quite turbid. Moreover, trash fish dominate the river and existing reservoir. The Fish and Game Department has classified the river as a Class 3 stream, the lowest classification. Studies show about 96 per cent trash fish in the Swan Falls Reservoir pool and about 75 per cent trash fish in the 12 miles below Swan Falls. Only one trout was found in the river and the game fish found consisted primarily of warm water species such as channel cat, small mouth bass and perch. In 1972 Idaho Fish and Game Department personnel caught four small sturgeon after a period of intensive fishing and other sturgeon were reported by others. Apparently some sturgeon still inhabit the river below Swan Falls and possibly below C. J. Strike. There are about 300 miles of other sturgeon habit remaining in Idaho.

3. Mitigation for loss of stream fishing would be provided by purchasing or constructing fresh water reservoirs in Owyhee County which could sustain a trout fishery since this is preferred by fishery agencies over a warm water fishery.

4. There would be a loss of willows and cover along the river below Swan Falls which could reduce California quail populations. This would be partially offset by replanting willows and by constructing new islands upstream.

5. The birds of prey would be affected only slightly by the project. About 26,000 acres of land have been withdrawn by the

Bureau of Land Management to protect the birds of prey. Moreover, the land development which will take place when funds are received will likely be in the Mountain Home area and not adjacent to the project.

In summary, the Swan Falls-Guffy Project marks the first time that substantial revenues (\$1.5 million per year) would be received by the state from water resource development. At the same time, the project would produce needed power in the Southwest Idaho area and help avert a power crisis. A new recreation complex would be developed. The project has virtually none of the environmentally sensitive factors which have been cited by preservationists who oppose other projects.

There is no anadromous fish present nor a prime trout fishery. The canyon is virtually unused by big game and no big game losses are expected. The river is not a white water stream and is turbid most of the year. There are no pine trees which would be inundated. The greatest loss appears to be of sturgeon habit in the 12 miles below the Swan Falls Dam. However, the sturgeon appear to be few in number and there are about 300 miles of other sturgeon streams in the state.

The legislature authorized state participation in the project in 1971. Mitigation studies and recreation studies followed so that the best possible project could be developed. Contract negotiations between the Idaho Power Co. and the State Water Resource Board were conducted in 1971 and 1972 under the supervision and final approval of a legislative interim committee. The contract became final in 1972 when the legislature failed to veto the contract. The next steps are: (1) file an amended application for relicensing of the Swan Falls Project with the Federal Power Commission, (2) obtain a ruling on tax free bonds from the Internal Revenue Service and (3) seek a court test of the board's authority to sell revenue bonds. Project construction could start in 1975 and be completed in 1977.



# Adventure Vehicle Uses: Their Impact

by Mel Quale

Magic Valley  
Trail Machine Association

The spirit of adventure lives on. Family adventure is available as never before, thanks to the imaginative development of a variety of ORRV's — Off-Road-Recreation Vehicles. Outdoor recreation has always been important and for many "the great American dream" is still to explore the unknown, the inaccessible. Adventure Vehicles have opened new horizons and created new opportunities for the realization of that dream.

Adventure Vehicle sales have skyrocketed in recent years. For example, in 1960 motorcycle sales in the U.S. were a mere 60,000 units, in 1970 they totaled 1,430,000 units (including minibikes). Snowmobile production in 1968 of approximately 210,000 units had grown to 445,000 units in 1970. Predictions run to 700,000 units to be produced and sold this season.

The versatility of the trailbike makes it at home on desert sand, sagebrush or forest trail. The uses to which the machines may be put are as varied as the people who operate them. The manner in which these vehicles are used may reflect the personality of the rider; action for the man with a purpose, docile and refined in more sedate hands. Snowmobiling has caused a number of Americans to eagerly anticipate winter. Enthusiasts of all ages participate in trail riding, safaris, of group snowmobiling. Family recreation describes the snowmobile.

The increasing popularity of these vehicles has not been without problems. There are few who hold lukewarm, middle-of-the-road feelings about them. Users find they provide a highly exhilarating form of recreation, and can provide safe and convenient transportation into areas formerly out of reach to persons limited by time and money. Adversaries consider them to be smelly, noisy toys whose use threatens the environment and therefore should either be banned outright or severely restricted. Both sides agree there are economic, social and environmental considerations which need to be resolved.

The economic impact of Adventure Vehicle use is significant. In 1970 Americans spent nearly as much for motorcycles as they did for all hunting and fishing equipment combined, and more than three times the amount for the purchase of snowmobiles as for all other forms of winter sports

equipment. A study of snowmobiling recently conducted in the Upper Great Lakes Region reports snowmobiling during the '70-'71 season was worth \$212,180,000 to the states of Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan.

The study further revealed the average cost of the snowmobile purchased new was \$903 and the average snowmobiler's annual cost of his winter sport to be over \$615 of which \$200 was for expenses other than the purchase of a new machine. Applying the study findings, the direct economic benefit from Idaho's over 14,000 registered snowmobilers could exceed \$8.5 million annually. Moreover, this figure does not include dealership and service salaries, parts sales, wholesale and retail financing, motel-hotel, food and drink. Nor does it include advertising of snowmobiles. It is also reasonable to assume the sales of light trucks, and campers, travel trailers, motor homes, etc., are in many cases the result of Adventure Vehicle pursuits.

The social effect of Adventure Vehicle use is varied and complex. Those who might otherwise avoid outdoor recreation have become active. Improved physical and mental health, an outlet for pent-up energies and in many cases new appreciation for outdoor values are among the benefits the activity provides. A spirit of camaraderie prevails among enthusiasts. In some cases the trailbiker in summer turns snowmobiler in winter.

A controversial aspect of Adventure Vehicle use occurs when hikers encounter mechanization after having labored to reach a destination by foot. Hikers resent the ease and mobility which the vehicles provide and claim loss of "experience" by the mere presence of a machine. Feelings run deep as noted in an exchange during the Trail Symposium held Nov. 4, 1972 at Moscow, Idaho. Question "Can the conflict of multiple trail use be solved?", response by Samuel Angrove of the Sierra Club: "No! Hikers hate bikes and always will. It is obnoxious to meet them on a trail." Cyclists are quick to point out Idaho's set aside of approximately 2,000,000 acres of forest in Wilderness or Primitive classification, is off limits to motorized travel. This sanctuary for the hiker amounts to 15 per cent of all forest land in the state. In addition undeveloped forest totaling nearly 8,000,000 acres and representing an additional 38 per cent of total forest acreage is currently being reviewed for possible inclusion within the



In 1970 Americans spent more than three times the amount for the purchase of snowmobiles as for all other forms of winter sports equipment. Idaho has over 14,000 registered snowmobiles.

Wilderness Preservation System. Many believe the use conflict problem can and will be solved. Vehicle operators contend much "environmental" objection is really social objection in disguise. A theory borne out by the Department of the Interior Task Force studying ORRV use which found, "The primary source of opposition to the vehicles appears to be based upon emotional, psychological, and social considerations."

The true environmental impact of Adventure Vehicles varies widely and has not been adequately researched. Undoubtedly the greatest offense of the machines is noise, a problem aggravated by the habits of some users. Fortunately, progress is being made. National attention is being given noise pollution from all sources. Manufacturers are building quieter machines and organized groups such as the Idaho Trail Machine Association are promoting the LESS SOUND MORE GROUND program in an effort to alert members and others to noise problems. The 1972 Idaho Legislature is to be commended for approving legislation requiring off-highway motorcycles to conform to present and future highway noise standards. Several states have adopted standards which by 1974 will require ORRV's to emit less sound at 50 feet than levels inside an automobile traveling 50 mph.

Soil erosion resulting from ORRV use is not as severe as some critics would have us believe. If it were the country would have

disappeared several years ago. Erosion attributable to thoughtless users and other correctable factors are basis for genuine environmental concern. Few of man's activities are without cost in one form or another, which gives rise to the question: is the cost acceptable in terms of benefits, and how can adverse effects be minimized? Hopefully research can provide answers. In the meantime, an informed public, reasonable regulations and good trail construction and maintenance would seem a logical place to begin.

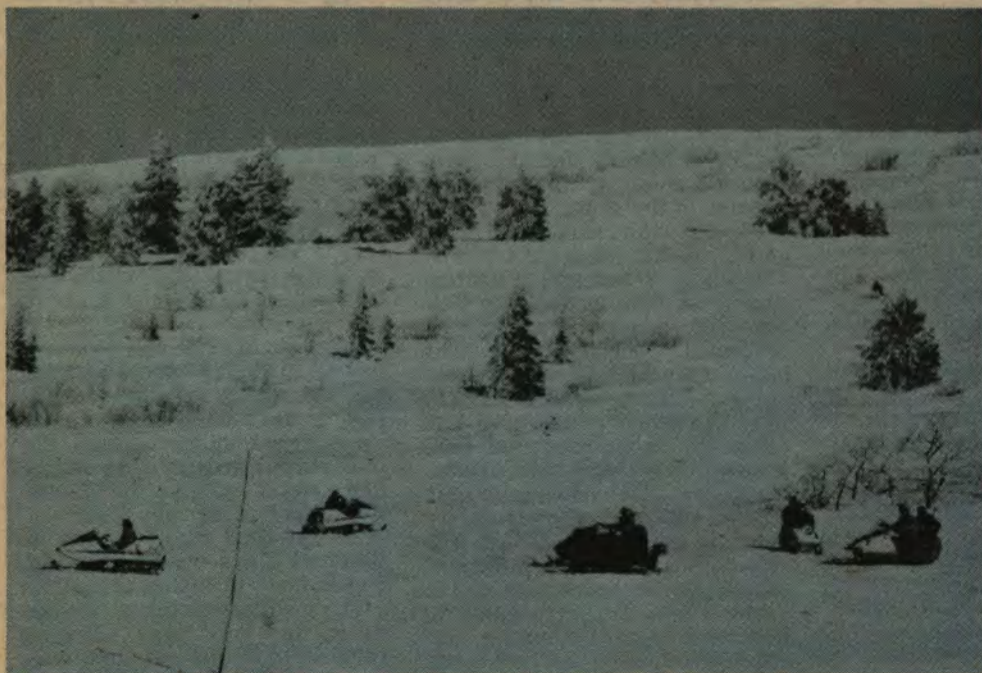
Responsible Adventure Vehicle users have real concern for the environment. Many believe the time has come for an examination of the credentials of the Sierra Club and others of their sway. It is difficult to understand how these self proclaimed "experts" carry the weight of authority which they assume. Users urge government which is answerable to the people to assert itself, to become actively involved and thereby provide a maximum of outdoor recreation opportunity, consistent with the needs of non-recreation interests, while at the same time maintaining high environmental quality. The key role should be performed by state governments with local input and federal coordination.

Where do we go from here? Opportunities have a way of presenting themselves through problems. Opportunities to study, to educate, to develop facilities and to resolve conflicts resulting from Adventure Vehicle use still exist in

Idaho. Money alone will not solve the problem, however funds will be necessary and should be secured from the users themselves rather than burdening the non-user. Legislation diverting highway gasoline tax monies for ORRV use needs clarification. County snowmobile registration funds should be made readily available for the benefit of users. Bureau of Outdoor Recreation assistance should be secured and the Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Forest Service should be encouraged to seek maximum budgetary consideration for ORRV projects. Users should be encouraged to provide volunteer manpower where practical.

Pilot projects on ORRV education could be initiated in our colleges and universities. Properly structured environmental research should be implemented. Proposed comprehensive land use planning should take ORRV needs into consideration. A review of wilderness might be considered, perhaps smaller more numerous "wildernesses" closer to population centers and consequently readily available to hikers would be more satisfactory than the vast largely unused tracts we now have.

Users rightly look to government for direction, however the ultimate destiny of the sport lies with the user himself. His conduct and ability to cooperate with others in seeking solutions to the myriad of use conflict situations that lie ahead will determine the future of Adventure Vehicle use.



Facilities for snowmobiling can be profitable for the economy of the state as was recently found from a study in the upper Great Lakes Region where it was found worth \$212,180,000 to the states of Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan for the 1970-71 season.



Motorcycle sales in the U.S. have skyrocketed in the past 10 years. In 1960 annual unit sales totaled only 60,000. In 1970 unit sales totaled 1,430,000.