



THE STILT

BRIDGERLAND AUDUBON SOCIETY

Volume 14, No. 9

May 1986

CALENDAR OF EVENTS — MAY

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

MAY EVENTS

6 May (Tues): Training Workshop — "How to testify at the May 14 BLM Wilderness Hearing." 7:00 pm in the Logan City Council Chambers. Sponsored by Cache Group Sierra Club. We will teach you how to be effective, what to say, and how to say it." For more information contact Catherine Sharpsteen 752-1996, Bryan Dixon 752-6830, or Diane Browning 752-5946.

8 May (Thurs): BAS Monthly Meeting — 7:30 pm in the Logan City Public Meeting Room. Jay Anderson, Director of the Historical Farm, will discuss domestic endangered species (both plant and animal), and the efforts of the Historical Farm to preserve some of those species.

8 May (Thurs): UNPS Field Trip and Pot Luck — The Utah Native Plant Society's field trip will be led by Leila Shultz, Curator, Intermountain Herbarium, to see *Primula maguirei*, the beautiful rare primrose growing only in Logan Canyon. The trip will be followed by a potluck-barbeque at Wood Camp. Meet at 1st Dam at 5:30 pm for car-pooling; bring a side dish and something to barbeque. For more info, call Kate or Wayne (752-1311).

10 May (Sat): Logan Canyon Cleanup — Sponsored by National Ski Patrol, Marty's Distributing, and Wendy's. Meet at First Dam at 8:00 am.

10 May (Sat): Shorebirds at Amalga Barrens — BAS field trip. Leave at 8:00 am from the southwest corner of the Fred Meyer parking lot and return by noon. Bring spotting scopes if you can, and foot gear suitable for wading through shallow water or mud flats. More than any other group of birds, shorebirds dramatize the great sweep of northward migration in spring. Many of these birds winter far to the south, some in the southern hemisphere. Most breed far to the north in the tundra. And, unlike our songbirds that move through singly or in small groups, shorebirds usually travel in flocks of hundreds or even thousands, sweeping in to a marsh to feed shoulder to shoulder, bills dipping into the mud in eager search for food.

10 May (Sat): UNPS Rare Plant Search — Join the Utah Native Plant Society in their survey of Logan Canyon for populations of the threatened *Primula maguirei*. Meet at 1st Dam at 9:30 am for car-pooling and instructions; dress for hiking; bring a lunch and binoculars. Return to Logan by mid-afternoon. Welcome to folks with all levels of expertise. Call Kate or Wayne (752-1311).

12 May (Mon): Homing Pigeons and their training — 7:00 pm in the Logan City Meeting Room. This is a program suitable for the whole family. Dr. Gar Workman, Wildlife Extension Specialist at USU, will bring some of his pigeons and tell about his experiences in raising, training, and racing his homing pigeons. Gar is the founder of the Bridgerland Audubon chapter, and is a keen naturalist who has been raising pigeons since childhood.

13 May (Tues): BAS Conservation Meeting — 7:00 pm in Room 112B of the Biology-Natural Resources Building on USU campus. The Conservation Committee will discuss the BLM wilderness, Logan Canyon Road, dams on the Bear River, Audubon Trail Guides, and local land use planning. Anyone is welcome.

14 May (Wed): Wilderness Hearing — 7:00 pm at the Mountain Fuel Building in Logan. **A MUST FOR ALL WILDERNESS SUPPORTERS.** This is a public hearing on BLM wilderness. For information, call Diane Browning 752-5946. Please prepare for this meeting by attending the Training workshop on May 6 (see above) to give your allowed 3-5 minute talks. But come to the Wilderness Meeting even if you don't plan to speak.

15 May (Thurs): Planning Meeting — 7:00 pm in the Logan City Building. **NOTICE THAT THIS IS A DIFFERENT NIGHT THAN USUAL.** This is to encourage your attendance at the Wilderness Hearing.

16-18 May (Fri-Sun): Idaho Audubon Council — Annual meeting of the Idaho Audubon Council features a splendid program to be held at Massacre Rocks State Park on the Snake River below American Falls. There will be raft trips on the Snake River, and field trips in the nearby Arco Desert for birding and wildflower sighting. **ADVANCE REGISTRATION OF \$5 PER PERSON OR \$10 PER FAMILY IS REQUIRED BY MAY 10.** Additional charge of \$5 per person for those going on the raft trip. An excellent time for fellowshiping with other Auduboners, and learning about the ecology of this country. Send checks to Pete Cole, 520 Skyline, Pocatello, ID 83204.

17-18 May (Sat-Sun): Canoeing the Bear River — Leave 7:30 am from the southwest corner of Fred Meyer parking lot. Return by 3:00 pm. **ADVANCE RESERVATIONS REQUIRED.** The stretch of the Bear River between Trenton and Amalga teems with birdlife and mammals such as beaver, muskrat, skunk and deer. Highlight of the trip will be seeing great-horned owls and Swainson's hawk on their nests, and visiting a thriving colony of great blue herons. A leisurely 15-mile paddle on rather quiet water. \$3.50 per person for those not having their own canoes. Call 752-9538 starting Monday, May 12, for reservations and details about the trip. Trip will be repeated on Sunday.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGIONAL CONFERENCE

A reminder that if you plan on attending this conference in southeastern Arizona, you need to get your reservation made. There will be field trips to such birding areas as the Chiricahua Mountains, the Huachuca Mountains, and Ramsay Canyon-Mile High Sanctuary. Speakers will include Audubon's new president, Peter A. A. Berle, Governor of Arizona Bruce Babbitt, Dr. Maurice Hornocker (the world's leading authority on the big

cats), Alexander Sprunt IV and John M. "Frosty" Anderson (NAS's vice presidents for research and sanctuaries). The conference headquarters is the Thunder Mountain Inn, 1631 South Highway 92, Sierra Vista, AZ 85635. **YOU NEED TO MAKE YOUR OWN ROOM RESERVATIONS DIRECTLY WITH THUNDER MOUNTAIN INN — Phone 602-458-7900.** Mention you are with Audubon. For information on registering for the conference, contact the National Audubon Society Regional Office/ 4150 Darley Avenue/ Suite 5/ Boulder, CO 80303.

GLACIER INSTITUTE

The Glacier Institute, a non-profit corporation cooperating with Flathead Valley Community College, examines the cultural and natural resources of Glacier National Park on the Canadian border in Northwestern Montana, through its series of summer field courses. Courses can be audited or taken for lower division college credit. Classes include: Sketching in Glacier, Teaching in the Outdoors, Glacier's Grizzlies, The North Fork Country: A Holistic View, Beginning Photography in Glacier, The Early Days of Glacier, Advanced Photography in Glacier, Mountains, Valleys and Glaciers, Glacier's Wildlife, Glacier's Landscapes, Fire Ecology, Alpine Wildflowers, Forest Tundra and Prairie, and Glacial Dynamics. **SPECIAL ONE-DAY FAMILY CLASS DESIGNED FOR PARENT/CHILD SHARING:** The Feathered and Flying of Glacier, Map and Compass, and Discovering Wildflowers. For further information contact: The Glacier Institute/ P.O. Box 1457/ Kalispell, MT 59903/ Phone 406-752-5222

REPORT ON APRIL BIRDING

What a great time for birding! Each week brings new arrivals throughout the Cache Valley. John and I enjoy birding frequently during the spring months, because it is so much fun to see what has arrived since the last time.

Several Sundays ago we spent the day on the bench near Cherry Creek northeast of Richmond. Right at the end of the day as we were barbecuing with some friends, the sky darkened with a storm which formed suddenly over the mountains and started our way. In the sky appeared a rainbow and then a double rainbow. As we admired the rainbows, we saw way up high four turkey vultures; then six, eight, and twelve. They dropped down and began to soar in circles on the drafts of the storm. Then another eleven arrived, flying high then dropping to join the circling dance of the spring storm—twenty-three turkey vultures all soaring.

On April 13, we spent several hours out in the car checking out various parts of the valley. We began on our favorite road, which runs between Hyde Park and Benson. Right off the bat, we had a special sighting: a loggerhead shrike, which we have seen only once before in Cache Valley. We also saw Swainson's hawks, ibis and pelicans. All in all we saw fifty-two species, though we were missing some obvious ones.

My suggestion to you is "Hit the back roads." Even if you have to turn around because the road ends in a field or down at the river, some of the best birding can be found in unexpected

places. Try Pelican Pond, Benson Marina, the Oxbows on the Bear River, the fields just west of the airport, or the Amalga Barrens. For the song birds which will arrive shortly (mountain bluebirds have already been seen), try the canal along Canyon Road in the Island area of Logan, the jogging path along Logan River, or any of the canyons on our bench area.

WHO WILL STOP THE RAIN?

The Colorado Environmental Coalition is sponsoring an Acid Deposition Conference in Boulder, Colorado on Saturday, June 14. Beginning at 9:00 am, there will be a panel discussion followed by questions from the audience. Workshops will be held in the afternoon, concluding at 5:00 pm. The conference is a forum designed to bring together people both currently working on acid rain and those who would like to become more involved. The Registration fee is \$7.00. Arrangements for hotel accommodations and carpooling will be available through CEC. For further information concerning the conference contact: The Colorado Environmental Coalition, 2239 E. Colfax Ave., Denver, CO 80206-1390; (303) 393-0466.

UNMASKING A MYSTERY OF EXTINCTION

A few years ago the black-footed ferret was extinct. At least that's what scientists suspected. Then, in 1981, a rancher's dog tangled with one of the elusive little predators in Wyoming's wilderness, and a whole colony was discovered.

Now, through stunning photography, this Audubon special brings to you the precarious life of the black-footed ferret. A classic story of North American wildlife desperately struggling to defy extinction.

World of Audubon Special, June 5, 9:05 pm Eastern on Super Station WTBS. Also on June 17, 10:20 pm Eastern, June 22, 1:05 pm Eastern and June 29, 6:05 pm Eastern.

BIRDS OF PREY OF THE SNAKE RIVER COUNTY

Learn firsthand about the majestic birds of prey of the Snake River country in Southern Idaho, and about their rugged, beautiful, but endangered habitat. The Golden Eagle Audubon Chapter and The Raptor Research Center of Northwest Nazarene College are offering their 4th annual Birds of Prey of the Snake River Country workshop. The six-day workshop will be June 9-14, 1986. Through lectures, laboratory demonstrations and extensive field trips, participants will learn the distinguishing features of identification, the distribution, and the natural history and habitat requirements for most North American birds of prey. Dr. Leon Powers, who will direct the course, was raised in the Snake River country, has done extensive research in this area and has been a frequent consultant to the Bureau of Land Management and the U.S. Department of Energy. He and his staff, including Tim and Erica Craig, will insure an intensely interesting and profitable experience for all participants.

For further information write to: Dr. Leon Powers, Raptor Research Center, Northwest Nazarene College, Nampa, Idaho 83651.

TURKEY VULTURES IN CACHE VALLEY

There are no breeding records of turkey vultures for Cache Valley. Yet they pass through here each spring in modest numbers. On April 10 Doug Gilbert and Al Stokes watched 9 vultures soaring above Logan Golf Course between 5:40 and 6:00 pm, slowly working their way north, perhaps to roost in Green Canyon. On Sunday, April 6, Terry Barnes counted 23 in one more or less single group. Some vultures do spend the summer here. LeRoy Goodey has seen some 7-9 birds roosting in tall poplars right in Clarkston most of the summer. Are these nonbreeding subadults? Again, it would be worthwhile to collect better records on this species. Turn your sightings with date and location in to Terry Barnes.

OBSERVERS NEEDED

Sandhill cranes are perhaps the only bird in America that can change their color without molting. They daub their feathers with mud, which stains their feathers the rust color we so often see in cranes here. But when does this occur and do all cranes do this? This spring I have been observing cranes as they settle on their breeding grounds in Cache Valley. To date I have recorded three with all-gray plumage and a fourth with just a faint trace of rust. All cranes start off with their natural gray plumage after their molt in late summer. But do they acquire the rusty feathers on their wintering grounds or here? This would make a good chapter project to record color, date, and whether adult or chicks. I would be glad to get what information you can give me.

— Al Stokes

WHAT ARE BACKPACKER SPINOFFS?

One of the arguments against wildlands in southern Utah is that wilderness users spend their time in areas where they can't spend money. But what about "travel through" expenses such as groceries, gas and motels? To come up with a concrete figure for those outlays and the accompanying economic benefit to southern Utah towns, the Cache Group Sierra Club of Logan, Utah, is asking all visitors to Utah's canyon country to keep track of their expenditures. From now until May 14, the date of the Logan BLM wilderness hearing, visitors can send their trip receipts, along with name, itinerary and travel dates, to Southern Utah Travel Money, c/o Cache Group Sierra Club, P.O. Box 3580, Logan, UT 84321.

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY ANNOUNCES HOUSING PROJECT FOR BLUEBIRDS

The National Audubon Society and Westvaco Corporation, a major timber company with a reputation for wildlife conservation efforts, are cooperating in developing a nationwide housing project for bluebirds. The project, "Bluebirds Across America," will make available easily-constructed bluebird house kits.

Kits are available from Bluebirds Across America, National Audubon Society, P.O. Box 1268, Charleston, SC 29402, for \$10 postpaid. Proceeds will be used for Audubon's endangered species and wildlife conservation work.

The bluebird, long a symbol of love, hope and happiness, has experienced a steady population decline since the 1930's. While all three species of bluebirds, the eastern, western, and mountain have diminished in numbers, both the eastern and western bluebirds are currently included on the Audubon's Blue List Group. Species in this group have shown clear, recent signs of decline in all or a major portion of its range. Some estimates indicate bluebird populations have been reduced as much as 90%. Lack of suitable housing is a major factor. The cavity-nesting bluebirds build nests and raise their young in holes in dead trees, rotting fence posts, or nestboxes placed in appropriate habitats. As urban and suburban areas have grown, dead trees have been removed, orchards pruned and sprayed with pesticides, and old wooden fence posts replaced with metal or treated wood. Many important winter food sources, especially berry-producing trees, shrubs and vines, have also vanished.

To make matters worse, the house sparrow and starling compete directly with the bluebird for the few remaining nesting holes, often breaking eggs, killing nestlings, and driving off adults.

To help preserve the bluebird for future generations, the National Audubon Society has embarked on a "Bluebird Housing Project." With support from Westvaco, Audubon is making available kits for building bluebird houses. The kits can be purchased from the above address and come with an instruction sheet and information on declines in the bluebird population.

— from *Audubon Rocky Mountain Regional Newsletter*.

MEMO

Excerpts from a memorandum to Chapter Leaders from Peter A. A. Berle, President of National Audubon Society:

On Wednesday, March 19, the House Interior Committee reported H. G. 1116, a bill reformulating and reauthorizing the Garrison Diversion Unit in North Dakota. This bill will be considered by the House of Representatives as early as the second week of April.

We expect to support the bill. I am writing to let you know what we are doing and why.

The legislation represents years of negotiations between the State of North Dakota, the Garrison Diversion Conservancy District, Audubon, the National Wildlife Federation, the North Dakota Chapter of the Wildlife Society, and many others. The purpose of the negotiations was to develop compromise

legislation which clearly sets forth the conditions under which a modified and scaled down version of the project might move forward—conditions which address the environmental and international concerns, as well as provide for the contemporary water resource needs of the state.

If you have specific questions on the legislation, want a copy of the bill, or want to learn more about what is happening in Congress, please contact Charlene Dougherty or Connie Mahan in our Washington, D.C. office at 645 Pennsylvania Ave. S.E./ Washington, D.C. 20003/ phone: 202-547-9009.

(I have a copy of the full memorandum as well as information produced by the Sheyenne Audubon Society which opposes the position of the National Audubon Society for anyone who would like to review this material.)

— Ron Ryel

BLM WILDERNESS

Last month I pointed out two areas (Kaiparowits and Mt. Pennell) where the BLM had left out large, contiguous chunks of wilderness from its proposal. Another area with similar problems is the Bookcliffs/Desolation Canyon region, which abuts an additional 415,000 acre area managed in primitive condition by the Uintah and Ouray Indian Reservation. Notable omissions include:

Desolation, Jack, and Floy Canyons — Proposal is for 265,140 rather than the full 369,105 acres, despite the overwhelming popularity of this area for rafting, and its excellent hunting.

Coal, Spruce, and Flume Canyons — BLM proposes zero acres; the potential is 136,040 acres.

The reason for leaving these areas out, or paring them down, probably relates to the minerals (coal, oil) potential, even though it is generally low. If you feel wilderness, recreational, and wildlife values in these areas outweigh other resources (i.e., minerals) values, let the BLM know.

The BLM will hold a public meeting to get comments on its proposal on Wednesday, May 14 at 7:00 pm in the Mountain Fuel Supply Auditorium in Logan. To speak, (and we encourage you to do so), you must register at 6:00 pm. Talks will be about 3-5 minutes long. Personal comments on specific portions of Wilderness Study Areas left out of their proposal will be most effective, but any statement of your views on BLM wilderness is important. It is also important that areas the BLM does propose for wilderness are given support. At the least, please attend this meeting.

Information packets covering all of the various wilderness proposals and issues are available at the Ready Reference Desk in the Logan City Library, at the Merrill Library on the USU campus (under "Professor Sierra" at the reserved reading desk), or from Bruce Pendery (753-1628). The Sierra Club will hold a workshop on testifying at 7:00 pm on May 6, in the Logan City Council Chambers. Also, the BLM will now accept written comments on the wilderness proposal until August 15, rather than June 15 as originally planned.

Finally, in the midst of all these boring facts and figures,

it is nice to stop and think of what we are really talking about. Wallace Stegner, in *American Places* (Greenwich House, 1983), reminds us:

From up on top one does not see the cliffs by which the Aquarius breaks down upon the Waterpocket Fold and the Escalante Basin. One looks over them, catching only glimpses of red in angle and buttress. But what one sees beyond! Northward, Thousand Lake Mountain lifts in tiered red cliffs to its high, level, timbered crest, and north-eastward the colored desert stretches its maze of canyons and mesas down the valley of the Fremont until it hazes out somewhere about Goblin Valley. Directly below us, several thousand feet below, the bloody welt of the Waterpocket Fold, crowned with calm white domes, runs nearly north-south until it too hazes out in the glowing pink Navajo sandstone through which the unseen Colorado has cut Glen Canyon. Beyond the Fold, eastward across labyrinthine mazes of stone, rise the gray-green cones of the Henry Mountains, "Gothic superimposed upon Byzantine," a sharp contrast both in color and shape to the flat crestlines and predominant red of the surrounding desert, and absolutely lyrical when capped with snow. Beyond the Henrys the level desert platform, barren, blistered, cut by cliffs and canyons, reaches almost to the edge of vision, a hundred and fifty miles out, to the rich red rim of the world which we know to be the almost impenetrable country around the junction of the Colorado and the Green, in Canyonlands National Park. But above that desert rim rises another, farther outburst of Gothic—the snowy peaks of the LaSals, laccoliths like the Henrys, high cones of snow. And then, if the light is right, you can let your eye range beyond the La Sals into the remotest edge of sky, and incredibly, far beyond those far cones, you make out other snowy crests, insubstantial as cloud: the La Plata Mountains, two hundred miles away in Colorado. (Wallace Stegner)

— Bruce Pendery

RIVERSIDE NATURE TRAIL

Bridgerland Audubon Society is writing a trail guide for the Riverside Nature Trail in Logan Canyon. This is a two-mile trail between the Spring Hollow picnic area and Guinavah campground. The trail follows the Logan River, hence its name. This is a popular hike with summer campers and picnickers, and it is often used by local schools for nature hikes. While hiking the trail one can see trout in the Logan River, views of Logan Canyon, birds, animal tracks (and often the animals), flowering plants, and a variety of trees.

Several years ago the Forest Service maintained this trail as a nature trail, complete with a trail guide and numbered posts. Most of the numbered posts are now missing, and the Forest Service no longer distributes the trail guide. Bridgerland Audubon Society is writing a new trail guide, will install new numbered posts, and will see to it that the Riverside Trail becomes a nature trail once again.

Anyone who would like to help on this project is welcome; the more help the better. We need people with interests in botany, forestry, wildlife, hydrology, fisheries, etc., to help determine points of interest on the trail as well as write about them for the trail guide.

A group hike will be scheduled on this trail for June. The June issue of the *Stilt* will give the details for the hike.

If you would like to help with this project, please telephone Mike Jablonski at 753-6964.

— Mike Jablonski & Cindy Johnson

THE TRIP WE SAW THE GROUSE DANCE

Boy! I was cold the trip we saw the grouse dance. We had to wake up at 5:00. Gosh! I jumped when Alan Stokes knocked on our van window to tell us to wake up! Then we went up this wierd road. It went up, down, around, up! Finally we stopped to watch the "Sharp-tail" grouse do his dance. The dance. The dance was funny! The male would put up his feathers to impress the female. He looked twice his real size! After that we went to see the "sage grouse." They were real far away. I took my field glasses and looked down at the sage grouse. All I saw was tiny, tiny specks. I walked closer to get bigger view and I saw white and black birds. I thought the black was his neck and the white was the back. Alice Stokes said it was the other way around. Going back to the car we found cow bones! And my dad (Art Mahoney) told us witch bones were witch. Next we went back to camp to eat our breakfast! Then we had a little meeting. And it started to rain. Alan said we would go see caches that Packrats made. Next we went to one more place and went for a hike. We found two hawks. And real soft fur. Next we came to a dandy lion patch and played around there with them in our hair. I found pretty purple flowers. I brought them back to the parking lot and showed Alan. And Alan said they were good to eat. I tell you they were! We had our lunch there too, we set up a table and other things. And when we were finished we played. On the way back my brother (John) and I went to sleep on one seat. When we got home we were fast asleep. Boy! That was a day for us. Thanks Audubon Society for these trips.

— Maggie Mahoney
Age 9

REPORT FROM AUDUBON

Audubon Wildlife Report 1985 is a hefty 671-page guide to the wildlife management bureaucracy, with special emphasis on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Project director Amos Eno and editor Roger Di Silvestro tell us the book is the first in a series of guides which will help citizens negotiate the "federal maze." An excellent reference.

National Audubon Society, 950 Third Ave., New York, NY 10022. Paper: \$16.50. Charts, illustrated.

MORE ON BLACKSMITH FORK DAM

The state still has plans for a dam on the Blacksmith Fork (see map). If you have never visited this area, I encourage you to do so now! Though the land is private, many areas, especially the entrance to the Sheep Creek and Mollene Hollow areas, are not posted. The stream here is totally unlike other streams in this part of the state—it meanders through meadows in an alternating series of deep pools and small falls.

This stream is a "class 1" trout fishery. The state Division of Wildlife Resources would like to purchase this land to assure its continued protection and access to the public. This dam would flood about 5% of Utah's class 1 trout waters and have unknown effects on the downstream area. The state's present calculations do not see the stream as a recreational benefit but instead assign a substantial recreational benefit to the resulting reservoir.

The primary purpose of this dam (and the alternate Avon site) is to bring more land under irrigation—hardly needed at the present when the government is desperately trying to reduce agricultural production. The benefit/cost ratio is marginal, and costs could exceed benefits if more realistic figures were used.

We need to make our opposition to this project known now!

Write: Larry Anderson/ Utah Division of Water Resources/ 1636 West North Temple/ Salt Lake City, Utah 84116; Dee Hanson/ Division of Water Rights/ 1636 West North Temple/ Salt Lake City, Utah 84116; Senator Lyle Hillyard/ 175 East 100 North/ Logan, Utah 84321; Representative Keith Gates/ 665 North 200 East/ Logan, Utah 84321; Representative Stephen Bodily/ 810 South Main/ Lewiston, Utah 84320.

For more information, call Steve Flint at 752-9102 (evenings).

— Steve Flint

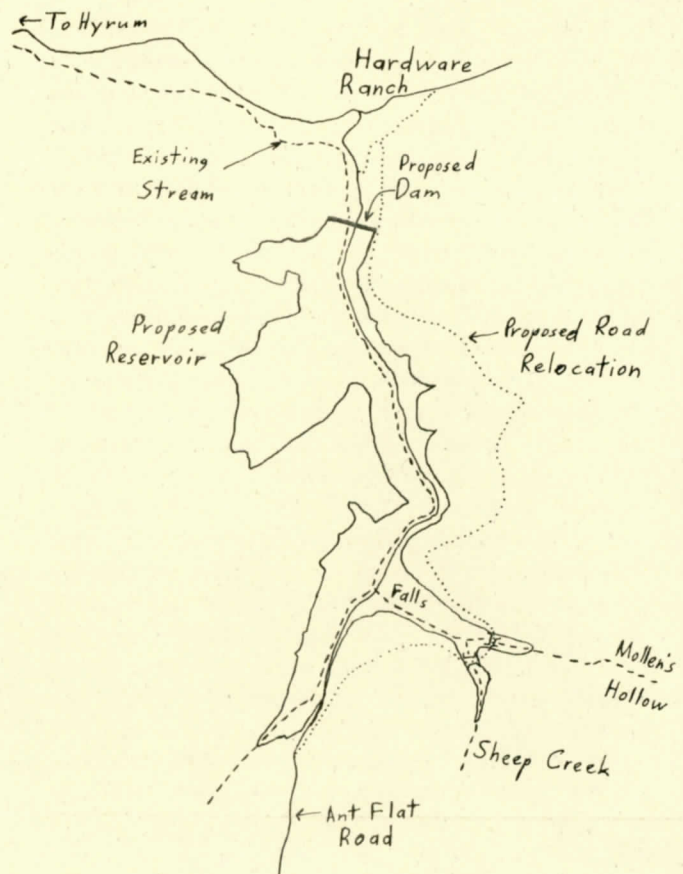
CONSERVATION NOTES

*Rumor has it that someone may (again) try to build a road into the Mt. Naomi wilderness. Be alert for this and call if you see anything.

*The Mt. View Ranger District is proposing a large timber sale in Bull Park (it's called the Gilbert Creek sale) adjacent to the High Uinta's Wilderness on the north slope of the Uinta Mountains. This area is prime old growth forest, and critical elk and moose habitat. Comments were due April 1, but opposition at any time can't hurt. (Rod Howard, Mt. View Ranger District, Wasatch National Forest, Box 129, Mt. View, WY 82939).

*The Audubon Society commented on FY 1987 Department of Interior Wildlife Appropriations. These recommendations will be voted on by May 30 (House), and June 30 (Senate), and your support is needed to see they are enacted. For example, they proposed 530 acres be acquired for Golden Spike National Historic Site; and \$275,000 be spent for Aleutian Canada Goose, Guam Bird, Red Wolf, and peregrine falcon recovery efforts. The list goes on and on, and is fascinating in its detail and rationale. Call for more information.

*The National Ski Patrol, Marty's Distributing, and Wendy's



will sponsor a Logan Canyon cleanup on May 10. Meet at First Dam at 8:00 am.

— Bruce Pendery

WELCOME

New Members: Kenall L. Johnson, Homer & Elizabeth Walker, H. Phelps, J. Wallace, and M. J. Crookston, all of Logan.

Renewing Members: Diane Behl and Merlin Tams of Wells-ville; Reed H. Godfrey and J.A. Hoffmann of Smithfield; Mrs. Bernard Hayes, William F. Sigler, Gar Workman, Jillyn Smith and Betsy Neely of Logan; Scott Jones of Hyrum; Ann Schaffer of Vernal; Janet L. Young of Richmond; Krag A. Klungness of Hancock, Michigan; Karen Lunquist Leach of Skokie, Illinois; David M. Smith of Edgewater, Maryland; Bill White of Santa Fe, New Mexico; Phillip J. Zwank of Baton Rouge, Louisiana; and Thomas W. Fratt of Steamboat Springs, Colorado.

THE MAGUIRE PRIMROSE

The limestone faces, ledges, and cliffs of Logan Canyon are beautiful to behold in all seasons; in spring, splashes of green and bright wildflower colors contrast with the grey washed rock. Among the colors is the rich magenta-lavender of the Maguire Primrose, a rare species occurring only in Logan Canyon.

Primula maguirei, a perennial herb about 1½ to 4 inches high, grows on damp overhanging rocks, ledges, and crevices in only a few places along Highway 89. It flowers in late April through May (depending on the year and site), producing localized but conspicuous displays of pink-purple blossoms.

The plant was first observed in 1911, but not officially described until 1936 in a revision of the western *Primulas*. It was named after the renowned botanist Bassett Maguire, first curator of the Intermountain Herbarium. Although recognized as rare since its description, *Primula maguirei* was not federally listed until last year. In August 1985, it was included on the federal register of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants as a threatened species ("... any species which is likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range"). The major threats to this species are exploitation for commercial or amateur gardening and potential highway construction. To insure protection, more information regarding distribution and number of plants is needed.

In early May, the Cache Valley chapter of the Utah Native Plant Society is planning an organized search of Logan Canyon to document known locations and search for new populations of *Primula maguirei*. The leg work will be done by volunteers. If you are interested, see announcement under "May Events." We need people. If you cannot assist in the organized survey, but are interested in looking for the primrose while hiking in Logan Canyon, join us on our May 8 field trip, contact the Utah Native Plant Society, or check out the bulletin board in the Natural Resources Building on the USU campus for a detailed description of the plant. Folks with all levels of expertise are encouraged to assist in the protection of this remarkably beautiful species and help keep Logan Canyon the special place it is.

— Kate Dwire

FIFTH ANNUAL RARE PLANT MEETING

The Cache Valley Chapter of the Utah Native Plant Society hosted the Fifth Annual Rare Plant Meeting on March 14, 1986. It was attended by local botanists (with amateur to professional levels of expertise), members of the Utah Native Plant Society, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Botanists from Utah and Colorado, and representatives from the Bureau of Land Management, the Forest Service, and The Nature Conservancy.

The main purpose of the all-day meeting, which was held at the Intermountain Herbarium on the USU campus, was to evaluate the status of Utah's rare plant species, including those federally listed as threatened or endangered, those under review for listing, and those proposed for listing or status change by the Utah Native Plant Society.

Topics discussed during the day included:

(1) the *Flora of Utah* — a one volume flora which will be available in fall, 1986 (welcome news to biologists statewide);

(2) the *Utah Atlas of Plants* (Albee & Shulz), which will be published within a year. The maps in the atlas will show topographic features and include the collection sites of Utah plants from all Utah herbaria—a great plus for field botanists;

(3) state-level conservation activities of the Utah Native Plant Society;

(4) a progress report on the 1985 activities of The Nature Conservancy in Utah; most work has been done in Research Natural Areas administered by the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management;

(5) the monitoring methodology and current monitoring programs for federally listed Utah rare plant species. Several participants stressed that monitoring is critical yet labor intensive (i.e. expensive), and that the assistance of volunteers can play an important role in data collection on rare plants;

(6) new information, recovery plans, and status reports of rare plant species throughout the state.

Additional notes on the meeting and the updated rare plant candidate list are printed in *The Sego Lily*—newsletter of the Utah Native Plant Society (May, 1986) or can be obtained from Kate Dwire or Wayne Padgett (752-1311).

— Kate Dwire

BIOREGIONAL AWARENESS

We are all familiar with the profound impact grass roots organizations have had on the environmental movement. Your own Audubon chapters which exhibit the resourcefulness, creative energy and commitment are proof of this success.

Part of the reason so many positive changes have occurred with the help of local organizations is because of their bio-regional awareness. What is a bioregion? It is the particular environment with which one is most familiar—essentially, the understanding of the land which surrounds your home. For millenium bioregionalism has been in existence. "It has been the animating cultural principle through ninety-nine percent of human history and it is at least as old as consciousness."

By knowing your bioregion with regard to its many facets of wildlife, plants and water resources you are initiating within your community a sense of shared responsibility to maintaining the integrity of that "place." Many individuals' initial concern about the environment might occur with a question about something they saw in their backyard, perhaps the fleeting glimpse of a Pileated Woodpecker could prod one into wondering about its home, food and population.

Although bioregional awareness occurs locally, the long term effect is a complete global ecological understanding—an increased awareness of natural systems which in turn lends itself to a better understanding of self.

Jim Dodge, author of articles published in *CoEvolution Quarterly* has developed a series of questions to provide you with insight into your environmental perceptions of place.

1. Trace the water you drink from precipitation to tap.

2. How many days until the moon is full (plus or minus a couple of days)?
3. Describe the soil around your home.
4. What were the primary subsistence techniques of the culture(s) that lived in your area before you?
5. Name five native edible plants in your bioregion and their season(s) of availability.
6. Where does your garbage go?
7. On what day of the year are the shadows the shortest where you live?
8. What primary geological event/process influenced the land form where you live?
9. What species have become extinct in your area?
10. What are the major plant associations in your region?
11. How much gasoline do you use a week, on the average?
12. What developed and potential energy resources are in your area?
13. What plants are there for massive development of energy or mineral resources in your bioregion?
14. What is the largest wilderness area in your bioregion?
15. What spring wildflower is consistently among the first to bloom where you live?

*Excerpts from: *Deep Ecology*; Bill Devall, George Sessions; Published by Gibbs M. Smith, Inc., Layton, Utah; 1985.

UTAH GEOGRAPHIC SERIES

Canyon country, mountain ranges, wildlife, skiing, rivers, deserts, wilderness, pioneer trails and people—all will be featured as separate titles in the new UTAH GEOGRAPHIC SERIES. The beautifully illustrated series will portray in words and photographs the unique diversity of Utah . . . its astounding landforms, abundant wildlife, colorful history and vigorous people.

Rick Reese, President of the Utah Geographic Series, a Utah corporation formed last year, said that his company will publish more than a dozen books in the next few years; all will focus exclusively on Utah. Each title in the series will contain 120 pages of authoritative text, maps and charts, and nearly 200 photographs by the West's finest photographers. Other titles include *Utah Ski Country*, *Utah Wildlands*, *Pioneer Trails*, *The Wasatch Front*, *Utah Wildlife*, *Utah's Great Basin* and *Utah Mountain Ranges*.

Utah Canyon Country will be released April 1, 1986. It was written by Moab author Fran Barnes with a foreword by Ted Wilson, former Mayor of Salt Lake City. The book has chapters on natural history, human history, national parks and special areas, and recreational opportunities.

The Utah Geographic Series pays the postage and guarantees your money back if you are not pleased with the book. To order send \$16.75 to Utah Geographic Series, P.O. Box 8325, Salt Lake City, Utah 84108.

NEW PRE-SCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN NATURE SERIES

"Animals Up Close," the first early childhood learning kit in *Your Big Backyard See and Do Nature Series*, is now available from the National Wildlife Federation. The self-contained nature discovery kit is prepared especially for preschool and kindergarten teachers, children's librarians, and other early childhood educators.

Each item in the kit, which was developed by the National Wildlife Federation Conservation Education staff in conjunction with early childhood specialists, is designed to motivate young learners to explore the differences among animals. In "Animals Up Close" are colorful photographs of wildlife, booklets with original illustrations of animals and children, and a step-by-step teaching guide.

Twelve big color ANIMAL CARDS introduce children to the bright red cardinal, cottontail rabbit, short-horned grasshopper, garter snake, bullfrog, white-footed mouse, blue-gill, crayfish, raccoon, chipmunk, red fox, and house sparrow.

Created especially for the *See and Do Nature Series*, the two STORY-STARTERS booklets present engaging illustrations for children to interpret in their own words. The WINTER STORY-STARTERS show children and red foxes keeping warm and playing in the snow. The SUMMER STORY-STARTERS focus on children playing and frogs leaping. Children develop verbal skills as they describe what is going on in each illustration.

The four-page TEACHING ACTIVITY GUIDE is full of easy-to-do activities designed to help children learn by doing.

"Animals Up Close" is the first in a series of preschool nature kits being developed by the National Wildlife Federation. Additional discovery kits in the series will be published in the coming months. Titles include "Animals and Their Young," "Animals That Swim," and "Animals That Fly."

"Animals Up Close" is now available from the National Wildlife Federation, 1412 16th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. To order, send \$12.95 per kit plus \$1.55 for each order for shipping and handling. Specify the item number 76001EV and the title, "Animals Up Close."

HELP ELIMINATE COKE'S NEW ENVIRONMENTALLY UNSAFE BOTTLE

Coca-Cola is currently testing the marketability of its new plastic/aluminum can in Columbus, Georgia. The new cans cannot be economically recycled, and could actually threaten recycling efforts. Indistinguishable from all-aluminum containers, the plastic cans damage aluminum furnaces and release toxic gases when burned. Aluminum companies are concerned that if sales of the new can continue they will be unable to buy from recyclers. This may result in a cutback not only in aluminum recycling, but also in paper and glass programs which often depend on the revenues from aluminum.

Coca-Cola Vice President Brian Dyson says that no firm decision on introduction of the plastic can has yet been made. If you would like to help put a stop to the production before it gets started, voice your opinion. Write or call: Bryan Dyson,

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Coca-Cola USA, P.O. Drawer 1734, Atlanta, GA 30301, 1-800-GET-COKE. For more information: Ruth Lampi, Grassroots Organizer, Environmental Task Force, 1346 Connecticut Ave., N.W., Suite 912, Washington, D.C. 20036. (From Sierra Club's National News Report.)

TMI HEADS WEST

The melted core of the Three Mile Island nuclear reactor will soon be shipped piecemeal by train from Pennsylvania to the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory in eastern Idaho. Starting this May or June, and lasting until late 1987, some 40 radioactive shipments will roll across 10 states on their way to INEL. The reactor will be stored and studied at INEL until Department of Energy finds a site for a permanent nuclear wastes dump. Reaction in Idaho to the nuclear transfer has been mixed. Some business people and politicians say it will bring an economic boost to the area, while environmentalists and anti-nuclear activists fear that Idaho might wind up as a de facto nuclear waste repository.

— from *High Country News*

DEFENSE FUND

Supporters of Earth First! co-founder Howie Wolke have begun a legal counter-attack. Wolke is currently serving a six-month sentence in Wyoming's Sublette County Jail for removing Chevron survey stakes. Because Wolke's judge, Bill Cramer, made it clear in court that he had been swayed by hostile public opinion, Wolke's defenders ask that letters of support be sent to the judge, asking him to reduce Wolke's sentence. Letters should be sent to the Howie Wolke Legal Defense Fund, Box 7058, Jackson, WY 83661.

PREMIER ISSUE

The non-profit Utah Public Lands Research has published the premier issue of *On Public Lands*, a 12-page tabloid newspaper devoted to Utah's public lands. Publisher Rich Warnick, in an introduction to the new publication, writes that the newspaper has been started at a considerable financial sacrifice by conservationists who hope it "will quickly garner the thousand or so subscribers it needs to remain viable." The first issue includes an article on the Bureau of Land Management's EIS on Utah wilderness, a critique of the BLM's performance, a summary of various wilderness proposals and a map of wilderness study areas. A subscription is \$10 for 11 issues. For information or a sample, write: Utah Public Lands Research, P.O. Box 510863, Salt Lake City, UT 84151.

I explored California a little and decided I liked Utah better. Comparing the achievements of the settlers in Utah and California, who were building their civilizations at the same time, I felt that Utah achieved greatness while California had greatness thrust upon it. There is nothing in California to equal the Mormon valleys, with each village clustering around its big temple and the mountains on each side sweeping straight up to heaven.

— Freeman Dyson, *Disturbing the Universe*

Cuckoos lead Bohemian lives,
They fail as husbands and as wives,
Therefore they cynically disparage
Everybody else's marriage.

— Ogden Nash

EMBASSY CIRCUIT

ribs show
belly distends
dull eyes stare
at limousine

fat white passengers
coats and ties
air conditioned comfort.

"Does the poverty depress you?"
"No, they are God's children.
It is his problem."

His problem paws garbage
His hands raise champagne
at the reception.

— Thad Box
(copyright 1982)

PHOENIX

Black cloud
poises like eagle
over crimson sunset.
City sprawls
like tattered fishnet over desert.
Street lights glitter.
Cars race along threads.
Energy burns.
Water drains
from earth's arteries.
Only a matter of time
Until the eagle strikes.

— Thad Box
(copyright 1982)

The Bridgerland Audubon Society meets the second Thursday of each month, October through May, in the Council Room of the new Logan City Building, 255 North Main. Meetings start at 7:30 pm.

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Vice-President
Secretary
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Terry Barnes, 563-3910
John Barnes, 563-3910
Peter Landress, 752-7692
John Wraith, 752-0743

Membership in the Bridgerland Audubon Society includes a subscription to *The Still*, as well as to *Audubon* magazine.
The editor of *The Still* invites submissions of any kind, due on the 18th of each month. Send to Box 3501 / Logan, UT 84321.

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CHAPTER

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

How Do I Join?

(We thought you would never ask.) Just complete the following application and enclose a check for the amount for the appropriate type of membership. Send it to:

BRIDGERLAND AUDUBON SOCIETY
P.O. Box 3501
Logan, Utah 84321

Check membership category desired.

- ☐ Individual / \$30 (H)
☐ Family / \$38 (J)
☐ Student / \$18 (K)
☐ Senior Citizen Individual / \$21 (N)
☐ Senior Citizen Family / \$23 (P)
☐ Please bill me ☐ Check enclosed

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____