



# THE STILT

BRIDGERLAND AUDUBON SOCIETY

Volume 20, No. 5

Upper Northern Utah

January 1992

## COMPROMISE IN THE CANYON:

### ● This Acceptable?

Local elected officials have criticized the Utah Department of Transportation's draft preferred alternative for Logan Canyon. These officials say that UDOT has given in to the requests of conservationists. While UDOT has compromised by deleting the passing lane on The Dugway and the channelizing of Beaver Creek from what was the old "Composite Alternative," we have many more concerns. I want to know if you feel this new alternative is something we can live with.

Several years ago we submitted our alternative proposing bridge widening, some passing lanes, turning lanes, and turnouts. We did not feel a general widening and upgrading of the roadway was appropriate. The current proposal advanced by UDOT essentially applies our approach to only four miles of the canyon—from Right Fork to the Lower Twin Bridge. (However, even here they would like to straighten a couple of curves.) For the next four miles, from Lower Twin Bridge to the open area above Ricks's Spring, road width would be increased to 130 percent of the present and the alignment would be straightened. From the Tony Grove area to Garden City, road width would be either 150 percent or 180 percent of the present width, depending on whether it is two or three lanes. (Of the entire project from Right Fork to Garden City, 45 percent is proposed to be a three-lane roadway.) More curves would be straightened in the Upper Canyon, and an additional 20

would be cut on the way down to Garden City, making this a very steep road.

While an important four-mile section of the Logan River would be protected in this draft alternative, we still feel the proposed widening will damage the river above this section. Hillsides will be scarred with roadcuts. The emphasis in this proposal on a high-speed roadway is incompatible with Logan Canyon.

There are no plans for additional public hearings. Should we insist on any? Should we challenge this proposal till it bears more resemblance to the Conservationist's Alternative offered in the DEIS? If you think so, can you help support us if we must take this to court? Legal action may be our only recourse. I'd like to know how you feel. Call me at 752-9102 evenings.

— Steve Flint  
for Citizens for the Protection of Logan Canyon

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# CALENDAR

## MEETINGS

**Thursday, January 9.** General Monthly Meeting. 7:30 p.m. in the Logan City Meeting Room, 255 North Main. "Utah's Threatened Wetlands." Wayne Martenson, our lobbyist at the Utah Legislature for the Audubon Coordinating Council of Utah, will enlighten us with a wetlands slide show. The migratory use of the Great Salt Lake and other marshes of Utah is critical to waterfowl and shorebirds. Wayne's work as the Utah Wetlands Coordinator for the Rocky Mountain Region of National Audubon has produced some interesting information about upcoming planning efforts. The importance of preserving and enhancing Utah's shrinking wetlands will be discussed.

**Wednesday, January 15.** Planning Meeting. Anyone interested in the current activities of Bridgerland Audubon is welcome to attend these sessions. Committee reports predominate. This is a good way for newcomers to get acquainted and become involved. 7 p.m. at Bio-Resources, 130 East Center, Logan.

**Wednesday, January 15.** Deadline for articles for *The Stilt*

**Saturday, January 18.** Organizational Meeting for Hiking Club. The Cache Valley Mountain Club invites anyone interested in participating in organized hikes, walks, treks—long, short, mild, strenuous—to meet at 7 p.m. at Kennita and John Thatcher's, 881 East 150 North. Please come to discuss ideas about the club. John Wood, author of *Cache Valley Trails*, will join us and share his thoughts. Furthermore, refreshments will be served. Call 753-8415.

**Tuesday, January 28.** Cache Recycling Coalition Awards Dinner. Bridgerland Audubon Society is part of CRC. Members are welcome to attend this annual get-together to acknowledge organizations and individuals in the community who have made significant strides in the areas of recycling and waste reduction. This year's dinner is potluck style, with CRC providing beverages and music. It will be held at the Senior Citizen Center. There is no charge to attend (except for something edible to share). The Social Hour will begin at 6 p.m. with dinner at 7 p.m. Loads of "green" door prizes will be given away. Call Marvin and Irma Moon to R.S.V.P. (753-4698).

## FIELD TRIPS

**Saturday, January 25.** Tracks in the Snow. Kayo Robertson will lead a trip into the valley to look for animal tracks. Mice, weasels, foxes, cats, dogs, and racoons are among the possible mammals, plus a variety of birds. After identifying the animal the real challenge is determining what the animal was doing. Was it walking or running, just traveling or searching for food? Kayo, author of several natural history books, is a veritable Pied Piper the way he fascinates young and old. And of course, he is certain to discover other unexpected things, dead or alive, as the group wanders along. Good waterproof boots or galoshes should suffice rather than skis or snowshoes. A grand family outing. Leave at 1 p.m. from the southwest corner of Fred Meyer's parking lot and return about 4 p.m. Bring some friends. If weather is unsuitable the trip will be held February 1.

**Saturday, February 8.** Know Your Common Conifers. This ever-popular trip under the good-humored leadership of Prof. Rob Lilieholm will acquaint you with the common conifers growing on the USU campus. Rob will help you identify the species by needles and cones, and also point out growth habits of each species and their value for wildlife and the timber industry. Leave at 1 p.m. from the Information Desk in the Taggart Student Center and return by 3 p.m. or so. The tour will stay on roads and sidewalks for the most part. Dress warmly. Bring some friends to introduce them to Audubon. If in doubt about the trip being cancelled because of weather, call Rob at 752-4793.

**Saturday, February 22.** Beaver Along the Bear River. Beaver are abundant along the Bear River west of Logan. They den in high banks and cut nearby willows and cottonwood for their winter food. Some they store in quiet water where they can reach it beneath the ice. This is a good chance to discover what a beaver has been doing from the signs it leaves—trails, den, tree cuts and food stores. Roast marshmallows over an open fire while trip leader Al Stokes recounts the history of the early beaver trapping and fur trade in Cache Valley. A fine outing for families. Just wear good boots or galoshes and dress warmly. Leave at 1 p.m. from the southwest corner of Fred Meyer's parking lot and return by 4 p.m. If in doubt about the weather call Al Stokes at 752-2702.

**As always . . .**

This newsletter is printed on recycled paper. It is also recyclable. We use soy ink for the printing process.





## WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!

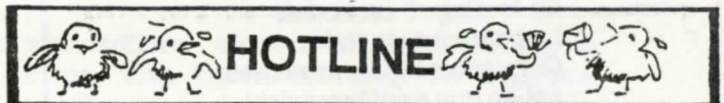
Grant Allen, Logan  
Steve Archibald, Logan  
Charles Ashurst, Logan  
Claire S. Caldes, Brigham City  
Jason Christensen, Logan  
Greg Crosby, Logan  
Rebecca Colvin, Logan  
Mr. Donald T. Cundy, Paradise  
Ramon V. and Joan Darton, Logan  
Susan Dawson, Logan  
Esther and Brita Gates, Logan  
Laura Hartt, Logan  
J.C. Kemp, Logan  
Bradley R. Kropp, Logan  
Don Hickman, Logan  
Timothy Johnson, Logan  
Joanna Leary, Logan  
Glenn Leonard, Richmond  
Thom and Jennifer MacAdam, Logan  
Mr. Steven R. Meyer, Logan  
Ms. Janice M. Poirot  
James P. Shaver, Hyrum  
Courtney B. Smith, Lewiston  
Miss Andria Stark, Trenton  
Jean A. Sullivan, Logan  
Gilberto E. Urroz, Logan  
Western Surgery Center, Logan  
Wayne Wurtsbauch, Logan

## THANKS, RENEWING MEMBERS!

Susan Allen, Logan  
Michael C. Amacher, Logan  
Charles E. Baldwin, Logan  
Diane Behl, Providence  
Hugh and Katie Blanchard, Mililani Town, Hawaii  
Kenneth Brewer, Logan  
Lee Brinegar, Salt Lake City  
Chris Carlson, Logan  
Jeanne C. Chambers, Logan  
Blaise Chanson, Logan  
Mrs. Linda A. Chisholm, Paradise  
Kevin Connors, Logan  
Mervin P. Coover, Providence  
Ms. Lula C. Devalve, Logan  
Donna L. Gordon, Logan  
Mrs. and Mrs. T. J. Gordon, Logan  
William Helprin, Logan  
Arthur H. Holmgren, Logan  
Daisy and Trevor Hughes, Logan  
John A. Kadlec, Logan  
Gayle Knapp, Hyrum  
Frederick F. Knowlston, Logan

William D. Larsen, Jr., Logan  
Loretta Lockett, Logan  
Gary and Naomi McKean, Logan  
Steve McOmber, Logan  
John Mull, Logan  
M. Jean Packer, Logan  
Ann W. Peralta, Millville  
Mrs. Sandra Romesburg, Logan  
Tovi Santiago, Jackson, Wyoming  
John A. Scherting, Logan  
John W. Sigler, Logan  
Marsha Swartzfater, Layton  
Chris and Diane Terry, Logan  
Tim and Tammy Vitale, Logan  
Mrs. Inez F. Voris, Logan  
Maureen Wagner, Mendon  
Rene Walker, Wellsville  
Kathryn C. Wanlass, Logan  
John and Dana Williams, Logan  
M. Coburn Williams, Logan  
Mr. David S. Winn, Logan  
Mr. James L. Woodson, Logan  
Dr. Gar W. Workman, Logan  
Ms. Wendy Greene, Smithfield  
Irma and Marvin Moon, Mendon

Current membership total is 304.



The snow is finally here, a blanket of white making the landscape yearn for a flash of red. I'm hoping for cardinals (the eternal cockeyed optimist) but settling, of course, for house finches and red-shafted flickers. A pair of flickers spent the morning of December 5 in our apple tree, picking at frozen fruit and showing off their red-flannel wing linings to us window-gawkers.

About a dozen Barrow's goldeneyes were at First Dam around the end of November, keeping themselves separate from those flocks of domesticated ducks and retired mallards that storm all human approachers in a flurry of quacking, looking for handouts.

Nobody's called me with Hotline news, and I haven't called anyone to beg for crumbs of information. Kit Flannery turned in the following, infinitely more exciting report:

Nov.2 — Keith Dixon had a rose-breasted grosbeak at his feeder in Logan.

Nov. 3 — Larry Ryel sighted 30 snow buntings in a rubble bank on the north dike of the Logan sewage lagoons.



Nov. 20 — Larry and Kit birded the sewage lagoons and saw a bar-headed goose; a large hybrid goose of questionable parentage (though he thought he was a Canada); three snow buntings and a short-eared owl—and that was just the good stuff.

The bad stuff was several spent shotgun shells and dead waterfowl, and hundreds—maybe thousands—of plastic tampon applicators floating on the ponds.

Nov. 21 — Larry and Ron Ryel sighted a yellow-billed loon at Fish Springs in central Utah! It's the first Utah sighting on record for this rare vagrant.

Nov. 24 — Kit's Quarter-Acre hosted a Townsend's solitaire, her 108th yard-bird.

Call us, please. Tell us what's dining at your feeder, what you saw on your last drive through the frozen marsh, what you had for dinner—anything. Do it now! We love to chat and tell.

— Nancy Williams, 753-6268

— Kit Flannery, 563-5984

### CHANSON DU ROITELET (SONG OF THE WREN)

#### I. Song in June

En feuillage il est caché,  
Le petit roi de la forêt  
Qui s'amuse toute la journée:  
Est-ce que c'est le roitelet?

C'est vraiment l'esprit d'été  
Qui chante de la liberté.  
J'aime la chanson, j'aime la fée,  
J' aime le joli roitelet.

#### II. Echo in December

Behind a leaf in secret play  
He captivates the glen:  
A fluted call, the longest day  
Of all — Is it a wren

Or siren? Is it summer's self-  
Abandoned liberty?  
Come winter will I grieve this elf  
Who must a singer be?

— Martha Balph

*I wrote the first part in a foreign language to try to make it more "romantic" or songlike. The first section is light and simple (partly by intent, but also because I'm definitely not capable of writing anything complicated in French!). The second part is a loose translation of the first, but is darker and more complex.*

## SUNFLOWER SEEDS

### Reduced in Price

Thanks to a reduced price of seed from the grower we are now selling black sunflower seed for \$15 for a 50-pound bag (plus \$1 deposit on the bag, refundable when bag is returned in usable condition). Seed is available at Sunrise Cyclery and Al Stokes' home as long as supplies last.

## STARLINGS SEEK WARMTH FROM POND

There is a small pond that stays open all winter to the north of 1400 North and halfway between 800 and 1200 East in Logan. Almost always there is a flock of 100 or more starlings perched close together on wires running above the pond. It must be the added warmth from the hot air rising from the pond that attracts these starlings. But these starlings do not perch shoulder to shoulder. Instead, they leave about two inches open—the so-called "individual distance." Perhaps this spacing has survival value in not inhibiting rapid flight should a raptor suddenly appear. It would be an advantage for a bird to perch with close neighbors. Watch to see where an arriving starling attempts to alight and if it displaces an already-perched bird. Do house sparrows and rock doves also perch on this wire? If so, how do starlings respond to them?

— Al Stokes

## EDITORIAL

### Be Nice

Recently, an issue of an L.D.S. publication circulated to churches worldwide encouraged its readers to recycle and join local environmental groups. This was wonderful news, and I hope it means a trend of increasing cooperation between the LDS Church and environmentalists. But there's potential for harm.

There are many areas of disagreement between our philosophies. The most obvious area of conflict regards family size. Most people who have considered the impact of humanity on the planet favor small families, while devout church members still adhere to the command to "be fruitful and multiply."

As we attract new members, I hope we will remember that family size is still a matter of personal choice in this country. Our best chance of influencing those we differ with is to respect them, welcome their participation, and let education and logic, rather than ridicule and criticism,



do the job of changing minds. Consider how jests about the dominant religion would sound to a wary stranger. Another point to remember is that parents of many children have potentially more impact on the future: If a mother of ten comes to believe in the value of limiting family size, ten young people are going to hear about it. The same holds true if she decides to feed birds, recycle glass, or write to her representatives.

There are many points on which we can all agree: Recycling makes sense; Nature needs protecting; Environmental education is a must; We live in a wonderful world, and want to be responsible inhabitants. If we are indeed moving into a new era in Utah, with environmentalism becoming the mainstream ethic, let's add one more point of agreement: We all enjoy our associations through Bridgerland Audubon. Let's take advantage of this opportunity to share our pleasure in the environment, and welcome newcomers with warmth and respect.

— Pat Gordon

## POETRY CONTEST

All poets are invited to participate in the Seventh Annual Utah Wilderness Association Wilderness

Poetry Competition, an exciting competition sponsored by the Utah Wilderness Association. Send your unpublished poem related to the theme of wilderness, its preservation, its life and values, its spiritual nature or any of the preceding themes, to POETRY/UWA, 455 East 400 South, #306, Salt Lake City, Utah 84111.

A prize of \$100.00 will be awarded to the winning poet. The winning poem and the top five honorable mentions will be reprinted in a special centerfold of the spring 1992 *UWA Review* (circulation: 1500) and will be circulated throughout the West.

### Contest Rules

Poems must not exceed 40 lines, may be in any style and must be limited to the themes above. No more than three poems may be entered by any poet. Each poem must be accompanied by an entry fee of \$3.00. Send two copies of each poem: one must include your name, address and phone number; the second must contain the poem only, to guarantee anonymity during judging. Poets retain all rights. For notification of winners, send SASE. No poems will be returned. We wish you luck and hope to hear from you soon.

ALL POEMS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY FEBRUARY 1, 1992.

## RECYCLING WITH IRMA

### Recycled Paper

Recycled paper reduces pollutants by 50 percent; energy use, 70 percent; water use, 60 percent: I knew that. Then I let my Christmas letter be printed on virgin paper. Recycling is re-learning and then REMEMBERING TO DO IT. Christmas wrapping is a way to put the Earth on your shopping list. When the waxed, glazed, glossy, foil, or mylar Christmas wrap paper goes on sale after Christmas, don't even be tempted to buy. Those fancy wraps aren't biodegradable, can't be recycled. The strategy is to select presents that don't have to be wrapped, or don't have to be wrapped in paper, or can be wrapped in paper supplies you're reusing, or wrapped in recycled paper products. A bandana, pillow case, or stocking can become the wrap and a serviceable part of the gift. Rubber stamps of Christmas design, using green and red ink pads, can be used to decorate grocery bags, butcher, or newsprint paper. There's always material you have lying around: old Christmas cards, leftover wallpaper, egg cartons, old calendars, maps, and posters that can be creatively converted.

### Happy Ending

The very happiest recycle story I could find for your Christmas cheer comes from California. S. David Freeman, manager of the Sacramento Utility District, has a one-year-old program of getting customers to trade in old refrigerators for energy efficient models, paying cash rebates of up to \$150. Successful? You bet! Twelve thousand customers have and are now saving an average \$11 on their monthly bills and enough energy to supply all the electricity for 2,000 new homes. Recycling the old refrigerators has resulted in three million pounds of scrap metal being processed and 1,500 pounds of freon being recovered.

Mr. Freeman says, "We're doing a good environmental job of recycling. Our projections were to cut electricity consumption in half—old vs. new. What we're doing is a little better than half. You seldom have a program that does better than your estimates. This one happens to be working out that way."

— Irma Moon

## SMITHFIELD'S SECOND SATURDAY

On the second Saturday of each month, Summit School in Smithfield becomes a recycling center. You can drop of cardboard, newspaper, aluminum, steel food cans, plastic milk jugs and pop bottles, and car batteries.



# STATE SCHOOL-TRUST LANDS

## Education vs. Environment

In 1896, when Utah became a state, seven million acres, one-ninth of all land in Utah, was dedicated to our public schools to "constitute a permanent school fund, the interest of which only shall be expended for the support of said schools." In 1991, the state held 3.7 million acres of surface rights and 4.6 million acres of mineral rights from which to earn funds for our children. Last year the fund of \$45.8 million produced about \$5.2 million in interest for the public schools—less than 1 percent of Utah's annual education budget. Oil and gas leases provide the bulk of trust land revenues.

Utah's education community is currently lobbying the legislature to change the way the Board of State Lands and Forestry operates, with the ultimate goal of maximizing trust revenues for education. One proposal directs the state to "proceed with undivided loyalty to the beneficiaries (i.e., schools) to insure that the trust is administered for the financial support of the public schools and institutional beneficiaries, not for the general benefit of the public at large."

Many state parcels are scenic, contain artifacts, provide habitat for endangered or game species or provide access to recreational lands. If the property generates little or no money for the schools, should it then be sold or leased for commercial purposes, regardless of the permanent impact on the state's environmental, cultural and recreational resources? Should we have oil drilling rigs on Dead Horse Point, McDonald's in Arches National Park, grazing fees for wildlife, hunting preserves for the rich, archeological sites open to plunder?

Another proposal would add educators to the board, which sets trust land policy. Now dominated by land users, adding the beneficiaries to the group would add another financial viewpoint, but essentially make policies heavily weighted toward development.

Yet another proposal would eliminate the need for the land management plans now required before trust property is sold. Besides threatening the loss of valuable cultural and environmental resources, this policy might preclude trades of scattered state parcels for more productive, manageable federal lands, since the federal government mandates the protection of certain resources.

Educators make the point that few of the trust lands are leased or sold for their fair market value. The military currently leases 32,000 acres for 50 cents an acre. The federal government has paid nothing for six decades of use of 81,000 acres of trust lands inside national parks. These complaints deserve serious consideration.

The education community is understandably anxious to bolster revenues for the burgeoning population of school children. But land-use policy needs to involve consideration of environmental, cultural, and recreational requirements, as well as financial prospects. Utah's state lands do have the potential to help generate revenue for

school children; over the long run, they could generate even more dollars into the general fund if managed in an environmentally sound manner.

— compiled from articles by Tom Wharton and Doug Anderson, *Salt Lake Tribune*, Dec. 9, 1991, and an editorial from that newspaper, Dec. 16, 1991.

## PAPER COLLECTION ACCELERATES

The paper recycling effort going on in Fred Meyer's parking lot, south of the store on 700 North, is gathering momentum. Our first trailerful took about six weeks; the second was hauled off only a month later. Each load brought about \$90 into the BAS treasury, and saved approximately 9,000 pounds of paper from becoming garbage. That paper is now conserving energy by serving as insulation.

Many of you have contributed. I know you're glad to do it, but thanks a lot anyway. Tell your friends about it. Let's aim for a full trailer every two weeks. Surely there's more paper than that going to the local landfill. Paper recycling is reaching the point in this country where it may become possible to get our waste paper back into the paper-making cycle in the near future. We need to show manufacturers that there's a steady supply of recycled paper available. When that happens, we can really make a dent in the timber being used by pulp mills.

There are other places to recycle paper, also. In River Heights, a trailer at the school is open Wednesdays and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Proceeds from this site benefit the River Heights Civic Club and River Heights Elementary School. There are trailers at South Cache Middle School in Hyrum, and at North Cache Middle School in Richmond. Newspapers may be left at the Senior Citizen Center, to benefit the seniors and the Boy Scouts.

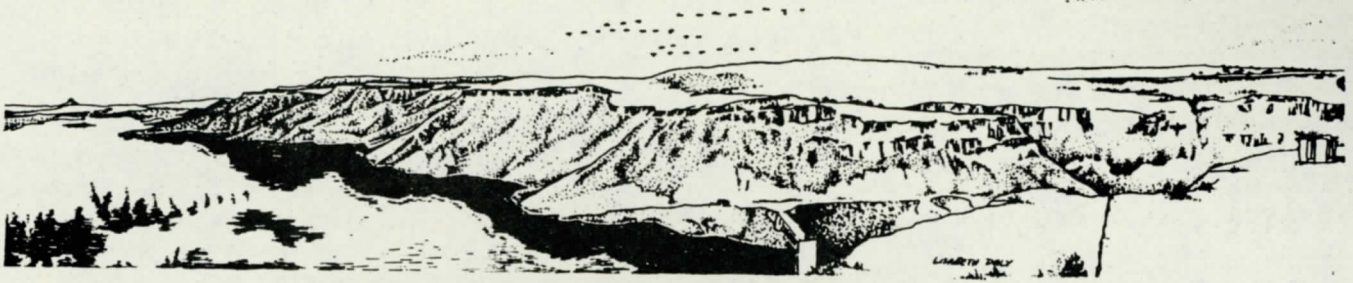
Operating our collection site is fairly simple, but it does require someone to check on it frequently and communicate any problems to Redi-Therm, the insulation company that pays for the paper. Is there someone out there within range of *The Stilt* who could take this job on? It would be most convenient for someone who works at Fred Meyer's or who passes the trailer regularly. Call me at 752-6561 if you're willing to help.

— Pat Gordon

## OIL RECYCLING

Have you been lying awake peering at the blackness, trying to figure out what to do with your old oil? Well, peer no more. A tank at the landfill awaits your donation. The tank has been filled four times since June, recycling a total of 2,000 gallons.





"There is no lack of water here, unless you try to establish a city where no city should be."

Edward Abbey, Desert Solitaire (1968)

#### STATE WATER PLAN BEAR RIVER BASIN

Utah's Division of Water Resources has recently released its long range plan to build dams on the Bear River. We are asking you to make public comments on the document before the Jan. 15, 1992 deadline.

Bridgerland Audubon is not opposed to all dam proposals. But we are against dams which will result in environmental damage or require heavy taxpayer subsidy. Each dam project runs into tens of millions of dollars and the scenario for multiple dams and transfer of water to the Wasatch Front will cost hundreds of millions.

The plan is weak on planning, wildlife protection, and water conservation:

1. The Plan uses present per capita water use rates to predict future water needs.
2. The Plan reinforces the policy of NOT buying agricultural irrigation water on the open market for municipal and industrial needs, although it is available at a far lower price than the reservoir impoundment options.
3. Benefit/Cost Ratios are calculated without knowing what the mitigation costs will be.
4. The Wildlife Section is very weak on nongame wildlife.
5. Water Conservation is given short shrift.

The driving force behind this Bear River Basin Plan is population growth in Salt Lake County. The area appears eager to copy the model of Los Angeles, Phoenix, and Denver. These cities import water across mountain ranges to slake the thirst of a burgeoning population that the desert habitat cannot support. The result has been a tremendous number of social and environmental problems due to crowding, as well as terrific water bills.

If you would like to see a copy of this plan, call the Division of Water Resources information office in Salt Lake (538-7230) and they will send you one. You can also borrow mine and ask for the more detailed criticisms.

Write a letter today to the Utah Department of Water Resources, and send a copy to the Governor. I have included a sample letter to get you started. The Jan. 15 deadline has been moved at our request, but it is still short notice.

Alice Lindahl, Conservation Chair 753-7744



SAMPLE LETTER send by Jan. 15, 1992

January 10, 1992

Mr. Larry Anderson, Director  
Utah Division of Water Resources  
1636 West North Temple  
Salt Lake City, UT 84116

Dear Mr. Anderson,

I am writing to respond to your recently-released document, "State Water Plan Bear River Basin Public Review Draft".

As a resident of Cache County, water-user, and taxpayer, I am concerned that the Plan sets policy based on an overestimate of how much water the Wasatch Front really needs. There is no data to suggest that the people living in Salt Lake County are using the water they have in the most conservative manner. Your plan does not attempt to evaluate how much metering and pricing to promote conservation goes on.

The future projection of water needs for Box Elder county are based on a consumption rate that far exceeds the state average. Whatever is causing Brigham City to consume twice as much as the average Utahn can surely be corrected. Using the more conservative estimate, the projected consumption of Brigham City and all of Box Elder county falls well within the present system capacity in the year 2025.

I believe that municipalities and other users should be able to buy agricultural irrigation water on the open market to satisfy their needs. To intentionally overlook this resource in favor of a much more expensive option is a disservice to the taxpayer.

The Plan should include the needs and importance of water to nongame wildlife. Utah has many important species of shorebirds, waterfowl, wading birds and birds of prey that are not hunted but need our wetlands in order to survive. The Plan should recognize this by indicating their importance in the Wildlife section. Of particular note are the pollution of the Cutler Reservoir area, the potential for drying up of valley springs, and the spring discharge onto the Bear River Delta that are important to all these birds.

Thank you for your consideration of my concerns.

Sincerely yours,

Alice Lindahl  
730 Hillcrest  
Logan, UT 84321

cc: Governor Norman H. Bangerter  
Utah State Capitol Building  
Salt Lake City, UT 84114



# NATIONAL NEWS

## ANTI-ENVIRONMENT GROUPS MASQUERADE AS NATURE LOVERS

They call themselves names like "People for the West," "The Blue Ribbon Coalition," "Timber Employees for Responsible Solutions," and "The American Environmental Foundation." They organize rallies, mount letter-writing campaigns, stage boycotts and protests, and meet with lawmakers. They profess a sincere concern for the environment.

But strip away the thin "grassroots" veneer, and the multifarious groups that make up the so-called multiple use, or "wise use," movement, reveal themselves to be largely industry-backed and thoroughly anti-environmental.

The tenets of "wise use" are summed up in the *Wise Use Agenda*, a book based on a conference of the movement's members in 1988. The *Agenda* sets out 25 goals, essentially a blueprint for dismantling environmental policies in the United States. Here are some:

- Immediate development of the petroleum resources of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska.
- Clear cutting of ancient forests to "convert all decaying and oxygen-using forest growth on national forests into young stands of oxygen-producing, carbon-dioxide-absorbing trees to ameliorate the rate of global warming and prevent the greenhouse effect."
- Allow mineral and energy production on "all public lands including wilderness and national parks."
- Create a "National Rangeland Grazing System" that would allow ranchers to exclude backpackers, hikers, and other recreational users from permitted grazing lands.
- Amend the Endangered Species Act to exclude "non-adaptive species such as the California condor, and endemic species lacking the biological vigor to spread in range."
- Allow motorized trail travel and commercial development on 30 million acres, or one third, of the nation's wilderness system.

— (Sources: *Buzzworm*, National Wildlife Federation.)

"We're just trying to get some of the human element into the environmental equation," says Ed Swanson, a land-

owner and member of "STOP," the group that has so far successfully prevented expansion of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore.

Swanson and more than 300 like-minded activists from Oregon to Virginia spent three days in Washington, D.C., last September, lobbying against a wide range of environmental safeguards, including wetlands regulations, the Endangered Species Act, ancient forest protection, and reform of grazing and mining laws. About 100 organizations participated in the event, billed "Fly In for Freedom," including the movement's vanguards, concentrated in the western states, such as the National Inholders Association (representing people with property claims inside public lands), and Blue Ribbon Coalition (a group dedicated to allowing recreational vehicles on all public lands). Also involved are trade associations such as the American Mining Congress, National Forest Products Association, and the American Farm Bureau Federation. "The large interests are essentially adopting grassroots techniques to create a facade," says National Wildlife Federation's Ben McNitt. "What you really hear is the timber and mining industries talking."

"The majority of Americans support strong protection for the environment, health, and safety," says Brock Evans, Audubon's vice-president for National Issues. "But 'wise-use' groups represent those who would like to gut those protections in order to exploit resources." To counter the groups' recent lobbying, more than a dozen environmental groups, including Audubon, presented lawmakers with a briefing booklet—*The "Wise" Disguise: Exposing the Campaign to Hide Environmental Abuse Behind Property Rights*. Audubon also spearheaded an intensive lobbying effort to coincide with the "Fly In."

You can help by asking your members of Congress to oppose Rep. Jim Olin's (D-Va.) Private Property Act (H.R. 1572), as well as Sen. Steve Symms' (R-Idaho) bill of the same name. These measures advance the agenda of the multiple use movement and would have far-reaching impacts on the environment, as well as on public health and safety. Also, be skeptical of pleas for support; know what you're supporting before you invest your money, time, or name. The real danger of these groups is that they can attract sincere, well-meaning people who don't understand the implications of the actions they're promoting.

— from "Under Green Guise, Multi-use Groups Work Against Environment"  
by Fred Baumgarten  
Audubon Activist



For further information on national campaigns, write to National Audubon Society, 950 Third Avenue, New York, New York 10022.

To communicate with your representatives in Washington, write to:

President George Bush, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave., Washington, D.C. 20500

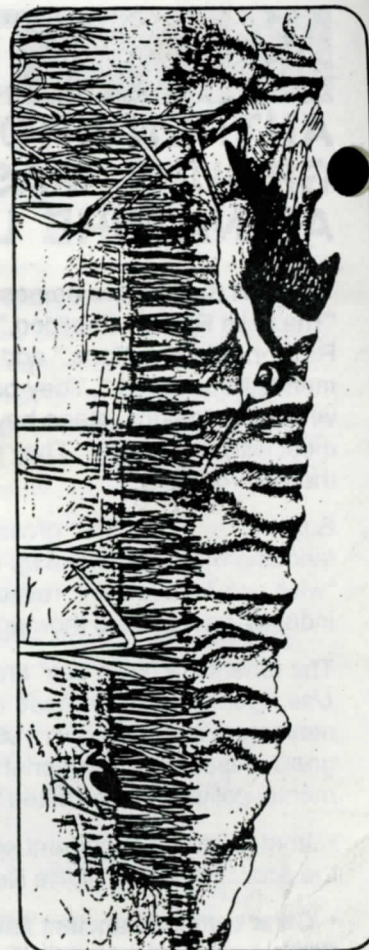
Senator Jake Garn or Orrin Hatch, U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510

Representative James V. Hansen, Wayne Owens, or Bill Orton, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. 20515.



# THE STILT

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



Mervin & Mae Coover  
435 Canyon Rd  
Providence UT 84332

Nonprofit Organization  
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The Bridgerland Audubon Society meets the second Thursday of each month, October through May, in the Meeting Room of the new Logan City Building, 255 N. Main. Meetings start at 7:30 pm. The BAS Planning Committee meets the following Wednesday, October through May, in the Logan Library at 7:00 pm. Everyone is welcome to attend.

President	Val Grant, 752-7572
Vice President	Dawn Holzer, 753-6047
Secretary	Tom Gordon, 752-6561
Treasurer	Susan Robertson, 752-4598
Conservation	Alice Lindahl, 753-7744
Education	Kayo Robertson, 752-3944
Membership	Al Stokes, 752-2702
Field Trips	Al Stokes, 752-2702
Newsletter	Pat Gordon, 752-6561
Circulation	Tom Gordon, 752-6561
Publicity	Bruce Pendery, 750-0253
Hospitality	Mae & Merv Coover, 752-8871
Hotline	Nancy Williams, 753-6268
Recycling	Marvin & Irma Moon, 753-4698
Legislation	Nadene Steinhorf, 753-0497
Trustees:	
1988-91:	Ron Ryel, 753-6077; John Sigler, 753-5879
1989-92:	Larry Ryel, 753-8479; Bob Atwood, 752-9284, Office, 753-0012
1990-93:	John Barnes, 563-3910; Rebecca Echols, 753-2367 Richard Mueller, 752-5637

Membership in the Bridgerland Audubon Society includes a subscription to *The Stilt*, as well as the *Audubon* magazine. The editor of *The Stilt* invites submissions of any kind, due on the 15th of each month. Send to 718 N. 200 E., Logan, UT 84321.

## National Audubon Society Chapter Membership Application

**Yes,** I'd like to join.

Please enroll me as a member of the National Audubon Society and of my local chapter. Please send AUDUBON magazine and my membership card to the address below.

☐ My check for \$20 is enclosed.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Please make all checks payable to the National Audubon Society.



Send this application and your check to:

**National Audubon Society**  
Chapter Membership Data Center  
P.O. Box 51001 • Boulder, Colorado 80322-1001  
**LOCAL CHAPTER**

Bridgerland Audubon Society  
P.O. Box 3501  
Logan, Utah 84321

W-52

Local Chapter Code  
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Subscriptions to *The Stilt* are available to non-members for \$5.00 per year. Call Tom Gordon, 752-6561.