

Albuquerque Wildlife Federation

1914-1952 GAME PROTECTIVE ASSN. / 1952-1972 ALBUQUERQUE WILDLIFE & CONSERVATION ASSN. / 1973 ALBUQUERQUE WILDLIFE FEDERATION
ORGANIZED BY SPORTSMEN IN 1914 TO PROTECT AND PERPETUATE
OUR WILDLIFE AND NATURAL RESOURCES
P. O. Box 1234
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103



Albuquerque Wildlife Federation Newsletter

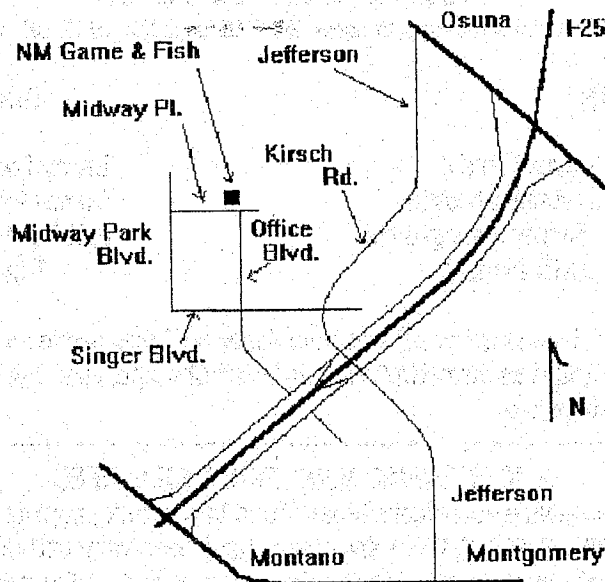
General Meeting

Thursday, January 9, 1992

Program at 7:30 pm --- Refreshments & Conversation at 7:00

****Department of Game & Fish building - 3841 Midway Place, NE**

****Note change of location for this meeting ONLY.** The map below should help you find the game department's **new** location. Take **JEFFERSON** north from Montgomery **OR** west from its exit on I-25 **OR** south from Osuna. In any case, turn **west** on **SINGER** to Office Blvd. The building is located where Midway Place and Office Blvd junction. Allow extra time because this may prove somewhat challenging!



IGNACIO CHAVEZ ROAD CLOSURE

Wilderness advocate Jim Fish, and Al Abee, BLM's area manager for the Rio Puerco Resource Area, will present differing viewpoints concerning a controversial road into the Mt. Taylor area (BLM Road 1103). The road lies between the Ignacio Chavez and the Chamisa Wilderness Study Areas. Slides, maps and a videotape of the area and its problems will be shown.

An Environmental Assessment dealing with impacts of various alternatives for the road will be available for public comment in February. Alternatives include leaving it open year around, total closure of the road, or closing it seasonally. The BLM favors the latter option.

Abee favors opening the road during dry periods of the year, after measures have been taken to protect the area from vehicular damage when rains occur. He believes it should be open seasonally for the public to enjoy and use.....by hunters, pinon nut gatherers, sightseers, etc.

Fish believes the road should be permanently closed to motor vehicles. He says that environmental damage which occurred when the road was temporarily opened in October and November proves that BLM is not able to properly manage it. The road crosses a wetlands area which is prime wildlife habitat.

While everyone will be free to express their own views on the issue in February and March, we also need to develop an AWF position. Therefore, we ask not only that you become informed about the issue at this general meeting, but that you express your opinions. A vote of members will be taken so an organizational position may be submitted.

President's Message

It was good to see so many of our members at December's Annual Meeting and Christmas party. Several came just because their vote was badly needed.

The new, more concise bylaws were passed unanimously. Two important changes to the Articles of Incorporation also passed unanimously; officially changing our name from Albuquerque Wildlife and Conservation Association to Albuquerque Wildlife Federation, and deleting a statement that one of our purposes was "to aid in the destruction of predatory animals."

The vote was split on a minor proposed change to the Articles of Incorporation, which did not receive the approval of 2/3 of the members present needed to pass. That proposal was to change the wording of one of our purposes from preserving and protecting "game, fish, birds and animals, forests, waters, soil, and other wildlife habitat," to preserving and protecting "native fish and wildlife and their habitats."

Members voted to increase AWF dues by \$5, in anticipation of a \$5 per person dues increase by the New Mexico Wildlife Federation. Single memberships will be \$20; family memberships will be \$25. Presently \$5 of each member's dues paid to AWF are sent to the state federation. If NMWF increases its dues, we will have to send \$10 per member.

Food brought to the potluck which followed the annual meeting was great and, as usual, overly abundant. Afterwards, we enjoyed reviewing the year's activities as shown in Bill Reed's slides.

Joyce Mendel

1992 OFFICERS and BOARD

Those elected at the annual meeting to serve AWF throught the 1992 calendar year include:

OFFICERS:

President.....Joyce Mendel
Vice President.....Yvonne Chauvin
Secretary.....Barbara Bergstrom
Treasurer.....Cliff Mendel

DIRECTORS

Larry Foote, Jay Holton,
Diane Mead, Steve Padilla,
Bill Reed, Mary Reed,
Phil Russell

According to the new by-laws, past president Dale Jones will also serve on the Board of Directors. Beverly DeGruyter continues as Educatin/Wildlife Week Chairperson. The newsletter continues to be edited by Dave Weingarten.

A "BIG THANK YOU" FROM BILL REED

I want to thank everyone who volunteered their time to work on projects which enhance wildlife habitat. The AWF, NMWF, AWTF, SMWCA and others have been very active for around 10 years and you should be congratulated for all of the projects you have done for everyone's wildlife. Governmental agencies also receive matching funds for all the time spent by volunteers on these projects. Some of the money used to buy materials come from the user stamp which hunters and fishermen must have when they hunt or fish on BLM, USFS or State Lands.

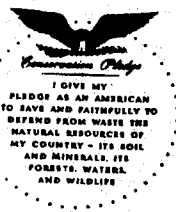
In 1991, 53 individuals worked on at least one of the several significant project undertaken. It is my hope all of this years volunteers will volunteer some of their time again in 1992. Bring along your friends. Your efforts are very much appreciated by the agencies and they have more projects than we can possibly do.

Bill

NM Wildlife Federation
Affiliate Chapter, AWF
3240-D Juan Tabo, NE
Albuquerque, NM 87111

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93/06 F B L
MR & MRS DAVID WEINGARTEN
12413 PLACID NE
ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87112



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GENERAL MEETING

THURSDAY - FEBRUARY 13, 1992

Program at 7:15 pm --- Refreshments & Conversation at 7:00
* Note change in time for program.

Bear Canyon Senior Center - 4645 Pitt NE
(North from Montgomery & Eubank, right on Lagrima De Oro,
one long block, left on Pitt. One short block to BCSC.)

+ + + FEBRUARY PROGRAM + + +

+ + **DAVE WEINGARTEN: AN ALASKAN MOOSE HUNT** + +

Dave was offered an opportunity to accompany three Alaskans on a moose hunt in the northwestern interior of Alaska. Dave will show slides taken on the 500 mile highway trip and 480 mile river trip to the hunting area. The highway trip was from Eagle River to the Yukon River crossing of the haul road to Prudo Bay. The river trip was down the Yukon River and up the Koyukuk River to the hunt area.

+ + **LUKE SHELBY: URBAN FISHERIES** + +

Luke is the officer charged with responsibility for development of an urban fisheries program for the NM Department of Game & Fish. One activity has been to develop a profile of urban angler's attitudes, preferences and expectations. To that end, Luke interviewed anglers at Tingley Beach. He will present the survey results and creel census information to the attendees of the AWF meeting.

+ + + + +

CALENDAR

BLM public meeting to receive further public comments on Ignacio Chavez Road - 2/12/92; 435 Montano NE. **Hunting Committee Meeting** - Tuesday Feb. 18. **AWF Board Meeting** - Tuesday 2/25/92, 7:00 pm. (Bill Reed & Ed Machin will discuss next summers projects.) Both meetings at NMWF office, 3240-D Juan Tabo NE; enter through east-side door.

The number at the top of your newsletter lable, e.g., 02/92, is the expiration date of your membership. If it is about to come due, you can save your organization money by mailing in your dues (AWF, PO Box 1234, Albuquerque, 87103), or paying them at the monthly meeting.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - by Joyce Mendel

We've received word from the State Corporation Commission that our name is now officially Albuquerque Wildlife Federation. Also our amended by-laws and Articles of Incorporation have been accepted.

We've had 31 responses to the membership surveys sent out in November. Based on these responses, at least three committees will be formed: hunting, grazing, and bosque/riparian/wetland.

The hunting committee held it's first meeting two weeks ago and selected Don Schofield as chairman. The group of enthusiastic hunters decided it was interested in four broad subjects - access, habitat preservation, regulations/legislation, and improving the hunter's image. At the next committee meeting they will decide on which specific areas to concentrate. For more information call Don Schofield, 268-8011.

Call Joyce Mendel, 265-3840, if you are interested in the grazing or wetland committee, but didn't so indicate on the membership survey.

+ + + + +

LEGISLATION ON LOGGING DUE TO BE HEARD BY SENATE COMMITTEE

The Senate Energy & Natural Resources Committee will soon consider S. 1156. This bill would amend forest management practices to protect the industry rather than old growth forests and the wildlife species which use them. One section would remove old growth from "wilderness" and National Parks to "reserves" where it could be logged. Another would make timber and grazing the primary management goals and require that planning "maintain to the maximum extent feasible the stability of any community or economic enterprise economically dependent upon public lands to which the plans apply..." S. 1156 also sets up minimum logging quotas and restricts administrative appeals and judicial review of management decisions. Further, it overrides the Endangered Species Act protection for timber production.

It is important that our Senators, especially Sen. Bingaman, know how you feel about this bill.

To let them know: write Senator Jeff Bingaman or, Senator Pete Domenici, US Senate, Washington, DC 20510. Or, call their local office, listed in the telephone book, blue pages, under United States Government, Senator.

+ + + + +

MEETINGS HIGHLIGHTS

Our January General Meeting was well attended, about 40 persons, most of whom commented on the Ignacio Chavez Road issue (BLM Road 1103). No one present favored keeping the road open year around. Members voted, by a majority of two, to have the road open seasonally, during good weather.

The Board of Directors, at their meeting, concluded to adopt the policy of taking a position, on an issue considered by the membership, only when at least 2/3 of the members voting at a General Meeting agree. This was the result of the very close vote on the Ignacio Chavez Road closure.

AWF will submit a resolution to the NMWF convention in support of a name change of the Department of Game & Fish to the Wildlife Department.

The Board voted to encourage the use of natural fires, under prescribed conditions, and prescriptive, man-ignited fires, in the Sandia Mountain Wilderness. Such use of fire could improve wildlife habitat and lessen the possibility of catastrophic wildfire.

The Board voted to write our congressmen in support of a Land and Water Conservation Fund appropriation to the Cibola National Forest for acquisition of 320 acres at Tres Pistoles, north of the Monticello subdivision, in Tijeras Canyon. The property borders the Sandia Mountain Wilderness and presently is owned by prospective developers.

Pres. - J. Mendel 265-3840
Sec. - B. Bergstrom 298-4628

V Pres. - Y. Chauvin 344-6138
Treas. - C. Mendel 265-3840

PRESIDENT'S REPORT - by Joyce Mendel

Neither AWF nor NM Wildlife Federation have an established position concerning grazing fees. We have favored multiple use. National WF has taken a position which supports "federal livestock grazing fees set at fair market value." Some AWF members disagree on what a fair fee should be, while others want all cows off public lands. To allow us to set an informed policy for AWF, we plan to invite several speakers over the next year to discuss the issue. Tye Terrell is the first.

AWF organized a meeting between a member of Senator Bingaman's staff and members of AWF, NMWF and members of the NM Wildlife Legislative Council. The March 2 meeting was primarily for the purpose of voicing objections to the timber bill sponsored by Sen. Packwood, S.1156. There is still time to write Senators Bingman and Domenici concerning S.1156 if you haven't yet done so (US Senate, Washington, DC 20510). S.1156 was described in the AWF February Newsletter.

Your Board of Directors voted to join the recently formed New Mexico Riparian Council.

Sybil Russel has been appointed as an AWF Board member.

I thank Sybil Russel, Steve Padilla, Dave Weingarten and others who participated in the action, but didn't let me know, for their efforts on legislative matters.

+ + + + +

COMMITTEES

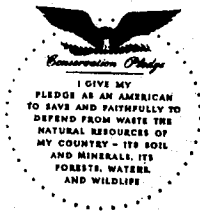
The Wetland Committee held its first meeting in February. Richard Becker was selected as chairman. Objectives the group established are: seek riparian/wetland-related work projects; study human impacts on a particular riparian area and work for improvement; work for state in-stream flow legislation; communicate with our congressional delegation on wetland legislation; obtain information concerning BLM wilderness recommendations as they pertain to riparian areas; and study local management issues along the Rio Grande. In line with the latter objective, committee members attended a bosque symposium at the Rio Grande Nature Center. See calendar for next meeting.

+ + + + +

LEGISLATION

The bills to increase hunting and fishing license fees for non-residents and allow the Game Commission to set fees for special permits were passed by the 1992 legislature. The license fees were raised to approximately the average of the other western states. Representative Raymond Sanchez (Box 1966, Alb., NM 87103), Speaker of the House, was joined by Representative Max Coll (Rt. 9, Box 72-F, Santa Fe, NM 87505), Chairman of the House Appropriations and Finance Committee (HAFC), in sponsoring the bill. Senator Tito Chavez (3424 Mateo Prado NW, Alb., NM 87107) got the bill onto the Senate calendar, not a minor feat. Each of the above deserves a thank you from those of us concerned about maintaining a viable agency for managing our wildlife. A thank you will help our causes in the future.

AWF Members helped on this legislation: Steve Padilla helped keep the bills moving; Sybil Russel and Joyce Mendel alerted AWF telephone tree members whose Representatives were on the HAFC to call them (it isn't known how many called); Dave Weingarten testified for the bills before the HAFC.



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GENERAL MEETING

THURSDAY - MARCH 12, 1992

Program at 7:15 --- Refreshments & Conversation at 7:00

Bear Canyon Senior Center - 4645 Pitt NE
(North from Montgomery & Eubank, right on Lagrima De Oro,
one long block, left on Pitt. One short block to BCSC.)

**** ** MARCH PROGRAM ** ** ****

+ + + **David Probst - Research for Squaw Fish and Trout** + + +
David Probst, fisheries biologist with the NM Dept. of Game & Fish, will show slides and talk about the Department's 7 year study to determine the effects of a water management plan on Colorado squaw fish and trout. The plan was developed to mitigate the effects of the Animas-La Plata water project on the endangered Colorado squaw fish. Researchers are testing the hypothesis that using water flows from Navajo Dam to simulate natural flows can be beneficial for the squaw fish and trout.

+ + + **Tye Terrell - History of NM Land Status** + + +
Tye Terrell will show slides and talk about the history of land status in New Mexico. He will also discuss the economic value of rangeland, and about grazing from the viewpoint of a small rancher. Mr. Terrell is a part time rancher and ranch real estate salesman. This is one of a series of talks, from various perspectives, about the grazing issue.

Bring a friend. The meeting is free - as always.

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CALENDAR

HUNTING COMMITTEE MEETING - March 17. WETLAND COMMITTEE MEETING - March 18. AWF BOARD MEETING - March 24. Meetings at 7 pm, at the NMWF office, 3240-D Juan Tabo NE; enter thru east-side door. Members are invited and welcome to join any of the committees or attend the Board meeting at any time.

New Fishing License - April 1.

NMWF Annual Meeting - April 11.

Wildlife Week, Presentations at schools - April 20-24. Teachers kits.

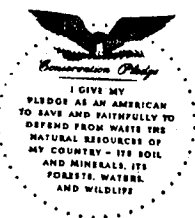
BLM Fencing work project, Replace fence for antelope passes - May 16.

Fishing Clinic, with USFS - June 20.

Valle Vidal work project - July 24-25-26.

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GENERAL MEETING

THURSDAY - MAY 14, 1992

Program at 7:15 --- Refreshments & Conversation at 7:00

Bear Canyon Senior Center - 4645 Pitt NE
(North from Montgomery & Eubank, right on Lagrima De Oro, one long block, left on Pitt. One short block to BCSC.)

**** ** * MAY PROGRAM * ** ****

+ + + Bass Fishing Basics & Slides of Tres Pistoles Canyon + + +
Bring a friend. The meeting is free - as always.

Bill Elliot, U.S. Bass, West Region, 1988 "Angler of the Year, will talk about the basics of bass fishing. He will describe fishing techniques that work for our Southwest waters and show bass fishing equipment that helped him earn the 1988 title.

Louise Waldron and Adair Peterson, from the Monticello Neighborhood Association and the New Mexico Mountain Club, will show slides of Tres Pistoles Canyon through the seasons. Tres Pistoles lies at the south end of Sandia Mountain, just east of Albuquerque. An effort is underway to persuade Congress to acquire 437 acres in the canyon, adjacent to the Sandia Wilderness, for the US Forest Service. (AWF has expressed it's support for this purchase from the Land and Water Conservation Fund.)

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CALENDAR

HUNTING COMMITTEE MEETING - May 19. RIPARIAN/ WETLAND COMMITTEE MEETING - May 20. AWF BOARD MEETING - May 26. GRAZING COMMITTEE MEETING - June 2. Meetings at 7 pm, at the NMWF office, 3240-D Juan Tabo NE; enter thru east-side door. Members are invited and welcome to join any of the committees or attend the Board meeting at any time.

BLM Fencing work project, Replace fence for antelope passes - May 16.
NMWF Annual Meeting - May 30.
Manzano Mnt., Reconstruct old spring - June 13-14. (Note date change.)
Fishing Clinic, with USFS - June 20.
Valle Vidal work project - July 24-25-26.
Bluewater work project, Fence spring used by elk - Aug. 15-16.
---More calendar other side---

CALENDAR (Continued)

NM Game & Fish Department and Game Commission Meetings: 1994 Habitat Stamp Prog. Proj., Forest Serv 2113 Osuna NE - May 11, 7pm. Land-owner/Wildlife/Sportsmen Council, NEA Bldg, Santa Fe - May 14, 8:30am. Elk/Bear/Deer/Antelope Council, Santa Fe - May 14, pm. Waterfowl/Upland Game Council, Santa Fe - May 15. State Game Commission Meeting, LC Hilton, Las Cruces - May 20, 9:00am. Fisheries Council - July 29. Habitat & Environment Council, Inn at Rio Rancho - June 5; Aug 7.

US Fish & Wildlife Public Comment Meeting, Recovery Plans for Mexican Wolf, UNM Cont Ed Conf Center 1634 University Ave NE - May 20, 6:30pm

NOTE: SCHEDULE FOR MAY 16 PROJECT - Saturday, May 16, we'll modify existing fence to allow antelope passage. BLM will provide transportation to the site, 15 miles north of San Ysidro. We will leave The BLM office at 8 am. Call Ed Machin, AWF projects coordinator, 898-6264 to let him know you will be there.

+ + + + +

NMWF ANNUAL MEETING will be held at TVI, South Building, Room S-10. The meeting convenes at 9:00 am. State Land Commissioner Jim Baca and a representative of the State Engineer will be featured speakers. The business meeting will be held in the afternoon. Business meeting topics are election of officers, by-law changes, resolutions and membership dues. Please plan to attend and participate.

+ + + + +

PRESIDENT'S REPORT - by Joyce Mendel

Our Committees are going strong. The Hunting Committee recently heard about Arizona and Colorado landowner/sportsmen programs for improving relationships and access to public and private lands. The Committee decided to support such a program in New Mexico. The Committee is also looking into printing posters, proposed by Dave Weingarten, which will show contributions made to wildlife programs by those who hunt and fish.

The Grazing Committee discussed 1994 proposals for spending state Habitat Stamp funds. They, along with members of the Hunting Committee, will help formulate AWF's recommendations for the Habitat Stamp programs.

A couple of Riparian/Wetland Committee members will attend the New Mexico Riparian Council on May 15 and 16. This Committee and the Hunting Committee are studying "Refuges 2003" alternatives. The selected alternatives will be part of a combined management plan and environmental impact statement, being prepared by the US Fish & Wildlife Service, for the management of national refuges over the next 10 years.

For more information about a committee, call me (Joyce) at 265-3840. Additional committees can be started if there is sufficient interest.

+ + + + +

AWF VOLUNTEERS DURING APRIL - Thank you to all the volunteers who helped out during this past month.

Barbara and Jennifer Bergstrum, Lavelle Thompson, Ed Machin and John Snowdon staffed the AWF display table at TVI's April 4 Environmental Festival. Yvonne Chauvin helped set up the display. Oscar Simpson, NMWF president, provided handout copies of national issue materials.

Beverly deGruyter, AWF educational chairwoman, sent out about 1300 National Wildlife Week teacher kits to schools in Albuquerque, Belen, Espanola, Pecos and Jemez Springs. Beverly also arranged for National Wildlife Week, April 19-25, presentations at several Albuquerque schools. Roby Wallace, Joyce Mendel, Beverly and Dave Weingarten each presented a slide, video or Project Wild program at a school during the week.

Don Schofield wrote letters for AWF to the Sandia and Mountainair Ranger Districts encouraging the use of controlled wildfires and prescribed burns as land management tools.

+ + + + **ALBUQUERQUE WILDLIFE FEDERATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION** + + + +

PO Box 1234 - Albuquerque, NM 87103

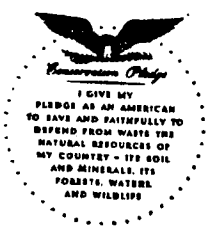
senior membership___ \$20 family membership___\$25

Name _____

Address _____

zip _____

date ___/___/___



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GENERAL MEETING

THURSDAY EVENING - JUNE 11, 1992
Program at 7:15 --- Refreshments & Conversation at 7:00

Bear Canyon Senior Center - 4645 Pitt NE
(North from Montgomery and Eubank, right on Lagrima De Oro for one long block then left on Pitt for one short block to BCSC.)

**** ** * * JUNE PROGRAM * * ** ***

JIM CLARK, non-game wildlife coordinator for the U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service, will employ illustrative slides to present an overview of the concepts of biological diversity. Jim will also relate those concepts to the management of natural resources, especially wildlife.

JIM FISH, founder of the Public Lands Action Network, will discuss a Forest Service proposal to construct 33 stock ponds and 28 miles of new fence on a grazing allotment which lies largely within the Aldo Leopold and Gila Wilderness areas. Stream banks, damaged by cattle, would be fenced off and stock ponds would be placed on upland areas for cattle use. As proposed, numbers of cattle grazing on the affected plot would increase from 900 head to 1,188.

+ + + + +

CALENDAR

Hunting Committee - June 16

Riparian/Wetland Committee - June 17

Meetings are scheduled for **7 p.m.** at the NMWF office, 3240-D Juan Tabo NE. Enter thru the east-side door. Members are invited and welcome to join any of the committees at any time.

CHILDRENS FISHING CLINIC, with USFS, at SHADY LAKES. Meet at Cibola Forest Service office on **June 20**. If you'd care to volunteer to assist in this undertaking, call 265-3840.

TOUR OF TRES PISTOLES CANYON - tentatively scheduled for **July 13th**, at 6 p.m.

NO MEETING OF THE AWF BOARD IS SCHEDULED DURING JUNE

Work Projects Ahead: **MANZANO MOUNTAINS**....reconstruct old spring....June 13 & 14.
VALLE VIDAL.....JULY 24, 25 & 26.
BLUEWATER.....fence spring used by elk.....August 15 & 16

PRESIDENT'S REPORT - Joyce Mendel

The AWF board and three of its committees -- hunting, grazing & riparian/wetlands -- have under study and discussion several of the state's major wildlife and habitat issues. Among them are: recommendations for future Sike Act Habitat Stamp expenditures in the Central Region; alternatives for the U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service's plan for management of national refuges over the next 10 years ("Refuges 2003"); BLM erosion control activities on the Rio Puerco; and elk permits for ranchers. For more information about our committees, call me at 265-3840.

The board has voted to support the State Land Office's proposed Range Stewardship Incentive Program which would offer the incentive of reduced grazing fees to ranchers maintaining state leased lands in good or excellent condition. A letter of support which included several provisos was drafted. These provided that livestock numbers NOT be increased as range conditions are improved; that mechanical and chemical control of woody species on stable sites be discouraged; that the program include lands in fair and poor condition that are improving; that allotments which reflect downward trends be re-evaluated as to their carrying capacity.

Several of our membership serve on committees outside this organization which presently are studying wildlife and habitat issues. Included are:

Richard Becker - New Mexico Riparian Council's Workshop & Symposium Committee
Dale Jones - Central Region Sikes Act Committee
Bob Nordstrum - Elk/Bear/Deer/ Antelope Game Commission Advisory Council and council task force looking into elk permits for forest lessees
Dave Weingarten - Landowner/Wildlife/Sportsmen Game Commission Advisory Council
Joyce Mendel - Habitat & Environment Game Commission Advisory Council
Bill Reed - Serves on several committees/advisories

Feel free to discuss your thoughts and concerns with those who thusly serve. They will welcome your questions, listen to your opinions and appreciate your interest.

An important reminder from Hunting Committee Chairman, **Don Schofield**:

At its June 16 meeting, the Hunting Committee will have a final vote concerning REFUGES 2003 alternatives. Committee members who cannot be present on that occasion may call Don at 268-8011 to provide input.

Ed Machin, our project leader, reports great success in the antelope fence work for the BLM and expresses his sincerest thanks to the work force who labored diligently and well. Participants included Joyce & Cliff Mendel, Bill Reed, Larry Miller, Yvonne Chauvin, Robert Solomon, Julie & Dick King and Bob Nordstrum.

"I am," says Ed, "very short of volunteers for the June 13 project in the Manzano Mountains. I have a map ready for those who plan to join us for this work/fun weekend, working the 13th and playing on the 14th. We'll meet and camp at Red Canyon campgrounds."

+ + + ALBUQUERQUE WILDLIFE FEDERATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION + + +

PO Box 1234 - Albuquerque, NM 87103

senior membership ____ \$20

family membership ____ \$25

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

ZIP _____

date: ___/___/___

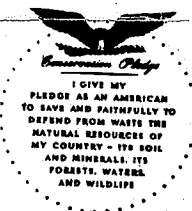
53/86 # 7
MR & MRS DAVID WEINGARTEN
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ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87112

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**** ** JULY PROGRAM ** ** ****

JEFF EVERIST....editor of New Mexico Fishing Monthly....will bring into focus the pleasures of combining two popular outdoor pursuits, *flyfishing and backpacking*. Not only will Jeff discuss appropriate equipment for a combined outing, he'll cite specific destinations which offer top prospects for doubling the rewards.

TOM SMYLIE....erstwhile spokesman for the U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service... will show a special video titled *"KEEPING TRACK"* followed by his discussion of a system in which hunters of migratory birds will be asked to participate. A rather simple reporting form will greatly assist biologists in keeping track of migratory bird populations in specific areas.

- Federation Calendar For July -

GRAZING COMMITTEE.....to be announced
HUNTING COMMITTEE.....July 14th
RIPARIAN/WETLANDSJuly 8th
BOARD MEETING.....July 16th

Meetings are scheduled for **7:00 p.m.** at the **NMWF office, 3240-D Juan Tabo NE**. Entry is thru the east-side door. Members are invited and are welcome to join committees or attend Board meetings.

Tour of Tres Pistoles Canyon will take place as scheduled on July 13th at 6:30 p.m. if enough reservations are made. Further info elsewhere in this newsletter.

WORK PROJECTS:
VALLE VIDAL work project -- JULY 24, 25 & 26
BLUEWATER work project
(fencing of a spring utilized by elk) -- August 15 & 16

G & F Advisory Council Meetings:

Elk/Bear/Deer/Antelope Council -- Santa Fe, July 17, 9 a.m.
Fisheries Council -- Rio Rancho, July 29, 9 a.m.
Habitat & Environment Council -- Inn at Rio Rancho, August 7.

STATE GAME COMMISSION MEETING: JULY 22, 9 a.m., at The Inn in Farmington.

Report from our President

Updating committee considerations/planning:

The riparian/wetland committee will help publicize the National Wildlife Federation's soon to be released report called "Endangered Species....Endangered Wetlands". Records will be searched for federally listed endangered species which depend on wetlands in New Mexico. Chairman of this committee is Richard Becker. Phone 255-7156.

The hunting committee has been discussing issues associated with providing elk permits to land owners who have elk-use on their private land or on leased land. The committee is working also on letters concerning Sikes Act Habitat Stamp projects. Also getting attention are the office hours for the game and fish department. Don Schofield chairs. His phone number is 268-8011.

The committee on grazing is discussing the issue of elk permits for USFS grazing permittees. It also is looking closely at a proposal put forward by the Diamond Bar Cattle Co. This proposal is to use bulldozers and mule-drawn scrapers to erect 28 miles of fence and to build 33 stock ponds on a grazing allotment which lies largely in two wilderness areas. This committee's chair is Jay Holton who may be reached at 844-1716.

A reminder that membership on these committees is open to all interested AWF members.

CHILDRENS' FISHING CLINIC

A fishing clinic last month involved 60 youngsters and was a huge success. Sponsored by Cibola National Forest, assistance was provided by our chapter at Shady Lakes, located in Albuquerque's north valley. Participants learned about knot tying, lures, casting techniques and fishing ethics, an exposure to aquatic ecology and to fish guts. Enthusiasm during the morning sessions paled in light of excitement generated when they caught fish during the afternoon period. For most, it was their first such experience.

Thanks to chapter and family members: Jeniffer Bergstrom, who helped teach the ethics of fishing; Barbara Bergstrom who controlled the whistle to mark the end of instructional periods; Renate & Joe Padilla who taught casting procedures; Cliff Mendel who instructed youngsters in knot-tying and Joyce Mendel who took photographs. The entire group also provided assistance in registering participants, helping them fish and clean their catches.

Several members of the Cibola staff, Game/Fish personnel and members of New Mexico Trout contributed time and expertise during the day. Beverly deGruyter, wildlife biologist on the Cibola, organized the whole event. Beverly, by the way, was recipient of the "Educator of the Year" award at the New Mexico Wildlife Federations annual meeting this past spring.

TRES PISTOLES TOUR

A free tour of Tres Pistoles Canyon, guided by someone well acquainted with that area will be scheduled for the evening of July 13th providing enough of our people express interest in being part of such a tour.

Tres Pistoles, in the south end of the Sandias, is surrounded on three sides by wilderness. Above the Monticello subdivision and the community of Carnuel, the site is home to many bird species, including thrashers, quail, Scott's oriole and Townsend's solitaire. In summer, golden eagles may be seen teaching their young to fly as they glide over the hills.

This 437-acre parcel is available for possible purchase by the federal government. Letters to Congress supporting its acquisition have been written by Albuquerque Wildlife Federation.

The tour will prove interesting in many respects. Chapter members may bring friends. Please indicate your intentions by calling Sybil Russell at 821-1273.

Joyce Mendel

Project Leader's Report

The Manzano Mtn. work project June 13 in Box Canyon was a smashing success. My fears of not enough volunteers were not realized, thank goodness. The Crew of 14 finished the job in half the time expected. Participants included Renate & Joe Padilla, Barbara & Jennifer Bergstrom, Debbie & Richard Reed, Julie & Dick King, Joyce & Cliff Mendel, Bob Nordstrum, Craig Paju and Richard Becker and. My thanks to all volunteers for yet another very successful "habitat enhancement project".

Our next undertaking is on Valle Vidal over the weekend of July 24, 25 & 26. This will be the 10th anniversary of this event. Additionally, the board of the New Mexico Wildlife Federation will meet at nearby Shuree Lodge on Saturday, July 25th. You are welcome to attend that meeting but don't let attendance interfere with the habitat work.

Ed Machin

Albuquerque Wildlife Federation

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GENERAL MEETING - THURSDAY, AUGUST 13, 1992

Program at 7:15 --- Refreshments & Conversation at 7:00

Bear Canyon Senior Center - 4645 Pitt NE
(North from Montgomery & Eubank, right on Lagrima De Oro,
one long block, left on Pitt. One short block to BCSC.)

** ** MARCH PROGRAM ** ** **

Lee Otteni, from the New Mexico State Land Office, will describe a proposed Range Stewardship Incentive Program for state lands grazed by livestock. This innovative program is designed to reward those grazing leasees who are effective in increasing the productivity of State Trust Lands.

Sandy Boyce, US Forest Service regional goshawk program manager, will show slides and discuss northern goshawk biology recommendations for managing the bird's habitat in southwestern forests. Boyce has researched birds of prey for 20 years. He has studied raptors in both South and North America, including Alaska. Boyce helped author a recent report which sets forth a management strategy for conserving the northern goshawk.

* * * * *

CALENDAR

- * Hunting Committee Meeting - August 18
 - * Riparian/Wetland Committee Meeting - August 19
 - * Grazing Committee Meeting - Aug. 19; agenda: Diamond Bar Ranch, Sept. 3 Congressional Field Hearing concerning grazing. Meetings are held at 7 pm at the NMWF office, 3240-D Juan tabo NE; enter thru the east door. Members are invited and welcome to join any of the committees, or attend the AWF Board meeting, at any time.
 - * Bluewater work project - Install a pole fence around a spring in an elk calving area. Tools and materials will be supplied by the Forest Service. There will be a crawdad boil Aug. 15; MORE ON OTHER SIDE!!
- NM State Game Commission Advisory Council meetings:
- * Fisheries - Aug. 17, tentatively at the Rio Rancho Inn
 - * Waterfowl/Upland Game - Aug 18, Education Building, Santa Fe
 - * Elk/Bear/Deer/Antelope - Aug. 22. Holiday Inn Midtown, Alb, 9 am
- Advisory Council meetings are open to the public. It is advisable to confirm the time and place (Dept. of Game & Fish - 821-8881.)
- Public meeting to solicit input for fishing regulations - Aug. 14, 7 pm, Albuquerque, Dept. of Game & Fish, 3841 Midway Place NE.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT, by Joyce Mendel

Following the Valle Vidal work project and pot luck on July 25, we were honored by the Carson National Forest and Questa Ranger District for our volunteer work on the Valle Vidal unit over a ten year period. We were presented with a beautiful wooden plaque, a framed certificate of appreciation and a letter of appreciation from the acting forest supervisor.

The letter reads, in part:

"Dedicated volunteer work by the AWF began in 1982 with 20 people performing 150 hours of work over what is not a typical 2 day work and 1 day rest weekend event. Since 1984 to the present the AWF volunteers have averaged 45 to 55 people who perform approximately 400 hours of habitat improvement work on one weekend per year. Over the last 10 years this volunteer effort has amounted to over 4000 hours of work on the Valle Vidal unit. Primary work accomplished has focused on the construction of stream habitat improvement structures to benefit the Rio Grande Cutthroat trout on Costilla, Comanche, and McCrystal Creeks. Other work accomplished includes the protection and enhancement of critical riparian vegetation on Comanche Creek, elk exclosure fence construction and maintenance and one beaver transplant."

AWF was also commended for enlisting the interest of other conservation organizations. This recognition is for everyone who has worked so hard on Valle Vidal over the years.

* * * * *

BLUEWATER CRAWDAD BOIL & WORK PROJECT - AUGUST 15

As is usual for this time of the year, a work project has been scheduled in the vicinity of Bluewater Lake. And this year, after an absence of several years we understand the crawdad population will support a harvest. Bob Nordstrum is coordinating the boil. Because the bridge crossing area has been closed to overnight camping, the boil and potluck will be held at the junction of forest roads 180 and 178, about 5 miles south of the Bluewater Lake west side ramp, start about 6 pm. Some will camp in this area. This will be a dry camp - no water, no toilets. Those who need these amenities should plan on camping in the State Park, in the vicinity of the ramp. The work group will gather at 8 am Saturday morning at the junction of forest road 180 and 178.

Bob is asking that a potluck dish be brought to the crawdad boil, also your own beverages. He plans to gather crawdads at the lake, near the State Park west side ramp beginning at dusk Friday evening. You are welcome to join in the crawdad catching as well as eating.

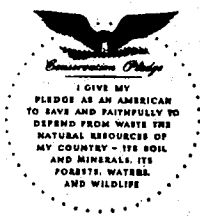
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VALLE VIDAL REPORT

The Valle Vidal work project on July 24 and 25 went very well under the leadership of Joe and Renete Padilla. Joe stepped in when Ed Machin (who had planned to lead the work volunteers) found the NMWF Board meeting was going to take up his time. Renete reports 10 volunteers worked on Friday and 29 on Saturday. The Questa Ranger District again had crew leaders and workers which made the volunteer efforts more effective. George Long, Questa Ranger District wildlife biologist, had planned and outlined the projects. Larry Temple, Dept. of Game & Fish district officer, led the tree planting crew and located some gates in the elk exclosure on Comanche Creek.

The exclosure fence on Comanche Creek was repaired and two gates installed to allow release of elk that get inside. Three new structures were constructed and several repaired in Comanche Creek. McCrystal Creek got 30 new structures. These structures are to provide deeper water and protect the stream bank. Alder and willow trees, 100, were transplanted. Those that grow will provide shade and also stabilize the stream bank. It was noted that some of the previous plantings of willows are taking hold on Comanche Creek.

Joe was especially pleased to see new faces among the volunteers. We were disappointed that the Sandia Mountain Wildlife & Conservation Association didn't get to join us. Ken Bauhs, the person who recruited AWF in 1982 to work on the Valle Vidal, couldn't make it because of a sudden illness. Others in the group found they needed to attend to matters at home after a severe storm hit their area.



Albuquerque Wildlife Federation

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GENERAL MEETING

THURSDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 10, 1992
Program at 7:15 --- Refreshments & Conversation at 7:00

Bear Canyon Senior Center - 4645 Pitt NE
(North from Montgomery & Eubank, right on La Grima De Oro
for one long block then left on Pitt for a short block to BCSC.)

**** ** * SEPTEMBER PROGRAM * ** ** ***

Improvement of the Rio Puerco watershed and methods used to reduce poaching will be both subjects discussed by knowledgeable specialists, speakers for the evening.

ALBERT ABEE, resource manager for the Bureau of Land Management's Rio Puerco area, will present slides with commentary concerning the Rio Puerco watershed's history and current status, as well as discussing the area's problems. The state has identified the Rio Puerco and tributaries as a degraded watershed which is also in violation of the Clean Water Act. The area has suffered tremendous amounts of erosion since the turn of the century. The large amounts of silt carried by the Rio Puerco has gained it nationwide notoriety.

SCOTT BROWN, from New Mexico's Department of Game & Fish, will be present to discuss methods utilized by that agency to prevent poaching. He will also show a video of the much-publicized fake deer which has been an effective tool employed by conservation officers to catch poachers. Scott is recognized as being being a captivating speaker who always deals with critical and timely information.

- Federation Calendar for September -

Meetings:

Hunting Committee -- Sept. 15 Riparian/Wetland Committee -- Sept. 16
Grazing Committee -- To be Announced AWF Board -- Sept. 22

Meetings are held at 7 p.m. at the NMWF office, 3240-D Juan Tabo, NE; enter through the east door. Members are invited and welcome to join any of these committees, or attend any meeting of the AWF Board.

Saturday, September 12 -- New Mexico Wildlife Federation Board-- 10 a.m., Bosque del Apache Visitor's Center.

Upcoming meetings of the State Game & Fish Commission:

September 8, 10 a.m., Room 324 in the State Capitol Building, Santa Fe. Discussion of budget proposals.

September 15, 9 a.m., Silver City, Light Hall Auditorium on the WNMU campus.

Game Commission Advisory Councils:

Habitat & Environment Council and Fisheries Council will convene Oct. 20 to jointly discuss instream flow.

(Unfortunately we were unable to obtain a complete list of meetings from the game department this month. For advisory council meeting times/places, call the department at 841-8881. The information will be in their computer files or on a print out.)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

AWF member Bob Nordstrum attended a meeting of the Hunting Committee in August, representing the membership of the Elk/Bear/Deer/Antelope Advisory Council to the Game Commission, and informed members of the hunting committee about issues coming before the council on which Bob serves and to hear their recommendations.

The Grazing Committee met in August to discuss the issue of grazing on the Diamond Bar Allotment in the Gila National Forest. The state federation plans to take a strong stand on this issue. The most recent edition of the NMWF newsletter contains considerable information about this.

The Riparian/Wetland Committee is studying the role of public agencies and private non-profit organizations in wetland/riparian issues.

The AWF board took the following actions at its July meeting: A letter is to be sent concerning Sikes Act/Habitat Stamp money, suggesting that about 25% of Sikes Act fees collected over the next three years be used for a large-scale habitat improvement in one area. The area of choice would be one where improvement of habitat should lead to significant improvement in the deer population. The board believes that expenditure of funds on such a large-scale project would be the best way to improve habitat.

A letter is to be sent to the Bureau of Land Management's district office in Albuquerque, about its draft plan for Animal Damage Control. The draft states that non-lethal methods will be employed whenever feasible to reduce or eliminate wildlife damage to livestock, people or to other wildlife species. While commending the BLM for a major step in the right direction, we propose the following modifications:

(1.) Affected persons should talk directly with BLM when there is a animal damage problem, rather than submitting a written request for control activities through the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS). (2.) Before lethal methods for controlling predators are used, there should be evidence of a three percent loss of livestock to the predator species involved. (3.) There should be no indiscriminate lethal control methods such as steel traps, snares, poisons and M-44's. These should never be set out during hunting seasons when dogs are used.

A meeting on this plan will be held in Cuba, Sept. 15 beginning at 7 p.m. in the municipal bldg.

MACHIN'S MUSINGS

The work project in the Bluewater Lake area in mid-August was successful. Although the turnout was not what we had hoped for, the ten people who were on hand got the posts set along with some of the horizontal rails.

Our campsite was near the junction of FS 178/180, back amongst the trees. On Friday, Bob Nordstrum guided the Mendels, Thompsons and myself on a crawdad collecting excursion and then the preparation of the critters for the pot. The crew started to the spring at 8:15 Saturday morning and worked until about 3:30 before heading back to camp. Nordstrum began the process which resulted in succulent morsels and others brought their contributions to the meal.

My special thanks to Bob for ramrodding the cookout. I also extend thanks to Rose & Lavell Thompson, Joyce & Cliff Mendel, Phyllis & Allen Hover (Santa Fe), Barbara Bergstrom and Craig Paju for their hard work and a job well done. An earlier work project on the Valle Vidal was also a huge success with 10 workers on Friday and 26 on Saturday, the day the NMWF had its board meeting. That was a fine turnout. My thanks to all participants on these work projects.

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Albuquerque Wildlife Federation

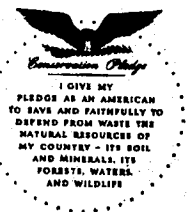
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Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103



GENERAL MEETING

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1992

Program at 7:15--Refreshments & Conversation at 7 p.m.

Bear Canyon Senior Center--4645 Pitt NE
(North from Montgomery & Eubank, right on Lagrima De Oro
for one long block, then left on Pitt for a short block to BCSC)

** ** * OCTOBER PROGRAM ** ** *

Introduction of buffalo into an area south of Grants and plans for the Rio Grande Valley State Park in the Albuquerque area will be subjects discussed by the evening's speakers.

Albert Abee, Bureau of Land Management manager for the Rio Puerco Resource Area, will discuss a proposal to move bison from Fort Wingate to El Malpais National Conservation Area south of Grants. The BLM is cooperating with the New Mexico Game and Fish Department on the project, and an Environmental Assessment is being written. Come and find out if you'll be able to hunt buffalo near Grants one of these days.

Nano Takuma, Albuquerque Open Space project planner for the Bosque Action Plan, will show slides and discuss plans for the Rio Grande Valle State Park. The planning area extends along the Rio Grande, from Sandia Pueblo south to Isleta Pueblo. Recreation and trails are proposed for some areas; closure is proposed for others so that wildlife can be restored.

CALENDAR

AWF Meetings:

Hunting Committee--Oct. 13
Riparian/Wetland Committee--Oct. 13
Grazing Committee--To Be Announced
AWF Board--Oct. 20

Meetings are held at 7 pm at the NMWF office, 3240-D Juan Tabo NE; enter through the east door. Members are invited and welcome to join any of the committees, or attend the AWF Board meeting, at any time.

Rio Puerco Field Trip--Oct. 17 ? See article below.

Game Commission Advisory Council Meetings

Habitat & Environment Council and Fisheries Council--Oct. 20
Joint meeting to discuss instream flow.

Elk/Bear/Deer/Antelope/Lion Council--Oct. 28

We believe each of the above councils will meet at the Inn at Rio Rancho, Rio Rancho, at 9 am. For complete information about advisory council meetings, call the Department of Game & Fish, 841-8881. You may need to ask them to obtain the information from their computer.

Other Meetings:

Open Space Public Hearing concerning city/county joint powers agreement--Oct. 26 Del Norte High School, 7 pm to 9 pm
Also, at Los Vecinos Community Center near Tijeras--Oct. 19. 7 pm

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Many people have not heard how items voted on at the August 7 Habitat and Environment Advisory were disposed of. The council spent about four hours discussing resolutions regarding animal damage control. It voted to recommend that the Game Department provide detailed annual reports documenting all predator control activities funded or permitted by the Department and/or commission. More controversial aspects of the resolutions were tabled and are to be brought up at another meeting.

The council discussed and heard arguments concerning the spotted owl and northern goshawk for another four hours. It voted to recommend that the Game Department begin a review process for

both species which could lead to a recommendation that either or both be listed as threatened or endangered within the state.

The recommendations were brought before the Game Commission at its August meeting, but were not voted on. Chairman Koch said he would send the recommendation concerning documentation of predator control activities to the Landowner/Sportsmen/Wildlife Advisory Council for further discussion. With regard to beginning a status review of the spotted owl and northern goshawk, Koch said the matter needed full discussion before the commission. A full presentation is to be made to the commission sometime after November.

The Elk/Bear/Deer/Antelope/Lion Council, at its September 24 meeting, voted to recommend that there be up to a 20 percent increase in cow elk permits in the Gila area. Ranchers there have complained that elk eat too much of the food they want for their cows. I'm told that the recommended increase still did not make the ranchers happy.

RIO PUERCO FIELD TRIP

~~Those of you who attended the September meeting heard Al Abee~~ of BLM talk about plans for the Rio Puerco watershed. This area was already in poor condition at the turn of this century. After the meeting Rio Puerco Watershed Project Leader Bob Alexander generously offered to take us on a tour of the area to see damage due to past overgrazing and areas of high topsoil loss. Bill Reed is trying arrange a field trip to the area on Saturday, October 17. Bill has not yet confirmed that date with Bob, so if you are interested check with Bill (281-3996).

HEARINGS ON JOINT POWERS OPEN SPACE AGREEMENT

A city/county joint powers agreement for Major Public Open Space will be the subject of three hearings scheduled this month. In Albuquerque, the hearing will be held on Monday, Oct. 26, at Del Norte High School, between 7 and 9 pm. Other hearings will be held Oct. 5 in the South Valley and Oct. 19 at Los Vecinos Community Center near Tijeras. Those also begin at 7 pm.

If we are to add to Open Space in the Albuquerque area, it's important for people to attend a hearing, support an Albuquerque/Bernalillo County joint powers agreement, and express a desire for county financial involvement in open space.

So far, all of the Major Public Open Space that has been acquired throughout the city-county area has been funded by the city. However, the city has no more money for open space acquisition.

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GENERAL MEETING - THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1992

Program at 7:15 --- Refreshments & Conversation at 7:00

Bear Canyon Senior Center - 4645 Pitt NE
(North from Montgomery & Eubank, right on Lagrima De Oro,
one long block, left on Pitt. One short block to BCSC.)

**** ** * NOVEMBER PROGRAM * * * ****
Bighorn Sheep - - - - Petroglyphs

Bill Dunn, Department of Game & Fish habitat biologist, will make a slide illustrated presentation which describes New Mexico's bighorn sheep transplant program. Mr. Dunn will talk about both Rocky Mountain and desert bighorns, outlining their needs, potential transplant sites, and what the future holds for these animals native to our state.

Verne Huser, Vice President of the Friends of the Albuquerque Petroglyphs, will show slides and talk about protection of the petroglyphs in Petroglyph National Monument on Albuquerque's West Mesa. There are thousands of ancient Indian design petroglyphs on the volcanic escarpment. ~~The speaker will discuss vandalism occurring within the monument,~~ development impacts and the controversial, proposed extension of Paseo del Norte Boulevard through the monument.

The public is invited to attend; as always this AWF program is free!

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CALENDAR

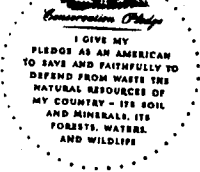
- * Hunting Committee - Gone hunting
- * Riparian/Wetland Committee Meeting - November 18
- * Grazing Committee Meeting - to be announced

Meetings held at 7 pm at the NMWF office, 3240-D Juan Tabo NE; enter through the east door. Members invited to attend committee and AWF Board meetings. Members are encouraged to join any of the committees.

New Mexico Wildlife Federation Special Convention - Los Volcanes Senior Center, 6500 Los Volcanes NW, Albuquerque, December 5, 1992 10 AM; two proposed by-law changes will be addressed. See NMWF October Outdoor Reporter Newsletter for information concerning the proposed changes.

New Mexico Game Commission meeting - High Mesa Inn, 3347 Cerrillos Road, Santa Fe, 11/17-18. Set big game and fishing regulations for 2 years.

(Calendar continued on the other side)



CALENDAR (continued)

Festival of the Cranes - Socorro & Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge, November 19-22. Many free events take place throughout the weekend. Volunteers are needed to staff a table in Socorro 11/21-22. Call Ed Machin, 898-6264, for more information.

New Mexico Riparian Council/Soil and Water Conservation Society joint Conference - Holiday Inn Midtown Albuquerque, 11/20-21. Members \$35, nonmembers \$40. For more information call Russ LaFayette, 842-3253, or Steve Kadas, 293-4779.

* * * * *

PRESIDENT'S REPORT, by Joyce Mendel

At October meetings of the State Game Commission and Habitat Advisory Council, the need for better funding of the Department of Game & Fish was brought up numerous times. In particular, it was stressed that those who enjoy wildlife but do not hunt or fish need to financially support the Department. With such additional support, the Department would be capable of expanding its jurisdiction over all the state's wildlife instead of only those hunted, fished, or endangered.

AWF sponsored a resolution passed by the NM Wildlife Federation proposing that the name of the Department of Game & Fish be changed to the Department of Wildlife. We also need to support giving the Department jurisdiction over all wildlife, along with additional tax money to make the Department capable of managing all wildlife.

I hope to see you at the December 5 NMWF special convention. I also hope you'll get either to the Festival of the Cranes (and volunteer to help) 11/21-22 and/or to the Riparian Council's workshop 11/20-21. JM

* * * * *

AWF ANNUAL MEETING

Our Annual Meeting and Christmas potluck will be held Thursday, Dec. 10. The most important business to be taken care of at the annual meeting will be election of officers and board members. If you know of a good candidate (including yourself) for president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, or board member, call nominating chairman Roby Wallace at 344-6099 to make the recommendation. Otherwise, make the nomination from the floor at the annual meeting.

* * * * *

WILDLIFE COOKBOOKS FOR SALE

Start your Christmas shopping now--for that good friend, relative or yourself. We're selling cookbooks with great recipes for anyone who hunts or fishes, or the one who cooks the game and fish that are brought home. Besides hundreds of recipes, the books also include information about the care and preservation of game and fish, and campsite cooking.

The cookbooks, titled Wildlife Chef, were published by the NM Wildlife Federation several years ago and sell for \$8. Profits made on the books will be allocated to educational projects we support--first, for the New Mexico Forestry Camp, then toward our other educational projects. Thus, buying a cookbook is itself an act of Christmas charity. Cookbooks will be on sale at our general meetings and at the NMWF special convention. They also can be ordered by calling 265-3840 evenings.

* * * * *

October letters written: 1) Urged Bernalillo County to follow Albuquerque's lead in acquisition of open space; 2) Asked NM Dept of Game & Fish to keep Albuquerque office open during lunch hour. Response from Dan Pursley, NW Area Supervisor, gave reasons for noon hour closing, adding, "With the exception of eye contact, there is nothing that this office provides which cannot be obtained through the mail or telephone."

Wetlands Victory: We've written letters during the year asking that federal identification of wetlands be based on science rather than politics. This fall Congress appropriated \$400,000 for a National Academy of Sciences study of the Federal wetlands delineation manual.

Invite a friend to join you at the Wildlife Federation meeting!!

Albuquerque Wildlife Federation

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GENERAL MEETING - THURSDAY, December 10, 1992
6:30 P.M. (Note Time Change for this Special Event)

Bear Canyon Senior Center - 4645 Pitt NE
(North from Montgomery & Eubank, right on Lagrima De Oro,
one long block, left on Pitt. One short block to BCSC.)

**** ** * DECEMBER MEETING AND POTLUCK * ** ****

We'll organize dishes for our holiday potluck at 6:30 and hold the annual meeting for all members shortly thereafter. The meeting will be short, consisting primarily of the election of officers and board members. Bring a dish for the potluck if convenient, but it is not necessary. There has always been plenty to eat. Spouses, significant others, and children of members also are invited.

DECEMBER PROGRAM

As part of our holiday celebration this year, Scott Brown from the Department of Game & Fish, will present a special three-projector slide show. This beautiful program is called "Keepers of the Wild, Guardians of our Future." We'll also follow tradition and see some slides of the year's work projects and those who participated in them.

NOMINEES FOR THE 1993 OFFICERS AND BOARD

The Nominating Committee, chaired by Roby Wallace, has presented the following slate of nominees:

| | |
|----------------|----------------|
| PRESIDENT | Joyce Mendel |
| VICE PRESIDENT | Richard Becker |
| TREASURER | |
| SECRETARY | |

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| BOARD OF DIRECTORS | | |
| Bill Zeedyk | Steve Padilla | Barbara Bergstrom |
| Yvonne Chauvin | Bill Reed | Roby Wallace |

Nominations for officers and board members also will be accepted from the floor. As you can see we still need persons to fill the positions of treasurer and secretary. According to our by-laws, the membership can elect no fewer than four and no more than eight of the directors. The past president automatically becomes a member of the board.

WILDLIFE CHEF COOKBOOKS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE MEETING

CALENDAR

* Hunting Committee Meeting - December 15

* Board of Directors - No Meeting this month

Meetings are held at 7 pm at the NMWF office, 3240-D Juan Tabo NE; enter through the east door. Members are invited to attend committee and AWF Board meetings. Members are encouraged to join any of the committees.

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT, by Joyce Mendel

Thanks to all who worked during the year to further the goals of our organization. That includes those who called or wrote state legislators and Congressmen on behalf of issues we supported or opposed; those who worked at special events and spoke at schools.

Deserving special recognition are the chairmen of our riparian/wetland, grazing, and hunting committees -- Richard Becker, Jay Holton, and Don Schofield; Ed Machin chairman of the work project committee, who was ably assisted by Joe and Renate Padilla and Bob Nordstrom; Beverly DeGruyter chairwoman of the education committee; Roby Wallace chairman of the Nominating committee; and several others who quietly did what was needed. They include John Davis and Dave Weingarten, newsletters; Barbara Bergstrom brought refreshments to every meeting; and Sybil Russell created a photographic display board.

Board Members were conscientious about attending meetings and actively took part in board deliberations. The 1992 board included Yvonne Chauvin, vice president,; Barbara Bergstrom, secretary; Cliff Mendel, treasurer; Dale Jones, past president, and directors Richard Becker, Larry Foote, Jay Holton, Diane Mead, Steve Padilla, Bill Reed, Mary Reed, Sybil Russell, and Roby Wallace..

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November letters written: 1) Comments on the Bosque Action Plan for the Rio Grande Valley State Park, to Albuquerque Open Space Division. 2) Support of a regulation which requires that traps be checked every 24-hours, to State Game Commission.

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The State Game Commission endorsed the concept of a COOPERATIVE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM at their 11/17/92 meeting. The Department of Game & Fish was given the task of developing the program details and bringing it to the Commission within three months. Following is a discussion draft description of the concept (please excuse the small print). Public meetings will be held to discuss this program.

A COOPERATIVE WILDLIFE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM was discussed and the concept endorsed by the State Game Commission at their November 17 meeting. The following describes the state-private wildlife management proposal that is being offered by the Game Commission for discussion as a means of encouraging game-herd enhancement.

Goals of the program would: 1) Establish a system for state wildlife managers and private-land owners to develop cooperative wildlife management plans; 2) Bring more intensive, planned wildlife management into play on deeded lands with substantial big game habitat and sustainable big game herds, especially but not only elk. 3) Provide incentive for owners of large tracts of deeded lands to increase game herds. 4) Provide for an additional means of controlling damage to private property by elk.

Basic changes from the system now in effect would be: a) Each participating ranch would be required to develop a wildlife management plan and submit it to the Department of Game and Fish. B) Elk harvest on each participating ranch would be set by a limit on the actual number of animals taken, rather than by the number of licenses allotted. C) Elk season on participating ranches would be extended, with the landowner allowed the flexibility of matching hunters to accommodations.

The program would be available statewide to deeded-land ranches meeting criteria of size, big game habitat, and sustainable game herds of manageable size. Suggested season dates are Sept. 1-15 and early October through Dec. 31. Ranch managers and hunting client's would negotiate timing of each individual's hunt within that framework. Licenses would be valid only on deeded lands of the participating ranch, for five consecutive days. Bag (bull or antlerless, for instance) would be negotiated by the hunter and ranch manager within the limits set under the management plan.

Ranches would be able to offer combination hunts for elk and deer, bear or turkey during regular seasons for those species. A hunter would be limited to one license/one hunt per year for each species (same as for public land hunters). Under this system, if an elk hunter is unsuccessful, the landowner can provide access to additional, licensed hunters until the elk harvest goal is met.

Some landowners experience damage to and/or loss of crops to elk, usually in winter and early spring.

Elk season in units and areas known to be subject to elk damages could be extended to incorporate the appropriate time period (as early as Jan. 1 or as late as May, depending on the history). A landowner participating in the new system could allow harvest during the late season, when elk are present in cultivated fields, for instance. Licenses would be valid for five days and only on the private land, and the harvest counted against the total allowed for the ranch. Management plans would need to be written to allow flexibility (in antlerless harvest, for example) to meet the situation.

The existing formula system for allotting elk licenses to private ranches would continue for ranches of mixed public and private land and as an option for larger deeded-land ranches not choosing the new system.

The existing system for issuing public licenses for depredation hunts for elk (and deer and antelope) would also continue to operate to accomodate depredation situations on mixed public and private land, and on deeded ranches not participating in the new system.