We need YOU for a Citizens Lobbying Campaign
It's easy, and it's important!

The Mining Committee of the Sierra Club is calling on all members to become part of a citizen lobbying effort.

In order to secure passage of a state mining reform bill, we need your help in contacting your state representative and senator.

If each Sierra Club member and one friend called or wrote to his/her legislator, we will have generated approximately 12,000 calls and letters. NUMBERS LIKE THAT COUNT WITH THE LEGISLATORS!

Each state representative and senator should be visited by his/her constituents and informed about the Mining Reform Bill. (We will provide you with the information you need.)

We would like each senator and representative to hear from 50 constituents in his/her district. This means joining our letter-writing and phone campaigns, and getting your friends, family, and other interested parties to join you in the campaign.

This is your call to action—

Join Today!

Sign up now or call Gerri Faires at 983-1700.

If you cannot call, send this form to:
Gerri Faires, Mining Committee Coordinator, Sierra Club, 612 Old Santa Fe Trail, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501.

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Rio Grande Chapter
Sierra Club
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Sierra Club Makes Endorsements in New Mexico Legislative Races

Sierra Club Endorsements

Sierra Club Endorsements

Sierra Club Chapter

HOUSE:

Name Party/City
1. Aaron Blackman D-Storm
2. Linda Salom D-Storm
3. Gloria Hueso D-Storm
4. Danziger O'Shea D-Storm
5. Paul David D-Storm
6. Daniel Messman-Lorcy D-Storm
7. Carlos Perez D-Storm
8. Tom Rutherford D-Storm
9. Thomas Robinson D-Storm
10. Ann Raley D-Storm
11. Leonard Tafoya D-Storm
12. Roman Moss D-Storm
13. Cynthia Nava D-Storm
14. Judy Stibo D-Storm
15. Mary Jane Santa D-Storm
16. Elizabeth Stilson D-Storm
17. Thomas O'Sullivan D-Storm

SENATE:

Name Party/City

4. Thomas Atchity D-Storm
5. Robert Deniro Pederson D-Storm
6. Nick O'Shea D-Storm
7. Albert Gurmela D-Storm
8. Carmen Mckinley D-Storm
9. Robert Hawk D-Storm
10. Danilo Porras D-Storm
11. Renne Huerta D-Storm
12. Paul Taylor D-Storm
13. William Aragon D-Storm
14. William Porter D-Storm
15. Iris Lee Wells D-Storm
16. Nick Salazar D-Storm
17. Delilah Rodella D-Storm
18. Robert A. Peters D-Storm
19. Max Oll D-Storm
20. Lucien 'Lucky' Varo D-Storm
21. Gary King D-Storm
22. Barbara Peraza Casey D-Storm
23. James Roger Madalena D-Storm
24. Davey Langston D-Storm
25. Jose Alcala D-Storm
26. Lynda Morgan D-Storm

Perfect Holiday Gifts

Handcrafted gifts and native foods from villages and tribes in New Mexico are featured in a handsome, color catalogue available free from Pastores Food and General Store. See page 28.

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October Programs

Albuquerque Group—October is National Energy Awareness Month. Sierra Club energy advocate Ralph Winters and Peter Hughes will present a program on the progress of Albuquerque's Energy Strategy and the State Energy Policy, as well as many exciting events on the role of Renewable Energy Technologies. Monday, October 18, 7:30 p.m., UMAC Law School. See page 12.

El Paso Group—Jim Caruso of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept. will present a slideshow on the Big Bend Ranch State Natural Area, Wednesday, October 28, 7:30 p.m., at St. Paul's Methodist Church. See page 16.

Santa Fe Group—Candidates for the State Legislature will discuss their positions on environmental issues with Sierra Club members. Bring your questions, Tuesday, Oct. 25, 7:30 p.m., St. Vincent's Church. See page 19.

Southern New Mexico Group—"Sifting the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge" (a joint program with Mushila Valley Audubon.) Tim and Elder Laxton will show slides of the wildlife and scenery, Wednesday, October 21, 7:30 p.m., 201 Foster Hall, NMU.

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NM Counties in Forefront of "Wise Use" Movement

At least eight New Mexico counties have passed anti-environmental ordinances which they believe will give them more say over federal public land management. They are part of a growing movement in the West. One county, Colfax, is circulating its ordinances for others to copy. See page 6.

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Sierra Club Chapter

NEWS OF THE RIO GRANDE CHAPTER
SIERRA CLUB • OCTOBER 1992

Sierra Club Members in New Mexico Legislative Races

Determined to see environmental legislation move forward in New Mexico, the Rio Grande Chapter has announced endorsements in a majority of state legislative races to be decided this November.

"This is a critical election year. The 1993 General Assembly will face many environmental issues crucial to the future of New Mexico's people and its land, air and water," noted Chapter Chair Gwen Wardwell.

Wardwell said she expected the Legislature to decide on legislation addressing mining reform, energy policy, water quality, wildlife waste, animal damage control, and recycling.

The passage of a state hardrock mining regulation bill is a priority for environmentalists for the upcoming legislative session. The Rio Grande Chapter has spearheaded a Mining Action Coalition, comprised of dozens of citizens, community and environmental groups.

"The Mining Coalition will push a major piece of legislation to ensure that hard rock mining is done in an environmentally and culturally sensitive manner," said Wardwell.

"Indeed, a new poll done for the New Mexico Environmental Law Center shows that over 80 percent of New Mexicans feel that reform is needed, that mining companies ought to clean up after themselves and that taxpayers shouldn't be stuck with the bill."

"We also expect attempts to be made to enact "taking" legislation to advance the interests of those seeking short-term gain at the long-term expense of New Mexico's environment. Again, it is clear that the overwhelming majority of New Mexicans are for strong environmental measures and against that kind of short-sightedness."

Wardwell urged Sierra Club members to vote for environmental candidates on November 3.
Chapter Sets Conservation Priorities for 1993

Biodiversity, water quality, and energy-transportation issues will join mining law reform as conservation priorities for 1993. The priorities were selected by activists at the Sierra Club’s Rainbow Lodge retreat, held at the Black Range Lodge in Kingston on September 12-13.

At least half of the Club’s available conservation funds will be spent on work related to these issues next year. The remainder will be divided among the Club’s various committees to be spent as they see fit. The exact funding split will be determined by the Executive Committee at its next meeting in December.

Committees are being formed to develop action plans and budgets for each priority, to be presented to the Executive Committee in December. Members interested in serving on these committees are encouraged to contact Rick McNab (mining), Dick Wardwell (water quality), Pat Wottke (biodiversity), and Ken Simmons (energy/transportation). Their phone numbers are listed in the directory on this page. Don’t delay, since work plans should be mostly finished by early December.

The Kingston retreat was attended by approximately 30 Club activists. In addition to setting conservation priorities, the group discussed the Club’s short-term situation. Due to a shortfall in expected revenues raised through the March fund appeal, the Club will have to undertake emergency short-term fundraising efforts to meet current funding obligations.

Chapter awards were presented on Saturday night after a delicious dinner catered by local residents. The usual record-breaking and rollicking followed.

Three Chapter Activists Honored

Three Rio Grande chapter activists were honored in early September for their conservation work and contributions to the Club. Pat Wottke and Jen Oyser of Santa Fe, and Kevin Bushby of Los Cruces received awards at the Chapter retreat in Kingston.

Wottke is the Club’s Wildlife Issues Chair, and a leading advocate for reform of New Mexico’s animal damage control program. Oyser is the Club’s Secretary/Treasurer, and former Wildlife Issues Chair. Deputy Chair and representative to the Sierra Club’s Board, Bushby is editor of the Rio Grande Sierra and founder of the Southern Environmental Law Center.

In presenting the awards, Chapter Awards Chair Rick McNab said the following: “To Pat Wottke: ‘In exposing Animal Damage Control activities in New Mexico, you have bravely battled government waste, public hostility, and even threats against your person. The success of your effort is tangible: ADC no longer makes its annual report public, and the State Land Office has finally begun to oversee ADC activities on trust lands. Your dogged pursuit of a too-often arcane program is a model of environmental activism.’

To Jen Oyser: ‘You have shown both expertise, dedication and effectiveness in the political-economic campaigns to undo ADC, through thoughtful and direct action.’ To Kevin Bushby: ‘For your tireless leadership in environmental protection and productivity. Your ability to stay cool under fire and your wholesome sense of humor result in minutes which give the Executive Committee an unwarranted but welcome aura of direction and efficiency.’

To Kevin Bushby: ‘The Southwest Environmental Center stands as a tribute to your commitment to productive activism. Their work and its activities will multiply your contribution to the Southern New Mexico Sierra and the environment’

Seven Sierra Club Endorses Clinton/Gore Ticket, Blasts Bush’s Abysmal Record

On September 4, the Sierra Club enthusiastically endorsed Al Gore and Bill Clinton for President and Vice President of the United States.

Volunteer activists for the 100-year-old environmental organization made the announcement in Albuquerque along with a dozen other clubs and chapters throughout the United States.

The decision to endorse Mrs. Clinton was made in response to the New Mexico’s endorsement of the White House administration’s record and its failure to adopt any environmental policies.

Volunteers for the 100-year-old environmental organization made the announcement in Albuquerque along with a dozen other clubs and chapters throughout the United States.

Again, thank you for your support. We look forward to working with you in the future.

Sincerely,

Bill Clinton
Silent Majority

Dear Sierra Club Leader:

Thank you for being the first environmental group in the nation to endorse our campaign for America.

For over one hundred years the Sierra Club has led the nation in preserving, protecting, and enhancing the environment and the future of America.

For the past four years we have had George W. Bush in the White House. He has been a consistent and unrelenting opponent of environmental protection.

We will need to work together to ensure that we continue to preserve our nation’s parks and wilderness.

Again, thank you for your support. We look forward to working with you in the future.

Sincerely,

Bill Clinton
Silent Majority

The Rio Grande Sierra is printed on 100 percent post-consumer waste newsprint by PrintWorld in El Paso, Texas.

The Rio Grande Sierra October 1992

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Los Lunas Threatened By Medical Waste Incinerator

by Heidi Fleischmann

A n application for the construction of a medical waste incinerator just outside the community of Los Lunas has been filed with the state Environment Department.

Eco-Logics, Inc. plans to build a 30,000 square foot plant about eight miles west of Los Lunas and two miles south of NM 6. The application is in the review process in the Air Quality Bureau and the Solid Waste Bureau. It is hoped that public hearings will be a part of the permitting process.

The operator of the facility, Mr. George Hensley of Eco-Logics, has pursued this goal in other New Mexico and Arizona communities, including Mortuary and Grants, but has been thwarted out of these areas by intense public resistance. The company then moves on to the next vulnerable community.

The proposed incinerator is capable of burning 24 tons of waste per day and the company has plans to double that capacity. New Mexico produces 4.5 tons of infectious waste per day, necessitating importation of some, or at least the servicing of eleven other states to meet the facility’s capacity.

There are many environmental reasons to oppose this incinerator. Despite the fact that the air pollution from waste incineration (or paper at least) seems to meet state air quality regulations, we are concerned about the TOTAL volume of emissions. Since our state has no VOLUME cap on emissions, only a PERCENTAGE cap, the total volume of emissions from such a large facility will be considerable and capable of causing significant air quality deterioration.

There are also concerns about the TYPES of emissions, such as heavy metals, and their resultant health consequences. The ash created after incineration is highly likely to be considered hazardous, and would probably need to be disposed of as a specialized landfill.

Also, large volumes of water would be needed to control the ash—an estimated 30,000 gallons per day minimum.

The health concerns are particularly great, as the company has requested a variance from the state regulation requiring a 3-mile buffer zone between the plant and nearby residences. The state requires a buffer zone because of medical concerns about the effects on humans of breathing the toxic emissions. Nearby residents should not have their health jeopardized by this facility.

Where the Application Stands Now

The permitting application to the Air Quality Bureau has been deemed complete. There is a 45-day public comment period running NOW! (and will end mid-to-late October.) If you wish to make comments do it immediately.

The proposed incinerator is capable of burning 24 tons of waste per day and the company has plans to double that capacity. Since New Mexico only produces 4.5 tons of infectious waste per day, waste will have to be imported from other states.

The Air Quality Bureau does not have to schedule a public hearing, but may plan one if there is a much public interest. Feel free to send nontechnical or technical comments to Mr. Jim Shively (address below).

The application to the Solid Waste Bureau is not complete and has been sent back to the applicants for additional information or clarification. It will then be reviewed and a public comment period and public hearing will be scheduled.

The Solid Waste Bureau, by law, must hold a public hearing. It is too early to submit technical or non-technical testimony to this agency. If you express an interest, you will be put on a mailing list to receive updates and notices of hearings.

A large public outcry of concern has stopped this company from their pursuit to pollute in other communities. Don’t let Los Lunas become a victim. Its residents should not suffer from the toxic pollution this facility would create, literally in its own backyard.

In writing the recent regulations, the state of New Mexico has already determined that it is unsafe to have such an incinerator within three miles of a residence. Eco-Logics should NOT be granted this variance.

New Mexico should not become a dumping ground for other states’ medical waste; we already care of our own. Please express your outrage and send your comments immediately to the following person:

Mr. Jim Shively
Eco-Logics Dept., Air Quality Bureau
1191 St. Francis Dr., Knauss Bldg.
PO Box 26110, Santa Fe, NM 87502 827-0598

Jemez Recreation Area Legislation Reaches Critical Mass

by Henry Oat

Legislation for the Jemez National Recreation Area is in its final stages. After working all summer with the staff from Senator Jeff Bingaman’s office, Rep. Bill Richardson’s and Senator Pete Domenici’s offices, we are close to working out a compromise.

As this writing, it looks like the mining language of the Bingaman/ Richardson bill will remain intact. The bill will prohibit land mining, prevent future mining claims and require that mined lands be returned to their pre-mining condition.

The main point of contention lies with the size of the area. The Bingaman/Richardson bill designates 100,000 acres while Sen. Domenici proposes设计ating only 57,000 acres of what he calls “the best of the best.”

Sen. Domenici’s proposal would include lands that are currently managed by the U.S. Forest Service for recreation. These lands are mainly in the river corridor and not the most traffic.

Sen. Domenici’s proposal eliminates the spectacular back-country that is heavily used for backpacking, hiking and cross-country skiing, including lands adjacent to Bandelier National Monument and the Wild and Scenic River Corridor of the East Fork of the Jemez River.

From now on, the need to protect the Jemez should be clear to our Congressional delegations.

The High Price of Success

This legislation has not come easily, nor has it come cheaply. It has been a long three year effort to get this bill through Congress, and it will be another couple of years of work before the management plan is in place. The Jemez Grand Canyon and the Santa Fe Group of the Sierra Club have been the main stays of support for this issue, especially financially.

At a time when we are reaching the heights of our success, we are also at our financial depths. We are now over $30,000 in debt and need your help in meeting our obligations.

As director of the East Fork Preservation Coalition, I was glad that due to the tremendous amount of time we have spent on this legislation that I will be paid a salary. Unfortunately, the money has not been available to do that. For some crazy reasons, I have felt compelled and committed to seeing this legislation through to the end and have borrowed a substantial amount of money to do so.

It is now time to be starting repayment these loans.

Your support and generosity is desperately needed now. Please consider a generous donation today! Donations can be made payable and sent to:

East Fork Preservation Coalition
P.O. Box 9307
Santa Fe, NM 87504 + (505)983-1576

[Henry Oat is Director of the East Fork Preservation Coalition and a member of the Santa Fe Group Conservation Committee]
New Mexico's Counties Swept Up in Anti-Environmental Movement
by Kevin Bizby

New Mexico's counties are in the forefront of a growing movement to enlist local government in the fight against environmental regulations. Eight counties in New Mexico have enacted ordinances they believe will help them take control of public lands within their boundaries. One county, Catron, is distributing its ordinances throughout the West for others to copy. Sierra, Hidalgo, Torrance, Eddy, Lincoln, Luna, and Socorro Counties have passed similar ordinances, along with about 30 counties in other western states.

The ordinances are distinctly anti-environmental. (See sidebar.) They address wilderness, endangered species, wild and scenic rivers, logging, mining, grazing, and exchanges, and other topics. In effect, they require federal and state agencies to seek county approval before undertaking significant management actions, and authorize criminal and civil actions against agency personnel who violate them.

Some "Wise Use" agents, different methods
Like People for the West and other so-called "wise use" groups, proponents of the County Movement target environmentalists and environmental regulations as scapegoats for the economic woes of rural communities. Like their counterparts in other states, they advocate opening up federal lands for maximum commodity production.

But the County Movement employs a unique strategy for achieving its objectives: using county governments as surrogates to assert control over public lands and resources.

The Movement's basic strategy is to persuade county officials to adopt land use plans that define county's "custom and culture" and "economic base" in terms of consumptive public land uses, e.g., grazing, logging, and mining. Ordinances are then passed making it illegal to threaten local custom, culture, and economic stability.

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In effect, the ordinances require federal and state agencies to seek county approval before undertaking significant management actions, and authorize criminal and civil actions against agency personnel who violate them.
The genius of the Movement is that it has found a way to disseminate its views quickly and cloak itself in the legitimacy that can only come from association with the democratic processes of local governments.

which received $25,000 to develop Citron County's original land-use plan.

One of White's colleagues at the Land Center, libertarian and former Barry Goldwater aide Karl Hess, is a policy consultant for NMDA. He is currently evaluating the competency of personnel at the U.S. General Accounting Office in assessing federal land management on behalf of NMDA. GAO has prepared a number of reports critical of federal range management in recent years, and it is no secret that ranchers would love to discredit the agency.

In recent months, Hess has backed off from the County Movement, expressing disapproval of its "unseemly" views on private property rights. "We've been publicly permitted to build a few fences," Hess said. "And we've been in court for a while."

Looney lawyers or brilliant organizers? It is tempting to dismiss the County Movement as a bunch of greedy public land users promoting abant legal doctrines, but this would be unwise.

The real agenda of the Movement does not hinge on the legal arguments. The Movement is a relentless campaign to strip land of its public ownership. It is a campaign to make the public and its representatives irrelevant.

Abused defender of ranching and farming interests in the state, and frequently consumed with the possibilities of public land management issues from environmentalists.

Two prominent NMDA officials are, or have been, close associates of the County Movement. Ron White, a division director with responsibility for overseeing the state's animal damage control program, is a frequent speaker at NFC's seminars throughout the West. He is also a partner in The Land Center, a policy-consulting firm in Las Cruces.

Club Fights to Repeal New Arizona Takings Law

ENVIRONMENTALISTS are scrambling to turn back a new Arizona law that they say will strip the state of its ability to protect public health and the environment.

The "regulatory takings" law, scheduled to go into effect Oct. 1, permits to protect the rights of citizens as to how they use private property. But what the new law would actually do, environmentalists say, is restrict the state's ability to issue public health and safety regulations.

Arizona's Republican-led legislature approved the law this spring, following months of intense lobbying by the state's members of the so-called "wise use" movement — a coalition of industry-backed development groups. Republican Gov. Pile Sympson, a developer himself, signed the bill into law in June. Rob Smith, the Sierra Club's Southwestern representative, called the wise use movement "a group of old agrarian leaders with better P.R.," and said that environmentalists were alarmed by the bill's passage. "We were surprised," Smith said. "This bill is just bad, expensive government, and we didn't think it would be signed by a governor who had claimed to be an environmentalist.

The Sierra Club in Arizona has raised a petition drive to gather 50,000 signatures — the number needed to put the law on the ballot in November. Smith said it is confident that the public will find out what this law would do, if it will be repealed.

The new law is based on the constitution's right of individuals to be compensated for property "taken" by the government for public use. It affects mostly everything that is currently regulated, from child care facilities to waste incinerators, restaurant cleanliness to pest-control use. For example, if a regulation prohibited a dangerous pesticide from being sprayed near a school, the sprayer would receive tax dollar compensation from the state under the new law. "This law could force taxpayers to pay polluters not to pollute," Smith said. 

Joni Busch, chair of the citizen's petition coalition and a member of the Sierra Club's board of directors, called the law a "polluter's protection act." "It's a scam on the public," she said. "It quietly enacts the environmental and community protection laws that industry leaders would not be able to overcome in full public view.

Environmenalists fear Arizona's law could open the floodgates to similar "environmental destruction" laws all across the country. Comparable legislation was introduced in 27 other states this year. Wisconsin, New Hampshire and Iowa approved related laws, but environmentalists say Arizona's law is the most comprehensible and, therefore, most dangerous.

For more information, contact Rob Smith in the Sierra Club's Southwestern office at (602) 254-9356.

Santa Fe's Buses to Run on Natural Gas

The City of Santa Fe's bus system is due to begin service in January. The City Different will do it right, as befits its role as the most environmentally friendly city in the country. Only 95 percent of its buses run on low-polluting natural gas, they each have two to three times the back, leaving motorists with no excuse for polluting in their gasoline habits. Source: Ken Hughes

briefs

NAFTA Spells Trouble for Bush, Border Towns

Leading members of Congress last week echoed long-held concerns that the new environmental protections included in President Bush's new energy plan would be "locked into place for generations," thereby making the environmental protections easier to implement.

House majority leader Richard Gephardt (D-Mo.), speaking at a conference sponsored by the Environmental and Labor groups, said: "Under this agreement, the President is committed to enact environmentally based legislation that will be difficult to repeal because of the various provisions that would "tie the President's hands."" (See also "The Grid," page 17."

But someone number two administration officials defended Bush's new plan in its meetings with the White House to discuss the negotiations. Legal Defense Fund lawyers have asked for loopholes to gain access to specific White House records. The lawyers could show that the administration officials likely pressured committee members to vote against the provisions that were removed from Bush's new energy plan. "It's a highly questionable plan," one of the lawyers said. "We have to see the evidence before we can make a judgment."
Albuquerque’s Oxbow Threatened Again

by David Harrison

You may not realize that the Sierra Club owns land within the Rio Grande Chapito’s boundaries: 9.8 acres of land in a 50-acre swath in Albuquerque known as the Oxbow. Now that land is being jeopardized by single-minded agencies intent on moving water around at all costs.

The Oxbow’s Beginnings

The Oxbow is one of the few wetlands remaining along the Rio Grande. Thousands of acres of once-common Rio Grande wetland have been lost due to impounding of the river banks and farming.

The Oxbow was formed when a bend in the Rio Grande was straightened by the Army Corps of Engineers between 1954 and 1955. By 1964, the outfall of the newly constructed Corrales Drain to the river was dammed by beavers, backing up water and creating water flow through the previously head in the river. More beaver dams were built, creating a hospitable environment for wetland plants and many species of wildlife, including migrating waterbirds, larks, owls, cranes, cormorants, cranes, and many an occasional loon.

In 1975, recognizing that the Oxbow was threatened by several government agencies, Santa Feh Denoted land in the Oxbow to the Sierra Club Foundation. A brief history of the Oxbow since that time follows:

- On June 30, 1976 the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District (MRGCD) installed a pipe, some of the water flow returns to the Oxbow.
- In mid-August, after a month and a half of carrying thousands of pounds of gasoline emissions and the flow returns to the Oxbow.
- Trouble returns, January, 1977, MRGCD plans a study to determine if the beaver drain past the Oxbow for irrigation purposes.
- Chapter Executive Committee enlists the help of U.S. Representative Manuel Lujan to stop the flow from the Oxbow to the rice.<ref>
- Chapter Executive Committee requests that the Army Corps Engineer protect the Oxbow from continuing to violate Section 404 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act by placing fill in a wetland without a permit.
- The Oxbow Committee approved the study for moving the landowners of the Oxbow Public Schools and Sierra Club.
- Unfortunately, Open Space failed to notify most of the landowners of most of the meetings. The San Antonio and plan were approved by the Oxbow Community. The Oxbow meetings without the Sierra Club ever being contacted. Although the Open Space Division has stated that incorporating the

The plan was approved by the Oxbow Committee after several meetings without the Sierra Club ever being contacted.

Oxbow into the Rio Grande State Park is a priority for the citizens of Albuquerque, public input regarding future impacts to the wetland has been denied.

Plan Assumes Beaver’s “Ideal”

The Oxbow Committee or Open Space contracted with Ed Swenson to do a management plan study of the Oxbow. The plan points towards an ideal condition, scenario III, in which all beaver are removed by trapping, beaver dams are replaced using fast floating construction equipment, and water control devices and earthworks, and vegetation is intensively managed using herbicides, burning, and cdling.

This scenario is unrealistic economically for the City of Albuquerque and not appropriate for the surrounding community. Scenarios I and II are progressions towards scenario III. Recommendations to scenarios I and II include using explosives to move suit, and trapping of beavers or beaver birch control (Nagel is being used on beavers in Denver).

Conditions stated in ideal for the Oxbow are not argued but assumed and no data or references are presented to support assumptions made in the management plan.

The state endangered black hawk or may utilize the area for nesting as the cool waters of the Oxbow. Unfortunately, the Oxbow management plan does not consider impacts to endangered species.

The impact of trapping beavers to the community is not addressed in the plan, although a safer assumption is that lethal trapping methods will be used. Although the management plan recommends that a study of beavers and their role in the Oxbow be initiated, it inexplicably calls for bear eradication.

Various agencies have made plans for a unique natural area without considering the environment the wetlands extend into the Oxbow land for the Sierra Club Foundation. “The agencies involved with the Oxbow do not care about wildlife; they are only concerned about moving water around, and not an asset which is tightly managed."

Look in next month’s Rio Grande Sierran to see what you can do to save the Oxbow!

"The Oxbow is an asset which least managed, and not an asset when tightly managed."

-Bruce Callkins

Reach Out & Touch Them

To reach your senators: The Honorable... U.S. Senate Washington, D.C. 20510
U.S. Senator (NM): Jeff Bingaman (D)
U.S. Senator (TX): Lloyd Bentsen (D) Phil Gramm (R)
U.S. Representative (NM): Dr. Pete Stark (D)
JIM RAY, (1945-2001)

To reach your reps. in New Mexico:
U.S. Representative (NM): Dr. Pete Stark (D)
U.S. Rep. (CA) District: 5–Ralph Hall (R)

To telephone your senators or representatives, call the U.S. Capitol switchboard: (202) 224-3121

"Stopped upon your reception floor is a broch containing catfish, bass, carp, crayfish, muskrat, and ducks. This action serves to inform you and your bureaucracy exactly how the entire Oxbow area now smells as a result of your arrogant decision..."

—The EcoWarrior, 1976
Cross-Country Ski Report

By John Turnbull

There is probably nothing more vulnerable in the Sierra Club than the outing program, anchored in John Muir's belief that the value of wildlands is self-evident, if people will but take a look. For half the year, in winter, the territory is blanketed in snow. It's a time of great peace and serenity, and awesome beauty. Ski touring is the portal to this marvelous winter world. It has been for 6000 years.

Although October seems a little early, there already is over a foot of snow in the San Juan Mountains in southwestern Colorado. Also, the ski swaps typically occur in late October, and they require some forewarning.

This year, with the consolidated Chapter newsletter, we decided to expand the former Santa Fe Group column chapterwise. As before, it will be a participatory column. Members may, and are encouraged to, submit material. It may be anything from notification of events to favorite ski trips to equipment and technique pointers. We have a modest objective: to make every Sierra Clubber a ski tourer.

One need only watch a 93-year-old Norwegian shuttling along on skis to realize that Nordic skiing (in the U.S. we commonly refer to it as "cross-country") is a sport for all ages and genders. Indeed, if my choice are representative, women today are taking up the sport at twice the rate of men. The elderly Sierra Club tour participant was 82. The younger was 7.

Each year, however, many enthusiastic newcomers find their initial ski experiences frustrating and discouraging, and loss intensive. Most of the negative experience can be traced to improper equipment, no orientation, inadequate prior experience or a combination of these. We will deal with these in coming months.

Last summer, some 120 individuals took advantage of the ski classes conducted by the Santa Fe Group. The program continues to expand each year. There are other organizations besides the Sierra Club with similar programs, some grants, some charging a fee. Our next month will list some of these.

During the winter months, the Group outings sections, meets will find ski tours listed, along with hikes, etc. There are other organizations offering ski tours as well. We will mention them in later months, too.

In one informal survey in Santa Fe, fully half the salespeople selling Nordic equipment had only minimal experience with it, and many had none at all.

Ski swaps:
- Los Alamos, Saturday, 24 Oct., 1-4 p.m. at Los Alamos Middle School.
- Santa Fe, Saturday, 31 Oct., and Sunday, 1 Nov., all day, at the Fairgrounds.
- Santa Fe, 5, 7, 8 Nov. Evening of Friday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday, and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday.

A word of caution on ski swaps. They are first and foremost fund-raisers for their organizers and may be one-time deals. Years ago, one place could find tried and true, albeit well-used, gear once belonging to some knowledgeable person, for bargain prices. Today, by contrast, almost as two-thirds of the offerings may be new items, with some retail shops, and at about the same prices as charged at their own pre-season sales.

Also, ski swaps have become dumping grounds for retailers' purchasing mistakes, and sometimes the retailers themselves, appearing to be swap vendors, will be on the floor actively peddling their mistakes to unsuspecting buyers.

In addition, skiers immigrating to New Mexico often find that the gear that served so well in the East or Midwest is simply unsuitable in the deep, loose powder of the West, and will dispose of it at a ski swap. Almost surely, exchangeable expert guidance, a ski swap today is no place for the innocent.

In our Sierra Club classes in Santa Fe, we attempt to provide an explanation of equipment to guide beginners in their purchasing. Unfortunately and inevitably, the ski swaps, as well as the pre-season sales, always precede the classes.

If the ski swaps are risky, should a person simply rely on the retail shops' guidance? Yes, to the extent they have qualified sales personnel. Shops specializing in backcountry stuff usually do. The larger retailers, though, will usually hire sales staff primarily for their knowledge of Alpine (i.e., "downhill") equipment, not Nordic gear.

In one informal survey in Santa Fe, fully half the salespeople selling Nordic equipment had only minimal experience with it, and many had none at all.

The result of all this is fairly predictable, and one of the great quests Nordic instructors have to cope with.

Grizzlies in the Lower 48

"When the grizzly is gone, we shall have lost the most sublime specimens of wildlife that exists in the western wilderness." — John A. McGuire

In case you missed reading your Sept/Oct Sierra, there is an article on grizzly bears. (Grizzly's Place, p. 57) as well as the following information on page 110.

The federal grizzly-bear recovery plan maps out goals and mitigation steps for grizzlies in the Lower 48. For a copy, write to Dr. Maria Servenova, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, University of Montana, Missoula, MT 59812. In your letter, mention that you support strict protection for all grizzly-bear habitat.

In the Yellowstone ecosystem, Shoshone and Cancher national forest officials are propagating oil and gas and leaving in key grizzly-bear habitat. To voice opposition, write Shoshone National Forest, PO Box 2140, Cody, WY 82414, and Cluster National Forest, PO Box 2556, Billings, MT 59103.

A report on oil and gas leasing in Yellowstone-ecosystem forests is available from the Sierra Club, 23 N. Scott, Sheridan, WY 82801. Copies are $0.00 each.

For more information on grizzly issues, contact the American Grizzly Bear Project, PO Box 1874, Bozeman, MT 59715. The project was set up by the Sierra Club, The Wilderness Society, and the Greater Yellowstone Coalition to help defend the grizz.

[The author is a member and former chair of the Sierra Club Group, and conducted the following and intermediate ski classes and tours for many years for the Sierra Club, a private school, and several other organizations, and is a member of the Professional Ski Instructors of America.]

ALBUQUERQUE GROUP — page 1

ALBUQUERQUE GROUP

Campaign for a Sustainable Energy Future
by Susan Gorman, Project Chair

October is National Energy Awareness Month—a good time to focus on where we stand as individuals and as citizens of New Mexico, the United States, and the world on energy production, use, and conservation. As you may recall from the April newsletter, the Albuquerque Group joined the Sun Day 1997 campaign for a sustainable energy future. The campaign is still going strong.

To help bring about a better awareness of what is going on and where we can and need to go from here, Ralph Wrons and Ken Hughes, Energy Activists in the Sierra Club, will present a multi-faceted program at the October general meeting. Their presentation will include up-to-date information on the progress of Albuquerque's Energy Strategy and the State Energy Policy, as well as very encouraging news on the role of Renewable Energy Technologies. Federal energy legislation was still in the Senate-House conference committee as of press time, and since it's presidential campaign time, it may still be there as you read this.

We will meet on Monday, October 15th, 7:30 PM, in room 2401 of the UNM Law School. For those of you who haven't been to a meeting before, the Law School (Brotton Hall) is at the NW corner of Mountain and Stanford NE. Please be aware that during the school year there is a $1.00 fee for parking in the lot. A permit can be obtained inside at the library desk, or you can park on the street. Please bring a coffee cup if you care to have refreshments provided by the club. Preceding the main program, we announce upcoming events and outings, report on recent outings, and make announcements on current environmental issues with opportunities to write letters and get involved. Hope to see you there!

What Good are Prairie Dogs?
by Dorothy Bettsman

According to an article in the Sept/Oct issue of Audubon ("No Dogs Allowed," page 20), the Forest Service, in an assessment of prairie dog management in the Nebraska National Forest in northwestern Nebraska concluded that:

"Prairie dogs act as ecosystem regulators by altering plant species composition and reducing the standing vegetation, thus maintaining a short-grass plant community, increase plant diversity, and increase animal diversity. Prairie dogs in the mixed-grass prairie create habitat patches characterized by altered species composition (land) and lower standing crop of plants, better forage quality. Wildlife species and domestic livestock preferentially feed on these prairie dog colonies."

The prairie dog's habit with rangelands is due to its ability to thrive on grazed-over land—land that has been overgrazed by cattle. Once vegetation is allowed to grow, prairie dog populations tend to decrease. Even so, Forest Service studies have found that the existence of prairie dog colonies did not significantly reduce steer weight gain, and "plant production values" were higher where cattle and prairie dogs grazed together than when cattle grazed alone.

Prairie dogs provide food for carnivores such as the coyote, the black-footed ferret and the swift fox. Critical species that is dependent on prairie dog is the burrowing owl, Athene cunicularia. Burrowing owls nest in prairie dog burrows and can be seen standing next to burrow entrances. Burrowing owls have been observed on the UNM north golf course, along Kirkland Road on the Kirkland AFB, along Southern Avenue between Bobcat and Juan Tabo, and in other places where prairie dogs are abundant.
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thanks to Parking Lot Volunteers
These diligent volunteers did it energy. They protected the parking lot from unauthorized parkers and made a bundle of money for the Albuquerque Group to keep us in the black for the next year. We’re looking forward to a great party on October 4, to thank those people who helped us out this year. Heidi Fleischmann

Northwestern Regional Science Fair Results
On Friday, March 21, three Sierra Club members had the pleasure of judging science projects and giving awards to 6 outstanding projects dealing with the environment. The categories for the awards were: The Natural Environment, Man and the Environment, and Energy. Awards for each category were given between both junior and senior divisions.

This year’s winners and their schools were: Mirella Callas, St. Pius HS; Amy Walton, Sandia HS; Rusty Hatt, Hope Christian School; Erin Sisk, John Adams MS; Jonathan Dulski, Cleveland MS; and Laura Sanchez, St. Mary’s School (Belen).

Thanks to Ron Groebeck and Ray Bahm for helping with this year’s fair. If you would be willing to help with next year’s science fair, please call Abe Loethman at 263-3179. The science fair committee is always looking for cash or other members interested in serving as mentors for students. They match a student’s needs with the expertise and interests of the mentor. If you are interested in serving as a mentor, call Rand Buck at 277-4816.

Ellen Loethman

BIRDS OF A FEATHER WEEKEND
Friends of the Rio Grande Nature Center will be having its Annual Birding a Feather Weekend October 24-25. Educational activities will be offered both days. Bird seed, including some specialty seeds, will be sold to benefit the educational programs sponsored by the Friends.

Wildlife Rescue will be with us from 10AM-4PM both days, and Hawkwatch International will give a slide presentation. Storytelling and a slide lecture on the birds of Albuquerque will be of interest to children. Bird identification will be aided by members of the Audubon Society. More activities are in the planning stage. For more information, call Anne Bannister at 822-8536. Moveovers can be left at the RCIN at 344-7240. Anne Bannister

Petroglyph National Monument receives publicity
The Eastwood and the Petroglyph National Monument made it to the pages of Sunset Magazine (May 1992, page 16). The article, accompanied by a photo, describes hiking opportunities and the threats to the monument. Phone numbers and directions are also given. Good job, Abe!

CALANDER

Unless otherwise noted, meetings take place at the Club office at 207 San Pedro NE.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 12</td>
<td>noon</td>
<td>Deadline for articles for Nov/Dec group newsletter/Sierra Macadorn disk. Send call if supplying hardcopy only. Note that this is two-month issue.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 12</td>
<td>Executive Committee Meeting, 7:30 PM</td>
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<td>Oct 15</td>
<td>Sierra Club General Meeting, UNM Law School, Room 302, 7:30 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 24</td>
<td>9AM-1PM</td>
<td>A Feather Weekend, 10AM-4PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 26</td>
<td>Conservation Committee Meeting, 7:30 PM</td>
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OUTINGS

Attentions: NM Natural Group · SC Sierra Club · SW Soulful Wilderness · PNM Penroglyph National Monument

Sat Oct 13 Recycle
We vocational about 60 recyclers and thirty doll-
ars for the months of August and September. This month’s project is “keeping the Talking
Talons talon is a group of kids that are learning about recycling with school that have taken on
the task of teaching environmental awareness so use of recyclable materials is
The Talking Talons received a community educa-
tion award by the Natural Environment
Council, which helps the Sierra Club bring recycling education into schools. Plastic number 1, and 2, or
recycled cardboard, newspaper, and paper to
RR, 15th and Mountain, from 9 to 11 AM
shape. If you would like to help with recycling, call David 344-8963.

Sat Oct 3 Leisure Mites 2-3 Car: 50
Full Crossing at the North Cross Trail, Soulful Mountain. Bring lunch.
How are the projects to point overlooking the roofs, roads, gold, and orange of
aspen and pine. The hike is designed for the kids. RSVP, Bring lunch 8-12. Leader: Roger Mogul. Call Naples 347-2956.

Sat Oct 4 Leisure Mites 2-3 Car: 30

Sat Oct 10 Moderate Mites 4-6 Car: 50
The Rio Grande Nature Center at 7:30 PM
Co-Editor Needed
No, it’s not too late! Imagine your name under “Newsletter” in the list above! Imagine the sense of personal satisfaction you’ll get from contributing your expertise to the Sierra Club! Seriously, it’s not that hard, and it only requires 5-8 hours, every other month. The work can be done in the Sierra Club office, or on your own computer, as you happen to have one. Training will be provided. Please call Dorothy Bedaux at 277-6113.

Featured are eggs covering more than 700 square miles of the Gila Wilderness in New
Natonal outing. Bring a sack to share with others, and if you won’t use it, please bring it.
Cause check out our office at 207 San Pedro NE: 7:30. Dave 344-8963.

Sat-Sun Oct 17-18 Moderate Mites 3-5 Car: 200
Car Camp. Magdalena, nm. From: Water Canyon we will drive to below Snow Bowl. camping, we will hike to the summit.
I will stay camp as an area with spectacular views and an easy hike with thousands of stars on the
ve view with a telescope. Timber peak, bike, and kayak yarding moon hike, and then a visit to the Very Large Radio Telescope (VLAT). Dress warm, bring plenty of water. a half hour on the summit.

Sat-Oct 24 Leisure Mites 2-3 Car: 300

Sat-Oct 31 Leisure Mites 2-4 Car: 160

Sun Nov 1 Leisure Mites 2 Car: 100
Rio Grande Nature Center at 7:30 PM
One of the most popular Susan’s Brook Com-
munity Service projects is to keep public com-
ments will be taken in regards to recreation but
only when the hike is planned to compli-
cate, yet some of the committee members lack knowledge of the (state federal) endangered species’ ranges along the boboga, by 200 miles, although they are responsible for the project at professional level on a daily basis.

Under these conditions, this might be one of your last chances to see so many of the native species. Water world/ wildlife migration may have begun. To 2 to 3 hours, 9 AM, meet at corner of Corrales and St. Josephs. Leader: David 344-8963.

Wed Oct 14 7:30-9:30 PM Sierra Club Office Car Camp. Wine and Cheese Party, Slide Show
Sierra Club El Paso Regional Group

GROUP DIRECTORY

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Ted Metting
382-3011
Jim Rodriguez
313-6425
Pablo DeBrito
443-5943
Estrada"n
357-4104
Tamara Williams
413-5489
Betty Juliana
413-5714
Carroll Geradell
357-4138
Sara Sue
357-4104

Volunteers Needed

The Environmental Center has operated now for almost two years through the efforts of many volunteers. Their efforts have taken many forms—from the initial conception of the Center (planning and fundraising) to its day-to-day operation (landscaping, building, maintaining, etc.).

The potential of the Center to be a focal point for environmental activity in El Paso is tremendous. It is time to tap that potential and involve you, our supporters, in whatever way best suits you. Listed below are a few ideas for you to consider.

Volunteer a few hours to work in the Environmental Center to answer phone calls, accept reservations, and help with the general maintenance of the facility.

Volunteer to work on environmental and conservation issues in the community. Getting involved is easy to do. You'll find a list of the organizations that are currently active in the field of conservation Below.

Volunteer for local and regional Sierra Club fund-raising efforts. Help ensure the effectiveness of the group's efforts.

Come to Sierra Club meetings to meet people who share your concerns for our environment. The program are always interesting.

VOTE FOR THE EARTH

Ted Metting, Chairman

CALENDAR

October 7 EXCOMM (800 So. Piedras)
October 10 Deadline for Excomm newsletter information (Send to 331 Vista Del Rey, 79912)
October 28 General Meeting (7000 Edgemere)
November 4 EXCOMM (800 S. Piedras)
December 6 General Meeting

CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

At the recent retreat of the Rio Grande Chapter Sierra Club in mid-September, we spent a day discussing strategies to make public transit more appealing to El Pasoans. This event was quite successful, with over 100 attendees. The result is a strategic plan that will help us move forward in this important area.

MAKE ELECTION DAY EASY DAY

Let’s take our fight to save the Earth into the ballot box and the voting booth. Vote green and support the pro-Earth policies that will be on the ballot this November. Your voice is powerful. Let’s do everything we can to ensure that our vote is heard.

Outings REPORT

Forks Campground Curved 7/17-8/19

Eight Sierra heads headed out on a Friday night and found the gates to the City of Weekes Pass State Park to be locked. They hung around for a while and then headed back to El Paso.

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Pecos Wilderness Campground 8/14-16/92

A small (12) group of El Paso Sierrans spent the weekend in the Pecos Wilderness northeast of Santa Fe. Pat Wood, Jane Williams, Mike Siedzinski and leader Boyce Julson took the scenic route from El Paso to Pecos. The journey included a stop at New Mexico Tech to buy relief maps of New Mexico, a shopping spree at REI in Albuquerque, and a three-hour dinner at Merika's in Santa Fe. Merika's margaritas improved our attitude as we set off on our major climb in the rain and dark. On Saturday we hiked up to Puente Nambie, a lovely alpine meadow at around 11,000 ft., where we ate lunch and enjoyed the view of Santa Fe Baldy, Lake Peak, and the distant Jemez Mountains. Sunday's easy hike through the forest left us with enough energy for the long drive home.

White Mountain Wilderness Labor Day Key Exchange 9/4-7/92

Hiking at times on soft, round, covered trails amid pine and fir trees, through fields of Stevens and graceful, white aspen, and making our way through slender high grasses with occasional singing中小学 to keep us wary, we all sensed how lucky we were to spend these days on this spectacular trail. We were all grateful for the panoramic beauty laid out for miles and miles before our eyes! The Shakespeare Seven (John Dick, Dick Knoff, John Bardoul, Gary Lint, Lawrence Olson, Caroline Greenfield, and leader Dallas Winkler) started near Mogul Peak, hiking nine miles to the last day. My less literary, but very philosophic, group (Bill Phillips, Mike and Maria Episcopo, Richard Rander, Rafael Schuler, Welden, and myself, Betty Fiebeck) enjoyed all this in reverse, starting at Mogul Knob. The twenty-two miles of the Great Trail of the White Mountain Wilderness is an experience no serious backpacker should miss.

The Gray Ranch Service Campground Backpack scheduled for Labor Day weekend was postponed.

ARTIST BENEFITS FRANKLINS COALITION

Thanks to the generosity of artist Lindsay Holt II, Sierrans have an opportunity to support the Franklin Mountains Wilderness Coalition in a big way and obtain some distinctive artwork in the bargain. Now living in Santa Fe, Lindsay retains his strong commitment to the protection of the Franklins. Limited edition, fine-art posters of two of his Franklin Mountains scenes are now in production, and Lindsay is donating all proceeds from sales of up to 50 of each to the Coalition.

The two images, striking close-up of native vegetation on rocky slopes, eloquently capture the mix of ruggedness and delicate beauty found in the Franklins. Both have been on display at Jason's restaurant on North Mesa in El Paso since 1984.

The line-art color posters will sell for $50 each and must be ordered before December 21, 1992.

If you wish to place an order, please contact Coalition President John Spruiel (915-545-5157) or Doug Lutz of the Dallas Ford Gallery (915-885-8877).

SANTA FE GROUP NEWS

*** GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING - TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20 ***

Candidates from the Santa Fe area who are running for the New Mexico State Legislature have been invited to attend our next meeting and have an exchange with Sierra Club members about environmental issues that will be addressed in the upcoming Legislative Session, such as mining reform. Members are invited to come and meet the candidates. Think of questions you've always wanted to ask and issues you would like to see presented to the legislature in 1993.

The General membership meeting is free and open to the public and will be held at The Unitarian Church on Barcelona (between Don Gaspar and Galisteo), on Tuesday, October 20, at 7:30 PM.

The nationally acclaimed bestseller

DAYS HIKES IN THE SANTA FE AREA

is still available in bookstores and wilderness supply shops

Call Betsy Fuller (983-8870)
$8.95, plus $1.05 postage

>> SANTA FE GROUP OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS <<

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<tr>
<td>Chair</td>
<td>Bob Kitchell*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vice Chair</td>
<td>Norma McCallen*</td>
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<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Joosty*</td>
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<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Lorie Potter*</td>
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<td>Conservation</td>
<td>Sue McIntosh</td>
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<td>Legislative</td>
<td>Ken Hughes</td>
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<td>Membership</td>
<td>Pat Stevens</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fund Raising</td>
<td>Bob Kitchell*</td>
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* Member of the Santa Fe Group Executive Committee

Publicity - Joosty* 984-2000
Outings - Norma McCallen* 471-0005
Membership - Bob Kitchell* 471-0005
Publications - Lorie Potter 983-8870
Education/Recycling/Office - Carol's Kitshul 982-5970
Newsletter Editor - Ray Carlson 982-3926
How To - Martha Anne Freeman 436-0897
Selling - Mike Kitchell 982-5051
Randy Fereira 982-5200
Cathy Kitchell 473-1915
Colin MacPherson 983-3403
Oscar DeLeon 989-7711

SIERRA CLUB -- Santa Fe Group
440 Cerrillos Road
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501
Telephone 505/983-2703

MEETINGS - MEETINGS - MEETINGS

All members are invited to all meetings

Membership Meeting *
Tuesday, October 20, 7:30
Conservation Committee *
Executive Committee *
Tuesday, October 27, 7 PM
Tuesday, Nov 3, 7 PM

* Held at the Sierra Club office at 440 Cerrillos Road
** Held at the Unitarian Church (on Barcelona between Don Gaspar and Galisteo)

The Deadline for Submission to the Nov Newsletter is Friday, 5 PM, Oct 9.
Sat Sun November
3  John McCullough (473-1916) *Strenuous Hike* in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains. Leave 8 AM.
4  Art Judd (982-3212) *Moderate/STrenuous Hike* in the high country. Leave 8 AM.
10 Paul Miller (473-3107) *Easy/Moderate Hike* to Chimney Rock (Ghost Ranch country) with optional climb to Mesa Montes. Leave 8 AM.
17  Stephen Janus (988-4177) *Moderate/STrenuous Hike* to Cerro Picacho via Sanchez Canyon. Leave 8 AM.
18  Elizabeth Altman (471-8490) *Easy Hike* Leave 9 AM.
18  Caroline Glick (984-3184) *STrenuous Hike* From Cowles to Johnson Lake. Leave 7 AM.
24  Joe Whelan (984-0746) *Moderate/STrenuous Hike* in the Pecos. Leave 8:30 AM.
25  Victor Ayres (471-7545) *Easy Hike* on the Fry Trail and to Ceremonial Cave. Leave 9:15 AM.
31  Louise Leopold (988-4592) *Easy/Moderate Hike* Dogs and their friends are welcome. Leave 9 AM.

*** HELP ** ***

We are again left bereft with no one to make coffee for the General Membership Meetings. Our wonderful angel has moved to Los Alamos. The job is simple and can be fun for someone who likes to meet people — just take charge of the coffee pot and other supplies and be at the meetings to make the coffee for our grateful members and guests. Won't you please help? Call Carolyn Keskiull (982-9570)

CONSERVATION SLIDE SHOW ON THE ROAD AGAIN

The Education Committee will again be showing the Sierra Club Conservation Slide Show to the 5th and 6th graders in the Santa Fe Schools. If you'd like to help or know of some classes that would be interested, please call Carolyn Keskiull (982-9570)

RECYCLING — A HABIT TO GET INTO!

Thanks to all of you who have been faithfully recycling, both through the city curbside program and at the recycling centers. Remember when you bring your recycling to the center to ask them to credit it to the Sierra Club. You can recycle aluminum cans, newspaper, scrap metal, cardboard, steel (tin) cans, glass, and ledger and computer print-out paper at Capitol Recycling (on the last street off Siler Road before Agua Fria — follow signs) and Environmental Control (corner of Agua Fria and Siler). Save the bandits and remember to bring your own shopping bag to the grocery store (and don't forget the drug and hardware stores, too).

FOREST WATCH OCTOBER FIELD TRIPS

Forest Watch is planning field trips to the Jemez Mountains to visit a proposed 25,000 acre controlled burn site and to see a rangeland where the Forest Service is using innovative methods to counteract the effects of grazing and in the Pecos to the Johnson Diversity Unit. Interested? Call Martha Anne Freeman, 438-0697

Outings Notes — All outings, unless otherwise specified, leave from the PECO parking lot at the corner of Pecos de Peralta and (St) 6th St (please street form State Capitol and Pecos Circle). Carpooling will be arranged at the parking lot, and each hiker should come prepared to pay 5 cents a mile to the driver of the car in which hiker rides. Hikers should bring a lunch, water, sturdy hiking boots or shoes, and clothing suitable for the weather — leader reserves the right to turn away anyone whose equipment or appearance appears unsuitable. Leader has the right to alter destination of hike or cancel the trip due to weather, unfavorable conditions, or insufficient number of participants. Unaccompanied minors must have written permission from parents or guardians to participate. Permission forms are available at the Sierra Club office. Dogs are not permitted on hikes unless noted otherwise. Telephone leader for details of the individual hike.

**OUTINGS LEADERS’ ANNUAL WORKSHOP**

On Saturday, December 5, the Annual Outings Leaders’ Workshop will be held for all hike leaders and those interested in becoming leaders. Mark your calendar now. The details will appear in the next bulletin.

Norma McCulallan (471-0005)

Phone tree volunteers are critically needed

* JOIN THE TEAM *

Call Martha Anne Freeman, Phone Tree Chair (438-0697).
New Mexican Crafts and Foodstuffs in Free Catalogue

Handcrafted gifts and native foods of more than 30 artisans from villages and tribes in western and northern New Mexico are featured in a handsome, 4-color catalogue (printed on recycled paper) with soy based (also available from Pastures Feed and General Store). Gifts of jewelry, accessories, home decor items, toys, books, and foods range from $3 to $300.

The introduction to the catalogue describes its purpose:

For most villages and tribal mem- bers, the fields and streams, forests and herds, forests and wildlife are the very same resources we have at our disposal. This catalogue presents a new way of life.

In 1990, to support this way of life, the Yavapai Oiathlon of Yavapai and Maricopa created a catalogue offering and exhibition.

The catalogue offers the opportunity to give a gift which reflects the rich diversity of New Mexico, as well as its way of life, to the artists who make their living from the land.

The Pastures catalogue has one of the best selections of children's books, toys and tapes. A Navajo craddleboard and doll, precieo child's bear, tapes and books which teach Spanish and Na- vajo are just a few of the selections.

Some articles feature projects, projects which have evolved from the craft movement of the last decade, and have been the basis for several social conscience investment- ing banks. Working Assets Money Fund, Pro- gressive Asset Management (America's first full- service socially responsible investment firm), and Huntington Investments, Inc.

He was actively involved in the creation of the Yavapai principles—which define environmental criteria for the creation of America's largest corporations—and in the creation of America's first environmental mutual funds.

John also manages investments for environmentally conscious investors across the country.

For more information and the location of the event, please call Tom Leatherwood at 983-4880.

The Rio Grande Sampler is published 10 times a year by the Sierra Club. Members receive subscriptions as part of their membership. Only members may order samples. Family mem- bers are $10 a year. David Payment to the Sierra Club.

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Looking for Santa Fe rental:

The Rio Grande Chapter of the Santa Fe rental organization has an office in Santa Fe and is charging ahead on mining reform.

The Committee will need a computer. A Macintosh is preferred, but they'll be grateful for anything.

Please call the Committee at 983-7100.

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