

Activist Profile Susan Gorman and Blair Brown

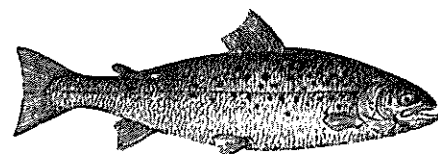
The Rio Grande Chapter salutes the very active volunteer couple of Susan Gorman and Blair Brown. Although they have only been in New Mexico for a short time, they have been actively involved in Albuquerque group affairs for most of that time.

Three years ago, Susan and Blair abandoned their corporate careers and the crowding, hassle and pollution of Los Angeles to find "a nicer place to live." That place was Albuquerque, where they formed an international partnership business.

Shortly after the move, they began volunteering with the Rio Grande Chapter, working on such issues as mining legislation and drumming up grassroots support for legislative change. With their strong backgrounds in business and computers, they soon began to work administratively with the Albuquerque Group. Susan began organizing programs for the group and Blair became the "mailbox" for the chapter, including fielding information from the electronic "cc mail" computer network based at Sierra Club headquarters in San Francisco.

More recently, Susan, who now works with the Albuquerque Technology Incubator, which helps small businesses start and grow, has been Conservation Chair of the Albuquerque Group. Blair, who works with the New Mexico Museum Foundation in Santa Fe, was Vice Chair for the Albuquerque Group and is now its Secretary. Blair also represents the group on the Chapter Executive Committee.

Susan says that they are very happy that they moved to Albuquerque. So is the Rio Grande Chapter.



Rio Grande Chapter
Sierra Club
P.O. Box 9191
El Paso, TX 79983

"Cashing Out" Employee Parking

by Ken Hughes

Parking lots at job sites throughout New Mexico, despite decent bus service in most cities and ideal cycling weather in all, are jammed with cars. Corporate and government office space is often over one-half parking lots, land that could be put to more valuable use, such as green space or office expansion. To date employees have had little incentive to use other means to get to work when inducement for driving to work include free parking. Taking that away would be tantamount to certain mutiny over loss of this bounty. Indeed, back in the 1970s then-Senator Charles Percy of Illinois proposed charging Capitol Hill staffers for parking and a staffer quit on the spot!

We motorists have become accustomed to the hidden subsidized lives we drive. Free parking is one of the more sacred, if motionless, cows. But instead of initiating or hiking fees, financial inducements to those taking alternative means to work seem to offer the greatest hope for reducing single occupancy driving/parking.

Called "cashing out employer-paid parking," translated into English that means those who carpool, bike or walk to work would get the cash equivalent of what the market rate is for parking spaces. For instance, if a parking space costs an employer \$1,200 per year, and an employee work 250 days per year, the foregone opportunity is worth \$4.80 a day. Why not offer that \$4.80, or a portion thereof, to the non-motorist employee, who in eschewing the daily car habit is saving his/her firm that much more money in not needing to acquire adjacent land for building more parking lots?

Such a cash-out scheme goes beyond the immediate parking lot fences, and onto nearby streets (less traffic), air (fewer pollutants) and water (less oil-laden runoff). The local economy is also a winner: of every \$10 spent on a tank of gasoline \$8.50 leaves the local economy, whereas a \$10 bus pass generates \$35 in local spending.

[The author is Chapter Energy/Transportation Chair.]

**Eco-Beat
Spring Dance!**
Sat. May 14
7pm to Midnight
at the Coronado Monument
along the beautiful
Rio Grande in Bernalillo

featuring music by
CLUB CECILIA
(formerly THE METERMAIDS)
& Placitas Band DON'T FRET!
Poetry & Zocalo Theater skits
Admission - \$5 Adults, \$2 Kids
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Sandoval Environmental Action Community

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RIO GRANDE SIERRAN

News of the Rio Grande Chapter
Sierra Club • May/June 1994

Rangeland Reform '94

by Roger Peterson

Yes, Secretary Babbitt has retreated from his August 1993 proposals for "sweeping reform of public rangeland management." But much that is good remains in his March 25 *Federal Register* publication of new draft regulations. And we must tell him by July 28 what is good and what more is needed.

Main points of the Babbitt proposal: grazing fees will double (but with 30 percent off for "good stewardship"); standards and guidelines will be designed on state or ecoregion basis (but with some fall-back national standards to be met, as a minimum, if regional standards are not created within 18 months); and 15-person committees representing "all" interests will replace grazing advisory boards (which have represented ranch interests). Restoration of riparian areas is given high priority. The odious barrier of attaining "affected-interest" status is gone: if you express interest you will be "interested public" and will be kept informed.

Nothing in the proposal subtracts from NEPA procedures and appeal rights. In fact appeal rights are strengthened from Babbitt's 1993 rule, in that the public would have 30 days to appeal followed by 45 days during which Interior's Office of Hearings and Appeals must grant or deny a petition to stay a decision.

The *Federal Register* account comprises (1) 13 pages of clear, intelligent discussion of the proposal, including how it differs from present regulations and from the August draft; (2) 14 pages of section-by-section analysis of the regs; and (3) 14 pages of regulations. Included is the text of the Colorado Rangeland Reform Working Group-subject of four months' controversy among conservation groups and also among ranch interests. Yet to come are a joint Forest Service-BLM EIS on impacts of the proposal and, later, separate rulemaking on criteria for the "good stewardship" discount.

Most difficult for ranchers, probably, are

*Another bitter pill for ranchers—
and unwelcome to some environmentalists—is the proposed
committee structure.*

the fee increases. Less than August's proposal of \$4.28 per cow per month but more than New Mexico's \$3.31 on state lands, the proposed base value of \$3.96 is twice today's federal rate, and the proposed formula for annual adjustment seems more sensible than today's, in part because it would reflect changes in private lease rates. For the Sierra Club a question more controversial than the base fee is the proposed 30 percent discount for ranchers who agree to use "best management practices" and comprehensive monitoring and to work toward specified resource-condition goals. Eligibility for the discount is to be decided in a separate rule-making effort over coming months.

Another bitter pill for ranchers-and unwelcome to some environmentalists-is the proposed committee structure. Grazing Advisory Boards (limited to permittees) are out; Multiple Resource Advisory Councils are in, made up of five commodity representatives (grazing, mining, developed recreation including ORV's...), five "environmental and conservation group" representatives including archaeological and dispersed-recreation interests, and five persons from among other land users, state and local and tribal officials and employees (e.g., Game and Fish Department), academics, and the public. They would be nominated by governors and by the public, and would require letters of recommendation from the groups represented; the Interior Secretary (or a designee) would make appointments.

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Chapter Endorses State Candidates

by Van Perkins

The Rio Grande Chapter has endorsed the following candidates in the New Mexico primary election to be held June 7: Jim Baca for Governor, Patricia Madrid for Lieutenant Governor, and Ray Powell for State Land Commissioner. All members are urged to provide any support you can to these candidates, and to vote for them in the primary election.

All primary candidates for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Land Commissioner were sent questionnaires early in March to elicit their stands on key environmental issues. All primary candidates who completed questionnaires and indicated a willingness to be interviewed were queried by members of the Chapter Political Committee and the Chapter Executive Committee in Albuquerque on April 9. Decisions regarding endorsements were made that afternoon. Sierra Club policy requires that an endorsement of a candidate be by two-thirds vote of the entire membership (not simply those present and voting) of two committees acting separately. All three endorsements were by votes in both committees that exceeded the two-thirds requirement.

Jim Baca is well known to most Chapter members. He served one full term and one part term as State Land Commissioner before leaving that office to become Director of the

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RIO GRANDE CHAPTER DIRECTORY

Executive Committee
 Gwen Wardwell, Chair (505) 984-8860(w)/438-3060
 George Grossman, Vice Chair (505) 982-1024
 Blair Brown, Alb. Rep. (505) 265-3231
 Susan Gorman, Sec., Council Del. (505) 265-3231
 Sue McIntosh, Santa Fe Rep. (505) 982-4146
 Ted Mertig (915) 852-3011
 Jana Oyler, Treas. (505) 984-2020
 Van Perkins (505) 983-8801
 Susan Schock (505) 388-2854
 Marianne Thaeler, So. NM Rep. (505) 522-3421
 Wyona Turner, El Paso Rep. (915) 585-0251
 Pat Wolff (505) 989-1663
 Ben Zerbey (505) 526-6207

Conservation Chair—Tom Brasfield (915) 584-8739

Conservation Issue Chairs
 Diamond Bar—Ted Mertig (915) 852-3011
 Energy & Trans.—Ken Hughes (505) 988-9297
 Federal Facilities, Toxics, & Land Use—
 Jay Sorenson (505) 884-4314
 Marianne Thaeler (505) 522-3421
 Fundraising—Ford Robbins (505) 983-7665
 Rangeland Issues—Roger Peterson (505) 983-7559
 National Parks—Ben Zerbey (505) 526-6207
 Oil & Gas—Nick Webster (505) 325-2366
 Petroglyph Nat. Mon.—Ike Eastvold (505) 255-7679
 Political—Van Perkins (505) 983-8801
 Water—Eric Ames (505) 266-6842
 Vickie Gabin (505) 986-3884
 Wilderness—Tom Brasfield (915) 584-8739
 George Grossman (505) 982-1024
 Wildlife—Sue McIntosh (505) 982-4146

Rio Grande Sierran
 Editor - Kevin Bixby (505) 473-0841

Sierra Club Addresses:

Albuquerque Group
 207 San Pedro Ave. NE
 Albuquerque, NM 87108
 (505) 265-5506

Southern New Mexico Group
 P.O. Box 3705 UPB
 Las Cruces, NM 88003
 (505) 522-3421

El Paso Group
 800 S. Piedras
 P.O. Box 9191
 El Paso, TX 79983
 (915) 532-9645

Southwest Regional Office
 516 E. Portland St.
 Phoenix, AZ 85004
 (602) 254-9330
 FAX: 258-6533

Santa Fe Group
 440 Cerrillos Rd.
 Santa Fe, NM 87501
 (505) 983-2703

Sierra Club National
 730 Polk St.
 San Francisco, CA 94109
 (415) 776-2211

Rio Grande Sierran is published by the Rio Grande Chapter of the Sierra Club as a benefit for Sierra Club members living in New Mexico and West Texas. Send address changes to The Sierra Club, 730 Polk St., San Francisco, CA 94109. Nonmember subscriptions at \$10 per year are available from the Albuquerque office; please allow 8 weeks for processing.

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Contributions are welcomed from members and non-members. Send to *Rio Grande Sierran*, 3312 Camino Prado Vista, Santa Fe, NM 87505. Articles should be submitted by the 15th of the month prior to publication. Preferred format is on Macintosh disc as Microsoft Word file. Other formats may be compatible—check with editor. Letters and articles are subject to abridgement at the editor's discretion.

Printed on 100% post-consumer waste newsprint by PrintWorld in El Paso.

LETTERS

[A copy of the following letter was sent to the Editor, Rio Grande Sierran.]

Dear Sierra Club Members:

On behalf of many concerned conservation voters here in rural northern New Mexico, and grassroots environmental groups, including La Comunidad and Carson National Forest Watch, and many concerned Sierra Club members in Taos County, I am writing to express our great disappointment and concern regarding the Sierra Club's recent endorsement of Ray Powell, Jr. for the New Mexico State Land Commissioner.

As one of the largest conservation organizations in New Mexico, the Sierra Club is a powerful voice for voters in our State. For the Sierra Club entrusted by its members and contributors to work to protect the natural resources of our beautiful state, to come out and lend endorsement to a candidate who clearly lacks the concern and position for natural resource protection that another candidate has — is really confusing and disheartening. The New Mexico Green Party has endorsed Pat Wolff for State Land Commissioner — and this organization does not even have only natural resource conservation as its sole purpose. We do not understand how the Green Party could lend deserved support for Pat Wolff, and yet, the Sierra Club fail in its mission to support those candidates committed to

conservation. [Pat Wolff is seeking, but yet to receive, the Green Party nomination as a candidate for Land Commissioner—Editor.]

I have received many phone calls in the past week regarding this issue from long-time Sierra Club members — and donors — in Taos County and in Rio Arriba County. These people are very discouraged with the Sierra Club endorsement of Mr. Powell rather than the far better conservation candidate, Pat Wolff. They have asked me to write the Rio Grande Chapter of the Sierra Club, expressing both their disappointment, and notifying the Club of their consideration of dropping their memberships.

As you know, I am an active grassroots forest advocate, working full-time on forest protection issues in this bioregion. I have never joined national environmental groups, for the very reason the members that have contacted me have expressed concern about. Here is another example of how the big national groups do not truly have the best interests of the land or the communities that depend upon the land in mind. Pat Wolff has demonstrated her commitment to working for New Mexico's wildlife and public lands. She has shown leadership, and conviction, and is extremely knowledgeable of New Mexico State government and natural resources issues. It is

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Adios...

With this issue I am resigning as editor of the *Rio Grande Sierran*. The demands of a new baby, combined with a planned move back to Las Cruces, and a desire to put my energy into the Southwest Environmental Center make it the right time to leave. Barbara Johnson of Santa Fe will be taking over. Barbara was active with the Sierra Club in southern California, and I'm sure she'll do a great job. I wish her the best of luck.

I'd like to thank the Chapter for the opportunity to serve as editor, and for giving me its support. I've enjoyed getting to know Chapter activists around the state, and hope that I've been of some service.

Although I am resigning mainly for personal reasons, I have to admit that I am troubled by recent develop-

ments within the Chapter. I am particularly concerned with the way recent endorsements for New Mexico statewide races were made, and the fact that independent and third party candidates were not queried or interviewed, including the Sierra Club's own Pat Wolff, a candidate for State Land Commissioner. I don't believe that excluding these candidates from consideration was in the best interest of the environment or the Club.

However, the Sierra Club is a democratic organization, and Chapter members must abide by the decisions of our elected leaders. As alternative journalist Scoop Nisker used to say, "If you don't like the news, go out and make some of your own," which I intend to do in a different role and venue.

—KB

Chapter Fund Appeal: Early Results and Thanks

Our heartfelt thanks go out to the members and friends who have answered the call to become a Partner in Activism by responding to our 1994 fund appeal so far. The Chapter could do little to protect the environment without your help.

Contributions through mid-April total \$4,614, about \$2,400 shy of our modest goal of \$7,000. [Ed. Note: See sidebar for updated figures.] Sixteen generous members have contributed \$1,644 of that total but have asked that their gifts not be acknowledged publicly.

We do acknowledge gifts from the following:

Josefina Alvarez - Las Cruces
 Michael A. Andrews - Roswell
 F. S. Armijo - El Paso
 William Baker - Albuquerque
 Richard Barish - Albuquerque
 Norman Bartlett - El Paso
 Julia Belles - Santa Fe
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 Katherine F. Williamson - Santa Fe
 Jean Winterfelt - Santa Fe

Fund Appeal Update

by Ford Robbins

The Box Score, to date:

	Donations	Dollars
1994	101	\$5914
1993	195	\$8691

If you haven't made your contribution yet, please consider your gift. We would like to include you as a Partner in Activism.

In other news, the Chapter is the recipient of a \$3000 grant from Rio Grande Restoration, a non-profit organization formed by several river companies which have instituted a voluntary conservation surcharge among their paying river trip clients. Rio Grande Restoration, through this grant, seeks to develop a strategy for protecting river flows in New Mexico, the only western state without such a program.

In accepting the grant, Vickie Gabin, water issues co-chair, thanked Steve Harris, Rio Grande Restoration director, on behalf of the Chapter and said the Chapter would begin work on the underlying research necessary to the implementation of such a program. "This is a great boost to the Chapter in its efforts to address New Mexico water issues," she added. Further funding will be sought, and continued Chapter involvement is anticipated.

In another important area of Chapter funding, the Sierra Club's Office of Development will be conducting a new member canvass in the Albuquerque area between May and September of this year. We anticipate a significant increase in membership as a result of this canvass and look forward to welcoming our new members.

Just a reminder: If you haven't considered your gift to the Rio Grande Chapter, please do so. This will be an exciting year. Your support will be gratefully received.



Endorsements

(continued from front page)

Bureau of Land Management in May, 1992. As Land Commissioner, Baca instituted a number of reforms in the administration of state trust lands. Among them, he set in motion the process which led to a substantial increase in grazing fees, and he increased oil and gas royalties, reducing profits of oil and gas companies and significantly increasing income for the state.

As BLM Director, Baca worked to reform grazing practices on federal lands. His advocacy of meaningful reform brought him into conflict with Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt when the latter backed away from a proposal he had advanced to make major changes in grazing practices. When Baca was forced out as director, environmental organizations, including the Sierra Club at both the national and Chapter levels, objected strenuously. Baca's resignation was seen as further evidence of retreat by the Clinton administration on environmental issues important to all of us.

Baca responded positively to the entire range of questions directed to him. Particularly significant is his concern about water issues in the state, both regarding quantity (allocation and use of water rights) and quality. Baca was the only gubernatorial candidate to effectively address the need for coordination of planning for water quantity and quality issues, now divided between two state agencies. He also said he would establish a planning office to address a broad range of environmental and other issues. Water will be a major issue in Baca's campaign. Water is the Chapter's number one priority.

Patricia Madrid is a former District Court judge and long-time political activist. Among her environmental priorities are establishment of a state environmental assessment program similar to the federal requirement for environmental impact studies, and more effective programs for the prevention of pollution. A special concern of the Sierra Club is the need to establish a program for "environmental justice," which would eliminate present practices whereby a disproportionate share of the nation's pollution is visited upon lower socio-economic neighborhoods. Madrid has long been interested in this issue, and she pledged to use the office of Lieutenant Governor to fight for "environmental justice" in New Mexico. Her response to all the questions put to her indicate that she will be an active, dedicated environmentalist as Lieutenant Governor.

Chapter Committees Meet

by Susan Gorman

The Chapter Conservation and Executive committees met in El Paso on March 5 and 6 to elect officers and discuss priorities for the Chapter.

Van Perkins was appointed to the Executive Committee to replace Marc Bedner who has moved to Tennessee. Gwen Wardwell was reelected for a second term as Chair with George Grossman, Vice Chair. Jana Oyler will serve again as Treasurer, Susan Gorman is Secretary and Council Delegate. Tom Brasfield, Vickie Gabin and Mike Sauber will represent the Chapter on the Southwest Regional Conservation Committee. Van Perkins agreed to be Political Chair.

The reports on the activities of the Issue Chairs were kept brief in order to focus on Predator Control and Grazing Reform, two issues which require special attention.

Predator Control

The State Land Office has issued a draft policy on predator control which Wildlife Chair Sue McIntosh has analyzed (see article in March/April *Sierran*). Pat Wolff and other activists are concerned that the Land Office will again allow the ADC (Animal Damage Control) agency to kill predators using methods which are inhumane and excessive (see article, same *Sierran*). The following resolution was passed:

We reaffirm our objection to the ADC Agency. Our policy is no predator control which is unregulated or inhumane or unscientific or uncontrolled on public, private and tribal lands.

Grazing Reform

Rangeland Issues Chair Roger Peterson

Ray Powell has been Land Commissioner for almost a year. He was appointed to replace Jim Baca when Baca became BLM Director. Powell has made it clear that he intends to continue Baca's reform programs in that office, and to build and expand on them. He has made a number of excellent appointments, and has expanded the education and outreach programs of the agency. His program for Animal Damage Control on state lands is more fully developed than Baca's, and goes further in restricting ADC activities. So far the practical effect of both has been the same: ADC refuses to agree to the restrictions and does not operate on state

presented a clear and concise summary of the recent developments in reform of national grazing policy. Following the defeat in Congress of the reform legislation, Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt pledged to develop administrative reform but has backed off significantly.

The Gunnison Plan, which was developed by a group of ranchers and environmentalists has significant deficiencies and Peterson, Susan Schock and other leaders of environmental groups have communicated these to the Interior Department.

The Interior Department will release the Draft Regulations and the Draft EIS by April 15. The Conservation and Executive Committees agreed to make this a focus issue and to call on all Chapter members to participate in a strong initiative to make certain that a good grazing reform policy results from this process.

Endorsements in the Primary Election

The decision was made to initiate the process of gathering information from candidates in contested primaries. The process which includes evaluation of candidates responses and interviews has been completed and results are reported elsewhere in the *Sierran*.

1994 Meeting Schedule

The next Chapter meeting will be on June 4-5 in Northern NM hosted by the Santa Fe Group. The Retreat will be on September 17-18, at the Black Range Lodge in Kingston.

[The author is Chair of the Albuquerque Group.]

lands. Powell's response to the questions posed to him demonstrates that he plans fundamental changes in the way the State Land Office does business. He deserves the support of environmentalists in his effort to secure election to a full term as State Land Commissioner.

What Can You Do?

Volunteer your time and/or contribute money! Mailing addresses (money) and telephone numbers (volunteering): Baca: 2400 Rio Grande Blvd. NW, Suite 1-211, Albuquerque, NM 87104-3222, 262-2222; Madrid:

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Range Reform

(continued from front page)

ments. All members would be required to attend training sessions. Councils would advise managers regarding management plans (not money or personnel), and they could constitute "Rangeland Resource Teams" and "Technical Review Teams" to help them. To make a recommendation to the BLM manager at least three "yea's" from each third of the council would be required. Some environmental groups, such as Southern Utah Wilderness Association, have a policy of refusing (in general) to serve on advisory committees for fear of co-optation into a process that involves laying down legal and other weapons. The Sierra Club has no such policy.

A retreat from August by Mr. Babbitt is that ten-year leases—not five—would be retained. Restrictions on subleasing are strong, though not as strong as August's. Conservation groups could be lessors, and zero-stock- ing would be permitted for periods up to ten years on a single decision, rather than annual decisions. Leases could be terminated for actions such as violation of the Endangered Species Act.

A principal objection from the Club in recent months has been Mr. Babbitt's retreat from strong national standards and guidelines for grazing management, especially retreat from creation of a "suitability screen" to determine whether given lands should be grazed at all. The proposal calls for state-to-state creation of customized standards. It is hard to see how advisory councils would be able to do this well: would three rancher-members vote for realistic rules to exclude livestock? If it's to be done under the present proposal, State Directors would, it appears, have to do it—and that's no sure bet.

Commodity interests will respond strongly to the proposed rules, and it is important that other interests do so too. Support for the proposal's many improvements over present rules seems important, as well as recommending greater strength. The explanatory text calls for input on about 15 specific questions on which, it appears, the Department has not fully made up its mind.

The document may be obtained from local BLM (and Forest Service?) offices. Discuss, exhort, and listen over the coming weeks, so that Club members reach strong and perhaps even somewhat similar positions. Send comments by July 28 to Rangeland Reform '94, P. O. Box 66300, Washington, D. C. 20035-6300 (only!—no separate Forest Service comments).

SCLDF Protest Helps Protect Carlsbad National Park

from a SCLDF report

After three years of tenacious prodding by the Rocky Mountain Office of the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund (SCLDF), the Bureau of Land Management has finally adopted a plan to protect newly discovered caves at Carlsbad Caverns National Park from potentially disastrous oil and gas drilling.

Our legal actions forced BLM, which tried to slide through the National Environmental Policy Act by throwing together a quick Environmental Assessment, to prepare a more thorough Environmental Impact Statement on drilling activities adjacent to the Park which threatened to destroy the Park's cave resources, including world-famous Lechuguilla Cave. The EIS led to establishment of a permanent cave-protection zone where no drilling may occur. SCLDF represented the Wilderness Society, the Sierra Club, and the Lechuguilla Cave Project in the matter.

Lechuguilla Cave is the deepest cave in the United States and may be the largest. Discovered in 1986, it is probably the most pristine underground wilderness in the world. The most recent expeditions into the cave revealed passages trending to the northwest, in the direction of proposed BLM drilling sites.

Yates Energy Corporation pushed BLM to approve its original drilling lease location, claiming BLM would have to compensate it for about \$20 million of lost natural gas if the corporation were prevented from drilling. Geologic mapping showed gaps in the strata underlying the drill site, and the presence of lineaments (rifts visible on the surface which have been closely correlated with caves below) near the original drill site also strongly suggests that caves are present underneath. Despite the blatant geological warning signs, BLM had intended to allow the drilling to proceed. But our demands that BLM prepare an EIS for the action stopped the drilling and led to the development of restrictions on the location of drill sites.

BLM developed the final EIS with help from the National Park Service and an expert panel of geologists. The Record of Decision on the EIS adopted the NPS/expert panel position, including a cave protection zone, a buffer zone of 500 ft. around lineaments, and mandatory remote sensing at drill sites to ensure that no gaps in the strata exist under drill sites.

The Enemy in the Bathroom Mirror

by John A. Turnbull

On April 12-13, the Bernalillo Environmental Health Department and UNM's College of Engineering convened a conference entitled *Alternative On-site Liquid Waste Disposal Technologies Conference*. I was invited to deliver a paper on composting toilet technology.

I was surprised to find myself the only speaker on dry treatment of waste, which has the remarkable capability, with off-the-shelf devices, to halve the groundwater depletion, halve the wastewater discharge, make greater densities and cheaper lot prices possible and practical, and to solve a lot of wastewater chemistry problems along the way.

Such an approach takes the remedy into the private space of people's bathrooms. Meddling in people's bathrooms is politically dangerous ground, and something that engineers and chemists are ill-prepared by education and disposition to address.

Everyone certainly realized, though, that the citizenry would eventually be involved—when it came time to raise taxes to pay for the engineering solutions. Unlike sequestered engineers, politicians know what that means: political suicide. Everybody realized, too, that taxes or no taxes, the citizenry would become involved when their wells were so polluted as to make their houses unsaleable without investment of thousands of dollars in well treatment apparatus; or when desperate regulatory fixes to cope with reemerging nineteenth century cholera epidemics had them all out there digging up their septic tanks. But our conference was about engineering, not politics.

I thought about all the thousand Sierra Club members around there, and the legions of other environmentally-minded folks. With their five-gallon water-flushing toilets and their ten-gallon showers, they were as much to blame as anyone else.

Our conference was a start, more of a problem-statement than a study of solutions. But big undertakings have to start somewhere, and in this situation we have the political luxury of unanimity about the problem, and an absence of polarized bad guys and good guys. Also, we have a path.

The author, when not skiing, is a geologist, consultant, and technical instructor, with considerable experience in micro-system hydrology, alternative waste disposal, and solid waste recycling. He has conducted experiments in dry-toilet design and has had a dry toilet at home for 11 years.

ADC: A Response from the State Land Office

By Ray Powell

[The author is the incumbent State Land Commissioner as well as a candidate for re-election to that office. As pledged in the March/April Sierran, we are providing all candidates an opportunity to express their views on the subject of predator control on state lands.]

I appreciate every opportunity to comment further on the good work we are doing at the State Land Office and the plans I have for guiding this vital agency toward the 21st Century...

One of the thorniest issues I have encountered is the use of federal Animal Damage Control agents on state trust land. Because the issue is so visceral and polarized, it has been susceptible to great misunderstanding. I want to thank the Sierra Club for allowing me this opportunity to address concerns about the draft position statement I issued recently regarding predator management for livestock protection on state trust land.

In early 1992, it came to the attention of then-Commissioner of Public Lands Jim Baca that the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal Damage Control (ADC) program was operating on state trust land without a formal agreement with the State Land Office. Negotiations began and there were many points of agreement, including the allowable use of snares and M-44s (toxicants).

The main point of disagreement, which eventually caused the negotiations to collapse, was how often the allowed steel-jawed traps should be checked. Until that point, everything else about the proposed agreement then in negotiations was a traditional approach. It did not encourage preventative measures or animal husbandry techniques to minimize predator livestock conflicts or minimize the killing of wildlife.

When the two agencies could not resolve the trap-check frequency issue, Mr. Baca banned ADC from state trust land. Regrettably, that is still the status today. For all our efforts, ADC has not come forth with a response to the proposal. The ban will stay in effect at least until ADC returns to the table and we reach an agreement.

Notwithstanding, when I succeeded Mr. Baca as Commissioner of Public Lands last year, it became clear this contentious issue would require more than just a negotiated bilateral agreement between the two agencies. Even with such an agreement, I was convinced that other considerations must be a part of ADC operations on state trust land.

I identified four principles that must guide predator control/livestock protection activities on state trust land. Activities must: 1) be biologically sound; 2) target individual animals that are preying upon livestock; 3) be humane, and; 4) give livestock producers a fair opportunity to maintain a viable business.

Because there are many personal values and divisiveness in this issue, I initiated a process that would let me explore the personal, financial and philosophical interests at stake, and gather any other pertinent information. I chose facilitated mediation to bring the differing interest groups together.

Fifteen individuals representing public and private organizations were invited to participate. They included the Sierra Club, Sangre de Cristo Animal Protection Inc., and the Mexican Wolf Coalition, as well as the New Mexico Farm and Livestock Bureau, the Cattlegrowers and the Woodgrowers Associations, and a handful of state and federal land and wildlife management agencies. It was the first such meeting in the Western United States.

My primary goal was to reduce the volume of the debate, to minimize the polarizing statements that characterize the issue and to try to build understanding among the competing factions. Another goal was to receive recommendations that would help me formulate a comprehensive predator control policy for state trust lands.

This process has begun with some valuable accomplishments, mainly the breaking down of barriers to understanding. But it is apparent that the process may take much longer before it results in substantive recommendations.

Given that reality, and the onset of the spring lambing season in New Mexico, I felt compelled to transform the four principles into an interim measure that would address some immediate needs. The result is the draft position statement, which describes alternatives and opportunities for addressing predator livestock conflicts during the interim.

The proposal is not meant to supersede the progress made in the group discussions, nor be a substitute for continued dialogue among the group. It was distributed to advance the debate a little faster. As a draft, it solicits comments that will help me refine it or take a different approach.

Primarily, the interim position statement

is intended to convey the views of the State Land Office based on our current knowledge and my four guiding principles, and possibly serve as an initial offer toward a bilateral agreement with ADC. Ultimately, the proposal can be refined following recommendations of the work group and subsequently promulgated in rule.

The position statement would not provide just one-sided results. It does not guarantee zero livestock loss due to predation, nor does it ensure no wildlife loss. It emphasizes and encourages the use of alternative means for protecting livestock other than killing wildlife, but allows killing predators as a last resort. It allows limited lethal control of offending animals without compromising the ecological integrity of state trust land or the viability of indigenous plant and animal species. It does not address predator control activities by livestock lessees, however future regulations may include them as well.

I have received some very positive and constructive feedback on the proposal, but some comments have taken it out of context. For instance:

COMMENT: Animal husbandry and non-lethal protection methods are merely encouraged, not required. Allowing killing when non-lethal methods are demonstrated to be ineffective is a major loophole since some claim non-lethal methods don't work.

RESPONSE: We do not know enough about alternative, or non-lethal means to prevent wildlife from killing livestock. That is why the proposal emphasizes accountability. With the reporting requirements we hope to find out how willing and able lessees are to use alternative methods, where and what alternative methods are tried, and the rate of success. This information will be made available for public scrutiny. If lessees choose to use lethal methods as the first means of protective action, that must be disclosed. The reasons for not using non-lethal methods must be documented and I will determine if any abuse is occurring. The combination of reporting and public scrutiny will greatly reduce the potential for abuse and will create an incentive to use alternative protection means.

COMMENT: The use of M-44s on state trust land by lessees is allowed.

RESPONSE: ADC would be prohibited from using any toxicants, and the proposal, for the time being, would apply only to ADC. How-

(continued on page 22)

Outings Notebook

by John A. Turnbull

Chapter Ski Trip

This past ski season featured our first chapterwide ski outing, in late February, near Alpine, Arizona. Some 22 members participated, with representation from all of the groups. Many thanks to Jeannie French of the El Paso Group for arranging the accommodations, and to Georgia Jannuzzi of the Albuquerque Group for ferrying so many participants to Alpine and daily back and forth daily to Williams Valley. The weather cooperated with remarkable precision, nobody needed digging out, and the three-day weekend was lots of fun for everybody.

National Trails Day

This observance is coming up again on June 4, and everybody who loves the outdoors should do something. There will be events of one sort or another everywhere, so watch the newspapers. One of these programs is scheduled with the Forest Service, Tres Piedras Ranger District, custodians of some of the most beautiful country in New Mexico. In the morning a field trip with Ranger Dan Rael, a Taos native, to discuss floral succession of various tree species, including insights into the biology of aspen. Then, a hike to an old growth stand on Deer Trail Creek, and scouting out a couple of proposed skiing/hiking trails through forests and rolling meadows. After lunch at Hopewell Lake, hikers can hike and mountain bikers are invited to accompany Ranger Mary Ann Elder on a reconnaissance ride along a proposed biking trail. Details are in the Santa Fe outings schedule.

Making a Difference

In these days of shrinking budgets federal land management agencies such as the National Park Service and Forest Service have increasingly turned to citizen volunteers to accomplish important things that Washington views as low priority. Recreational trails development is one of these.

On the weekend of July 2-4, we have an ambitious and potentially very productive program to be conducted jointly between Sierra Club, N. M. Volunteers for the Outdoors and U.S. Forest Service, Tres Piedras Ranger District. The whole chapter is invited and we hope some folks from down south will join in. We will be doing trail reconnaissance, marking, brush clearing, pruning, and

building rock cairns. The Forest Service has planned a trail into the Cruces Basin Wilderness starting east of Chama, in Colorado, and running back into New Mexico. In addition there are some shorter proposed skiing/hiking/biking trails near Hopewell Lake needing scouting and marking.

The Forest Service has a historical building near San Antonio Mountain, which is in need of stabilization and study for possible recreational use. We will be scouting a ski trail to the structure, and evaluating its possible use as a ski hut. It's an exciting idea, particularly since this is near an elk wintering area.

Participants may camp out (and do some fishing) at Hopewell Lake. Alternatively, there are inexpensive motel accommodations nearby. We are planning a semi-potluck feast and program Saturday evening at Hopewell Lake. Participants are invited even if unable to stay the entire weekend.

Be a Volunteer

San Juan National Forest Association needs volunteers to spread the word about backcountry ethics in the wildernesses of the San Juan National Forest in southwest Colorado. You can help spread the word about leave no trace, special regulations, and answer questions about wilderness. As a San Juan National Forest Association volunteer, you'll meet backpackers on the trail or at a trailhead to give up-to-date information on trail conditions, fire bans, camping regulations and more. You'll also help maintain system trails. Volunteers spend three to seven days at a Forest Service base camp or use their own gear. Be a part of the team that's working to preserve wilderness for future generations! Contact the Wilderness Volunteer Coordinator at (303) 385-1210 or write to SJNFA, P.O. Box 2261, Durango, CO 81302. We need you!



Pecos Wilderness High Country Week

For the second year, the Santa Fe Group is offering an unparalleled opportunity to have an entire week in some of the wildest, least visited parts of the Pecos. No heavy packs—horses carry our gear into a really comfortable high camp with covered dining area with tables and stools. We will feast on Bill's celebrated vegetarian cuisine, in an area where the footprints on the trails are elk, not vibram, and the wind from the golden flowered meadows smells like honey.

We'll camp 11,600 feet near the top of the Santa Barbara Divide, in a sheltered glade where a snow-fed stream bursts out of the ground beneath tall Engelmann spruces. From here, the possibilities are nearly endless.

Dana and I have been leading horse packed trips to this area since 1980, an average of one a year. We bring to the trip our familiarity with these mountains, and long experience as wilderness leaders. This is an ideal trip for strong hikers who aren't experienced backpackers, since you don't have to carry your equipment, and you can bring more than you would want to carry in a pack. So if the trip sounds interesting to you, and you'd like to register, or to get more information, call Bill or Dana at 983-3675.

☐ Yes, I want to help safeguard our nation's precious natural heritage. My check is enclosed.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ ZIP _____

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

	INDIVIDUAL	JOINT
REGULAR	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35	<input type="checkbox"/> \$45
SUPPORTING	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50	<input type="checkbox"/> \$58
CONTRIBUTING	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100	<input type="checkbox"/> \$108
LIFE	<input type="checkbox"/> \$750	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000
SENIOR	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15	<input type="checkbox"/> \$23
STUDENT	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15	<input type="checkbox"/> \$23
LIMITED INCOME	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15	<input type="checkbox"/> \$23

Annual dues include subscription to *Sierra* (\$7.50) and chapter publication (\$1). Dues are not tax-deductible.



W1700

FRIP No.

Enclose check and mail to:
Dept. H-116, P.O. Box 7959
San Francisco, CA 94120

ALBUQUERQUE GROUP

ALBUQUERQUE GROUP ANNUAL PICNIC

When: Sunday, May 22, 1994

Where: Pine Flats Picnic Ground, 5 miles south of I40 on Route 14

What time: 1:30 PM - sundown. Cooking will get underway about 3:30 PM. Feasting will begin around 4 PM.

Activities: Hiking, frisbee, volleyball, horseshoes, etc. Bluegrass music!

What you should bring:

A main dish, salad, or dessert that will feed 6-8 people to share. Any meats that you wish to cook. The club will supply charcoal. Please bring your own cups (no glass, please), plates, and utensils. We're trying to keep the use of disposable items to a minimum. Bring folding chairs.

The Club will provide:

Soft drinks, ice, charcoal and cooking utensils, condiments (ketchup, mustard, pickles, salsa, etc.)

Can you help and bring the following? Let us know!

Coolers, Coleman stoves to keep food warm, Sports equipment (volleyball & net, horseshoes)

Any questions? Call Rhoda, 271-4932

June General Meeting: Nuclear Waste Cleanup - How Clean is Clean?

by Susan Gorman

After 30 years of secrecy and denial, the Department of Energy, led by Secretary Hazel O'Leary, is working hard to develop partnerships with the public and with state and other federal government agencies to establish accountability for cleanup of DOE sites contaminated by radioactive and other hazardous waste.

Jay Sorenson, Chair of the Albuquerque Group, has taken a leadership role in this public participation process and serves on the National Sierra Club's Military Impacts on the Environment Committee as well as the DOE's Environmental Restoration and Waste Management Advisory Committee. He is also helping to organize the Site Specific Advisory Board for Sandia and Kirtland AFB right here in Albuquerque. Jay will tell us why we need the Advisory Board and why we need YOU to be involved in the public participation process to make sure that DOE does the right thing. We, the people who live here, must determine how clean is clean, not state and federal agencies.

Doug Fraser, our lobbyist, will have an awards presentation for two New Mexico legislators who were on our side to make the session a success for the environment.

The June meeting will be on Monday, June 20th, at 7:30 PM, UNM Law School, Room 2401, on the northwest corner of Mountain and Stanford, NE. Please bring a cup and enjoy goodies provided by the Albuquerque Group. The time for announcements about coming events, outings, and alerts will be short. Please come!

Conservation Working Sessions

The May CWS will focus on water. We have a new Group Water Chair, Jack Pinney, who is serving on the City's Citizens Advisory Committee for Water Conservation. We plan to discuss conservation, the impact of increasing industrial water use, keeping water in the river for wildlife habitat protection, and other issues which are so essential to everyone's survival in the Rio Grande Valley. To learn about the focus issue for June, call the HOTLINE.

CWS meetings take place on the 4th Monday of each month at 7:30 at the Sierra Club Office.

Potluck Schedule

There will not be a potluck in May. Come to the picnic instead on May 22! The date and place for the June Potluck has not been decided yet. Call the Albuquerque Sierra Club Hotline - 265-5506 for information.

We are buying a better answering machine for the office, which will have recorded information on outings, programs, and other events. Try it!

Primary Election Coming Soon!

The Rio Grande Chapter has endorsed Jim Baca for Governor, Patricia Madrid for Lt. Governor, and Ray Powell for State Land Commissioner. All three candidates need volunteers to get their message to the voters. If you want to help, call Ron Grotbeck, 265-5506, or call the Sierra Club HOTLINE, 265-5506 and leave a message. Workers and money are needed to help our candidates win! **Remember to vote on June 7th!**

Spring Cleaning

For those of you who are new to the area, Albuquerque and Bernalillo County residents can take their household hazardous wastes such as used motor oil, brake fluid, paint, solvents, and pesticides to the Household Hazardous Waste Center, located at 6133 Edith Blvd., NE. It is open Fridays from 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM and Saturdays from 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM (March through October. Call for winter hours). For more information, call 345-1650. Don't pour these items down the drain!

City residents, including apartment dwellers, should already be participating in the city's curbside recycling program. Plastic (#1 and #2, except food tubs), tin and aluminum cans are recycled by placing them in a clear plastic garbage bag, supplied by the city. Newspapers and cardboard are also collected weekly. Glass is collected monthly at sites throughout the city. Call the city recycling office at 761-8176 for locations.

1994 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Office Telephone: 265-5506

Group Chair	Jay Sorenson	884-4314
Vice Chair	Ron Grotbeck	296-0944
Secretary	Blair Brown	265-3231
Treasurer	Richard Barish	247-8079
	Stefan Verchinski	888-1370
	Nick Nicolaus	865-4428
	Nick Persampieri	281-7845
	Will Richardson	299-6257

The Albuquerque Group of the Sierra Club depends entirely on the efforts of volunteers. To help our efforts, call the following issue coordinators:

ADMINISTRATION		
Activities/	vacant	
Special Planning	vacant	
Books/	vacant	
Calendars		
Newsletter	Dorothy Brethauer	275-6113
	Larry Compton	899-0679
Outings	David Morrison	344-8693
	Stan Kauchak	839-4301
Programs	Susan Gorman	265-3231
	Ralph Wrons	275-0856
CONSERVATION		
Conservation	Susan Gorman	265-3231
Chair		
Air Quality	Heidi Fleischmann	260-1217
Bosque	Richard Barish	247-8079
Energy	Ralph Wrons	275-0856
Las Huertas	Marion Davidson	867-5178
Mining Reform	Blair Brown	265-3231
Petroglyphs/		
Westside	Ike Eastvold	255-7679
	Nick Persampieri	281-7845
Population	Michelle Meaders	266-8823
Public Lands	Barbara Stone	265-5304
Waste/	David Bouquin	265-7853
Recycling		
Water	Jack Pinney	293-3450
Wildlife/	Barbara Bates	888-0388
Endangered Species		
Wildlife/	Susan Larsen	897-2527
Mexican Wolf		

CALENDAR

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

May 3: Activities & Special Planning Meeting, 7PM Sierra Club Office.

May 5: Mexican Wolf Coalition, 7:30 PM.

May 9: Executive Committee Meeting, 7PM.

May 22: **Annual Picnic.** See article on previous page.

May 23: Conservation Working Session, 7:30 PM.

June 2: Mexican Wolf Coalition, 7:30 PM.

June 7: Activities & Special Planning Meeting, 7PM Sierra Club Office.

June 11: 12 noon. **Deadline** for articles for July-Aug group newsletter. Macintosh preferred. Call Larry if supplying hardcopy only.

June 13: Executive Committee Meeting, 7PM.

June 20: **Sierra Club General Meeting**, UNM Law School, Rm 2402, 7:30 PM.

June 27: Conservation Working Session, 7:30 PM.

July 5: Activities & Special Planning Meeting, 7PM Sierra Club Office.

July 7: Mexican Wolf Coalition, 7:30 PM.

OUTINGS

Abbreviations: WSA-Wilderness Study Area SW-Sandia Wilderness NM-National Monument SC-Sierra Club NRA-National Recreation Area

Sun Mar 6 Leisure Miles: 3 Car: 3
Geological Windows Hike, Petroglyph NM
These geological windows are above the escarpment, and below the volcanoes. Bring camera, binoculars, and sturdy shoes. RSVP.
Leader: Ike Eastvold 255-7679

Sat May 1 Leisure- Strenuous Miles: 1 Car: 160
Santa Fe River Service Project
In conjunction with the Santa Fe Group, Tree NM, NMVFO, some of the Santa Fe schools and neighborhood associations we will do river bed enhancement, and plant trees and scrubs. Various other events are planned such as a trout release. Bring wading shoes and clothes, shovels, tin snips, pruning shears, lunch and water. Meet Behind Winchell's at San Mateo and Academy at 8:30 AM.
Leader: David Morrison 344-8693

Sun May 1 Moderate Miles: 10-12 Car: 240
Brazos Cliffs X/C Ski
Spring ski in Northern New Mexico to the Brazos Cliffs and back. Dress in layers, bring lunch, and don't forget the sun tan lotion.
Leader: Stan Kauchak 839-4301

Sat May 7 Leisure Miles: 3 Car: 3
Piedras Marcadas Hike, Petroglyph National Monument
Between 1300 and 1540 AD, more than 40 pueblos were built along the Rio Grande between Bernalillo and Belen. The escarpment's petroglyphs coincide with the construction of these pueblos and a large population increase. 1000's of petroglyphs. Bring camera, binoculars and sturdy shoes. RSVP.
Leader: Ike Eastvold 255-7679

Sat May 7 Moderate Miles: 12 Car: 110
Dome Wilderness Hike
This wilderness lies adjacent to Bandelier NM. We will start in from the south side above Cochiti, hike to a waterfall, then continue to St. Peters Dome within the Dome Wilderness. Bring lunch. Meet behind Winchell's at San Mateo and Academy.
Leader: Nick Persampieri 281-7845

Sun May 8 Moderate Terrain Miles: 4-8 Car: 300
Chama X/C Ski
Our last planned X/C Ski trip this year. Dress in layers, bring lunch and sun tan lotion.

Leader: Stan 839-4301

Sat May 14 Leisure to Strenuous Miles: 1 Car: 140
Elk Spring Service Project-Bitterbrush Transplanting
Bitterbrush is favored by many wildlife as a food source. Elk Spring is a wintertime refuge for grazing elk on the west slope of the Jemez mountains. We will help the BLM do some transplanting and other projects if time permits. The BLM will provide transportation and tools. Meet at the BLM office, 435 Montano Rd NE at 8:30AM. Bring lunch and water.
Leader: Barbara Stone 265-5304

Sat-Sun May 14-15 Leisure Miles: 3 Car: 400
Painted Desert and Petrified Forest NM Family Car Camp, AZ
Drive through some sand dunes, visit some Indian hieroglyphics, take several very short hikes, go to Elk Springs, and visit a rock shop at Joesph City. Camp at a campground nearby. Leave Saturday morning.
Leader: Warren Smith 891-4709

Sun May 1 Leisure Miles: 3 Car: 3
Rinconada Canyon Hike with Volcanoes Option
After a severe drought between 1275 and 1300 AD, Indians began to settle along the Rio Grande in large numbers. Records of the Spanish indicate walking from one cultivated field of the Indian's to the next within Albuquerque. Bring a light sack lunch if you would like to continue for an optional hike to the volcanoes. We will have a car shuttle to create a one way trip. RSVP.
Leader: Ike Eastvold 255-7679

Sun May 22
Albuquerque Group Picnic
We have a live band to play blugrass music. Sometime during the afternoon, we have a hike planned. We will definitely be playing volleyball and tossing horseshoes. From 1- 5:00 PM. Pine Flats picnic ground. Stan 839-4301
Kid's Outing at the Picnic
We will have face painting at the picnic. We will take a hike into the surrounding area or plan some games. Plan on roasting marshmallows later on. See picnic details and directions to Pine Flats picnic ground.
Leader: Warren Smith 891-4709

Sat- Mon May 29-30 Moderate-Strenuous Miles: 8/day Car: 600
Utah WSA's Car Camp

We will concentrate on the north side of Lake Powell in the Escalante district and one other canyon. We will explore several narrow slot canyons, with cool, shallow river wading. We will leave Friday evening. Bring plenty of water containers for possible dry camps.
Leader: David Morrison 344-8693

Sat- Mon May 28- 30 Moderate Miles: 20 Car: 200
Apache Kid Wilderness Backpack
Southwest of Socorro lies the predominant San Mateo Peak. We will backpack in 5 miles to 25 Yard Spring. We will climb 3000 ft from desert to subalpine life zones to the summit with tremendous views into the distance. We will take a 8 mile dayhike to Apache Kid's gravesite.
Leader: Tom Leck 256-7217

Sat Jun 4 Leisure Miles: 3 Car: 3
Geological Windows Hike, Petroglyph National Monument
Unique geological features separate this area from other areas of the monument. View thousands of petroglyphs. Bring sturdy shoes, camera and binoculars. RSVP.
Leader: Ike Eastvold 255-7679

Sat June 4 Moderate Miles: 10-12 Car: 200
Hamilton Mesa Hike, Pecos Wilderness
Starting from Iron Gate, we take off across Hamilton mesa's purple fields of blooming irises, dramatic views surround us. We climb down into the lush vegetation along Mora Creek. We may cross Mora Flats to make a loop trip. Bring lunch, water, and rain gear. Meet behind Winchell's at San Mateo and Academy.
Leader: Nick Persampieri 281-7845

Sat June 4 Leisure Miles: ? Car: 240
National Trails Day Program - Tres Piedras Ranger District
We will join the Santa Fe group on a morning field trip with District Ranger Dan Rael to discuss floral succession of the various tree species, and then take a hike through an old growth stand along Deer Trail Creek to scout out some proposed skiing/hiking trails. In the afternoon, mountain bikers are invited to accompany Ranger Mary Ann Elder on a reconnaissance ride through a proposed biking trail. Lunch at Hopewell Lake, Call Stan for details. (See Santa Fe Group Outings June 4)
Leader: Stan Kauchak 839-4301

Sun Jun 5 Moderate Miles: 6 Car: 120
Jemez Wild and Scenic River Hike
We will head up the West Fork in a open valley on a trail, we will need to

make some stream crossings, so bring wading shoes. We will then backtrack to the cars. Bring lunch and water. Meet at 9:00AM, behind Winchell's at San Mateo and Academy.
Leader: David Morrison 344-8693

Sat Jun 11
Kid's Outing- Tres Pistoles (Three Guns) Spring Canyon Dayhike
We will take a short hike before the sun gets too hot at a slow pace looking at wildflowers along the way. We will stop to eat lunch before heading back to town. Bring a day pack, water, and lunch
Leader: Warren Smith 891-4709

Sat- Sun Jun 11- 12 Moderate Miles: ? Car: 200
Pecos Wilderness Backpack
Starting out at Iron Gate, we will backpack across Hamilton Mesa to a lush stream or camp at a spring. Wildflowers should be in full bloom. This is a moderate one nighter.
Leader: Tom Leck 256-7217

Sun Jun 12 Leisure Miles: 3 Car: 2
Boca Negra Canyon Hike, Petroglyph NM
There are petroglyphs in this area of the morning star, greek cross, parrots, Maa-sai warrior masks, and horned anthropomorphs. Bring sturdy shoes, binoculars, and camera, RSVP.
Leader: Ike Eastvold 255-7679

Sat Jun 18 Leisure to Moderate Class II water Miles: 10 Car: 10
Rio Grande Cleanup by Raft, Kayak and Canoe
We will float the river while cleaning up some of the sandbars and junk piles in between. Open Space will provide a garbage truck to meet us at several locations along the way. Please bring any extra rope and tire innertubes you may have. We will create barges for hauling trash on the river. Meet at 9:00AM at Callabicitos arroyo. Head north on Coors past Paseo del Norte, turn right on the dirt road just before Coors crosses the arroyo.
Leader: David Morrison 344-8693

Sun June 19 Leisure- Moderate Miles: 2 Car: 225
El Morro NM Hike
Located about an hour south of Grants, Inscription Rock stands as a tribute to those early people that shaped New Mexico and the American West [At the expense of most Native Americans]. See petroglyphs, names and notations they carved into the sandstone walls of El Morro. Bring a picnic lunch, sturdy shoes, a camera, and the family (Supervised children please).

Leader: Stan Kauchak 839-4301

Sat Jun 25 Leisure Miles: 3 Car: 0
Oxbow Hike
Three hours. Plenty of waterfowl, songbirds and the occasional hawk. Meet at St. Josephs and Coors at 9:00AM.
Leader: David Morrison 344-8693

Sun Jun 26 Moderate Miles: 5 Car: 150
Hot Springs above Battleship Rock, Jemez NRA
After failing miserably to find this spring last year, David is willing to try again. Large pool at moderate temperatures should be fun. Bring swimsuit or au naturel. Meet at 9:00AM behind Winchell's at San Mateo and Academy.
Leader: David Morrison 344-8693

Sat- Mon July 2-4 Leisure to Strenuous Car: 250 Miles: ?
Trails Development Work Weekend, Cruces Basin Wilderness
To be conducted jointly between the Sierra Club, Volunteers for the Outdoors, and Tres Piedras Ranger District. Chapter wide invitation. We will be doing trail reconnaissance, marking, some brush clearing, and building of rock cairns. Tentatively planned is building a trail into the Cruces Basin Wilderness. This trail starts east of Chama, goes up into Colorado, and back into New Mexico. Also, stabilization of a historical building near San Antonio Mountain, and scouting of a possible ski trail in that area. Camping out at Hopewell Lake, with a semi-pot-luck evening feast and program Saturday evening. Possible motel accommodations in Ojo Caliente. A serious work weekend in spectacular scenery. Contact John at 466-9329 or Stan for details. (See Santa Fe Group Outings July 2,3,4)
Leader: Stan Kauchak 839-4301

Sat- Sun Jul 9-10 Moderate- Strenuous Miles: 14 Car: 260
Backpack in the Wheeler Peak Wilderness Area
Wildflowers should be out in abundance. Leave town Friday night to start walking early Saturday morning. Backpack in about 7 miles to a nice lake setting.
Leader: Craig Dill 224-9795

Sat- Sun Jul 30-31 Leisure to Moderate Miles: 12 Car: 240
Astronomy Car Camp, Magdalena Mountains
Out high in the mountains where the stars blaze, far away from the glare of the city, we set up chairs and a telescope and watch the night float by. During the day we will take a couple of

hikes into the surrounding area.
Leader: Tom Leck 256-7217

Outings Photography Contest
David has delayed the outcome of this event until the beginning of June. We will hand out the prizes then.

Outings Reports
Petroglyph Cleanup- We had 32 people out on this windy day. We removed 10 tons of trash, mostly glass. We have removed some amount close to 300 tons of trash from the monument, this a correction from the last Sierran issue. Upon revisiting the area, new trash and glass has already been deposited. It appears that the Park Service is unwilling to work with Albuquerque Open Space to put up a fence or barricade (even some large rocks) to block car use of the area.

Rummage Sale- Despite the promise of a cold, wet weekend, we had about 25 families contributing miscellaneous items. Seven people helped at the tables. With the money made, we have ordered a new state of the art telephone for the Sierra Club office. Yes!

Trinity Site- Tom had about 12 people go out to visit the glowing rocks. Tom thought it was fairly funny when the Sierra Club National office called up asking about the trip. Turns out they are trying to do an article about unusual outings. Maybe we will see something in the Sierra magazine.

Cabazon- Harv led nine people up and nine returned. The report was that it was not as bad as it looked.

Kid's Petroglyph Hike- Woke up to a downpour of rain, so we cancelled out.

Indio Mesa- Every 15 minutes the weather would change, from windy, to snow, to sunny, to hail. We came up upon a golden eagle on the rim which flew up when we were five feet away. While looking into the drain canal, the roof of a burrow caved in and something brown came out and swam off in the water.

Phoenician Petroglyphs- Dana gave the ten of us some background history and theorizing to the mystery rock. The day started off raining but turned clear and windy. We gave up on trying to get to the fossil area due to wet dirt roads.

the LORAX

MAY PICNIC AT CHAMIZAL

Join other Sierra Club outdoor enthusiasts for our annual picnic in Chamizal National Park on Wednesday, May 25. Our chefs will start grilling at 5:30 pm on the east side of the Visitor's Center. Shake out the cobwebs from winter and celebrate the beginning of summer.

This year's picnic will feature a raffle of some great camping equipment and sharing hiking stories and favorite camping spots. Bring a salad, dessert, or veggies, and the hamburgers and hotdogs will be provided. Soft drinks will be \$.50 and beer \$1. Admission is \$2 per person.

JUNE MEETING

Our June speakers will discuss the importance of putting the environment in a school's curriculum. Dr. Laura Alpern and Ms. Georgianne Bouillion, Director and Development Coordinator, respectively, of the El Paso Country Day School maintain that environmental education should not be a once or twice a year topic. They emphasize that concern for the environment should be integrated into the students' lessons all year long. Join us for this lively presentation.

The program will start at 7:30 pm on Wednesday, June 29, at St. Paul's Methodist Church, 7000 Edgemere (two blocks east of Airway.) For more information, call Ted Mertig, 852-3011.

The
Environmental
Center

Volunteer to Help our Environment... The Center continues to need volunteers. Please contact the Center (532-9645), John Sproul (545-5157) or Ted Mertig (852-3011) if you can volunteer one or more days per month.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Health and Environmental Speaker in El Paso... John Robbins will be speaking in El Paso on Saturday, May 14, at the Recital Hall in Fox Fine Arts Center on the UTEP campus at 7:30 pm. His visit is sponsored by the Vegetarian Society of El Paso. He is the author of a best-selling book, *Diet for a New America*, and he is the founder of the non-profit EarthSave Foundation, an organization that provides education and leadership for the transition to more healthful and environmentally sound food choices, non-polluting energy supplies, and a wiser use of natural resources.

Tickets are \$12 in advance, \$14 at the door and \$8 for students and senior citizens. Call 915-860-8585 for advance ticket purchase.

GROUP DIRECTORY

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chairman/Public Lands	Ted Mertig	852-3011
Vice Chair/Outings	Mike Episcopo	833-3770
Secretary	Joe Rodriguez	833-9655
Treasurer	Kathy Sunday	584-9301
Member	Betsy Julian	544-5741
Member/ICO	Richard Rheder	544-5659
Member	Debbie Tomacelli	584-3929

CONSERVATION

Environmental Quality	Tom Brasfield	584-8739
Franklin Mtns	John Sproul	545-5157
Political Action	Jim Bell	581-8864
Population	OPEN	

ADMINISTRATION

Environmental Center	OPEN	
Group/LORAX Mail	Bill Phillips	772-6503
Hospitality	Barbara Mertig	852-3011
Membership	Carol Morrison	545-1701
Office Rep.	Neil O'Hara	565-4735
Publicity	OPEN	
LORAX Editor/SIERRAN	Wyona Turner	585-0251

Sierra Club Environmental Center

800 S. Piedras
532-9645, 532-4876

Please send any changes or corrections in membership to

Carol Morrison, Membership Roll
728 Kern Drive/79902

Send LORAX information to
Wyona Turner, Editor, 331 Vista del Rey, 79912

CLUB NEWS

Conservation Concerns... A reminder that the El Paso Group is holding regular monthly conservation meetings. All members are welcome to attend. The meetings are held on the second Wednesday of every month in the Environmental Center at 7 pm. Set aside May 11 and June 8 to learn about important local conservation issues!

Welcome to New Members...

Lonnie & Margaret Abernethy	Dr. Jeffrey Maxcy
David Aldana	Delores McMahan
Phil & Susan Brown	James Philpot
Tarry Buck	Fernando Racelis
Russell Carleton	Jennifer Riggan
Luis Fernandez	Bill Sanders
Connie Gamboa	Andrea Schmidt
Greg Garcia	Richard Southern
William Gutierrez	Ethel Starnitz
Fred Haag	Flavia Thomas
Sam & Anne Hales	Johnny Thompson
Constance Harris	Daniel & Emyln Valles
Christine Kelso	Susan Wagner
Roger LaMaster	Lee Ward
Roy Levit	Warren Watson
Grace Luna	

OUTINGS

HOLT MOUNTAIN BACKPACK

Gila Wilderness, NM

DATE: May 7-8, 1994
CLASS: Strenuous
LIMIT: 8, leader approval and reservations required
LEADER: Kathy Sunday, 584-9301

Located in a scenic area of the Gila Wilderness, the trail to Holt Mountain presents a strenuous, challenging hike with a 3,000' elevation gain. The exciting vistas from the top are well worth the effort. We will leave El Paso Friday night and camp at Sheridan Corral. Saturday morning we will drive the short distance to the trailhead. Our hike to a camping spot near the summit of Holt Mountain will be about six miles on a generally good but steep trail. We will arrive in camp early enough for some dayhiking in the high country with excellent views overlooking Big Dry. Water will have to be carried about 3/4 mile from Holt Spring to our campsite. Call Kathy early for additional information and reservations.

BEGINNER'S BACKPACK

Aldo Leopold Wilderness

DATE: May 14 -15, 1994
CLASS: Easy
LIMIT: 12, reservations required
LEADER: Betty and Weldon Fisbeck, 581-0174

This is a trip designed especially for those who would like to try backpacking for the first time. It is a short hike (about 2.5 miles) over a fairly easy, but beautiful streamside trail. You will get a feel of what it is like to shoulder a pack and be self-sufficient and safe in the wilderness. Call for more details or help in planning equipment, etc.

HILLSBORO PEAK DAYHIKE

Aldo Leopold Wilderness

DATE: Sunday, May 22, 1994
CLASS: Moderate
LIMIT: 20, leader approval and reservations required
LEADER: Carolina Greenfield, 594-7342

This is one of the best dayhikes in our area. The trail ascends the mountain through pines, spruce, Douglas fir and aspen. Breathtaking views occur along this 10-mile roundtrip hike with an elevation gain of 1,800'. Call early for reservations.

ANNUAL SIERRA CLUB PICNIC

Chamizal National Park

DATE: Wednesday, May 25, 1994
CLASS: Food, Fun & Lots of Good Conversation
LIMIT: None
Join us for our official summer welcome.

MOGOLLON RANGE KEY EXCHANGE BACKPACK

Gila Wilderness

DATE: May 27-30, 1994
CLASS: Moderately strenuous +
LIMIT: 24, (12 in each direction) leader approval and reservations required
LEADER: Rollin Wickenden, 598-8042 (hm)
Wesley Leonard, 747-6649 (wk)

We will leave Friday night and drive to near our respective trailheads. Rollin's group will leave from the Deloche Canyon trailhead (7,100'); Wesley's group will leave from the Sheridan Corral trailhead (6,400'). The route led by Rollin follows the Deloche Trail (179) down to Whitewater Creek and up Winn Canyon, gaining 2,600' to Spider Saddle. We then follow the Holt-Apache Trail (181) past Camp Creek Saddle and Holt Spring down to Sheridan Corral. Wesley's group will follow the same trails in the opposite direction, gaining 3,100' to the Holt campsite. Each group has considerable elevation gain and loss over the three-day trip. Total trail mileage is approximately 19 miles. Each group will spend two nights in the backcountry with water nearby. This route passes through some of the highest and most remote sections of the Gila Wilderness. As always, this route is subject to change due to weather conditions and water availability. Call Rollin or Wesley early for reservations and details.

GILA WILDERNESS BACKPACK

DATE: June 19 - 26, 1994
CLASS: Moderate/Difficult
LIMIT: 12, leader approval and reservations required
LEADER: Lawrence Gibson, 594-7342

This trans-Gila trip will explore many of the Gila's treasures: springs, creeks, mountain-tops and canyons. Experience in multi-day backpacking required.

JUNE MEETING

7000 Edgemere

DATE: Wednesday, June 29, 1994
CLASS: Educational
LIMIT: None
SPEAKERS: Dr. Laura Alpern & Ms. Georgianne Bouillion
Join us for this environmental education lesson.

CALENDAR

May 25	Annual Member Picnic (5:30 pm at Chamizal National Park)
June 1	EXCOM Meeting (7 pm at 800 So. Piedras)
June 10	Deadline for El Paso newsletter information (send to 331 Vista del Rey, 79912)
June 29	General Meeting (7:30 pm at 7000 Edgemere)
July 6	EXCOM Meeting (7 pm at 800 So. Piedras)

PLAN AHEAD FOR THESE SUMMER TREKS!

- July 9-17 Weminuche Wilderness (CO) Backpack
(Laurence Gibson, 594-7342)
- August 6-14 Wyoming Backpack - either the Tetons or
the Wind River Range
(Laurence Gibson, 594-7342)

Chiricahua National Monument Carcamp, 2/12-13/94

Driving West on I-10 can get pretty monotonous. But, if you turn South on a dirt road at Bowie, AZ, the scenery gets more interesting. This is the route that most of our group took to get to Chiricahua National Monument. After setting up our tents and eating lunch at the group campsite, the group drove to Massai Point (6,870') and dayhiked the scenic Echo Canyon Loop Trail. After gourmet meals were prepared and consumed under the glow of our Coleman lanterns, we bedded down for a long chilly night. Sunday dawned gray, windy and colder. While the Simons rose early to board the shuttle bus to Massai Point and dayhike back to the Visitor Center, the rest of us enjoyed the warmth of our sleeping bags for longer than usual. After breakfast, the group consensus was to pack up and head home. Making the trip this year were Laura, John, Guinel, and John Paul Delgado, Rita, Dwayne, and Jennifer Slusser, Rafaela Schuller, Pat Wood, Barbara Richardson, George and Pat Simon from Alamogordo, Esther, Kathy, Susie and Leader Rollin Wickenden.

El Capitan I.C.O. Service Trip, 3/11-14/94

Three El Paso lads proved their mettle in the Guads. David Kuchle, Edgar Martinez, and James Rohling met Friday night at the Environmental Center with Gary Williams, Adela Escudero, Michael Bromka, and leader Richard Rheder. We drove to our Pine Springs carcamp. On Saturday, Trail Boss Jack Kincaid led us down a winding dirt road to Williams Ranch for two days of work. We carried tools and timbers over a half mile of winding trail to the undeveloped Shumard site. There, we dug trenches, dropped, drilled and hammered in timbers, then bolted them together, forming a perimeter. Using Polaskis and McClouds, we tilled the interior, weeding and sifting out plants and rocks, leveling the site. We built four sites. Eddie Hernandez supervised Sunday while we transplanted ocatillo and built cairns to open and mark the new trail. A few yards astray, Edgar found a bedrock mortar which profoundly spoke history. We pondered those who had toiled here before us.

Grand Canyon Backpack, 3/18-24/94

Serendipity took on new significance as nine upbeat Sierrans ventured on their inaugural visit into the grandest of canyons within North America. Picture this: thick white cumulus clouds rolling over the north rim of the canyon, dissipating immediately upon entering the massive abyss. The evening rains cleansed the sky into crystal clarity. With temperatures in the 50's on the south rim, few people, and zero wind, we gladly trekked down the S. Kaibab Trail to our two-night destination, Bright Angel Campground. Along the way the sounds of ooohs and ahhs were everywhere. Our layover day spawned welcome opportunities for everyone's personal desires. Some did a 12-mile dayhike to enchanting Ribbon Falls. A few hung around Phantom Ranch relaxing and enjoying the inner canyon with its trusting band of deer. Others went to the shores of the mighty Colorado to frolic on the beach and build sandcastles for the canyon gods. On day 3 we reached Indian Gardens by noon giving us ample time to hike out to Plateau Point. From here one becomes fully aware of the sensational immensity of the canyon. Our last day was the most arduous with a 3,000+ foot elevation gain. We were spread out on the way up being intermittently interviewed by the curious throngs of "tourist" dayhikers, and having to bow out of the way to a half dozen mule trains. On top after a shower we met up in Flagstaff to treat our palates to Mexican cuisine, leaving the Ramen Noodle Surprise as just a distant memory. Our group consisted of the "Ramen Noodle Blues Brothers" big Gus Pena and Jim Montes, Pat "I can make it" Woods (on just her second backpack--well done, Pat!), visitor Karen Thompson from Albuquerque, Susanne Boone, assistant leaders Dave Kofoed and Carolina Greenfield, and Maria and leader Mike Episcopo.

North Franklin Peak Dayhike, 4/3/94

Susan Pratt and Rafael Porres climbed to El Paso's rooftop with Michael Bromka. We enjoyed the scramble ascent of the crest until our path emptied onto the dull mining road. Up top, we ate lunch and collected litter for proper disposal. The mining road descended past its saddle till it washed out. We stepped and slid down an arroyo to rejoin the road. A nice hike right here in town!

Guadalupe Peak Dayhike, 4/10/94

We left El Paso at 7 am for a shuttle to Pine Springs Trailhead (Later we learned a shuttling lesson: turn headlights ON while driving; turn headlights OFF while hiking). Weather was sunny with a gentle breeze and rare scudding clouds. Our first half hour of switchbacks made us vow to get more exercise. The trail eased up and stretched out to afford an ever growing view of the Guads. On reaching the saddle, we caught our first view of the peak. Inspired, we sallied onward to the summit and lunch. The afternoon's descent brought ambling delight to Patty Weisman, Karen Weaver, Lee Ward, Rudy Provencio, Rafael Porres, Barbara McDougal, Pam Gregory, Ann Falknor, Gary Enos, Barbara Elizalde, Victor Dorado, Warren Cowles, and leader Michael Bromka.

SANTA FE GROUP NEWS

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

TUESDAY, MAY 17, 1994



WATER. WATER EVERYWHERE . . . WHERE ????

How much water does Santa Fe have, anyway? Where is it? What are we doing with it? How on earth were 17,000 new residential units approved without a thorough examination of whether there's enough water to serve them? Find out the real *wet* truth about our water resources and what the future may hold from Tony Mayne, executive director of the Santa Fe Metropolitan Water Board and featured speaker.

Since 1976 the Metropolitan Water Board has been the planning entity which administers Santa Fe's city/county share of its San Juan-Chama rights. While the Board lacks any regulatory authority, it routinely makes recommendations about water allocation to the city, county and PNM. With the city buyout of PNM and our ever-growing population, we need to be informed about just how water is managed in Santa Fe. Don't miss a chance to hear Tony's vision for integrated city/county planning and how we can balance water resources and demand at the general membership meeting, which is free to all and will be held at the Unitarian Church (on Barcelona between Don Gaspar and Galisteo) Tuesday, May 17, 1994, at 7:30 PM.



ANNUAL SUMMER SOLSTICE PICNIC

SATURDAY, JUNE 18, 1994

It's time to celebrate summer in Santa Fe with our annual summer solstice picnic, with an opportunity to visit the alternative lifestyle of the *Commons on the Alameda*, at 2300 West Alameda. The picnic starts at 6 PM at the Commons House. (2 miles west of the St. Francis intersection, at the city limits, just past where the pavement used to end and horse farms begin) All members, significant others, friends, children and guests are invited to the potluck and to browse the grounds of the cohousing development. (Children's playground and kid's room in the Commons House are available!!)

Jack Zirker, of the National Solar Observatory in Alamogordo, a leading expert on solar eclipses, will be at the potluck for discussion and questions.

Food: Please bring 8 servings of a food item for *each individual* coming of one of the following: appetizers, salads, casseroles, cooked vegetables, meat dishes, bread, desserts, wine, beer, soft drinks, juices. In the interest of the environment (and clean-up!), please bring your own dishes and flatware.

NO GENERAL MEETING IN JUNE/JULY/AUGUST

Please come to the
May Meeting, May 17
and
Solstice Picnic June 18

Meetings at the Sierra Club Office:

Executive Committee:
June 6, July 4, August 1 at 5 PM
Conservation Committee:
May 26, June 23, July 28 at 7 PM

>> SANTA FE GROUP OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS <<

Co-Chairs — Mark Mortier*	983-5870	Political Committee — Ken Hughes*	474-0550
— Norma McCallan*	471-0005	Newsletter Editor — Kay Carlson	982-3926
Secretary/Treasurer — Lionel Soracco*	983-6715	Phone Tree — Martha Anne Freeman*	438-0697
Conservation — Van Perkins*	983-8801	Social/Membership — Patty Bray	989-1924
— George Grossman*	982-1024	Kids' Sierra Club — Justine Freeman	988-9126
Chapter Representatives - Sue McIntosh*	982-4146	Recycling/Office — Carolyn Keskulla	982-9570
— Norma McCallan*	471-0005	Education —	
Publicity —		Outings — Norbert Sperlich	983-1962
Fundraising —		— Norma McCallan*	471-0005
* Member of the SF Group Executive Committee		Vickie Gabin*	986-3884

Terms expire 12/94: Hughes/McIntosh/Freeman/Perkins
12/95: McCallan/Mortier/Soracco/Gabin/Grossman

>>>>>>>> SANTA FE GROUP OUTINGS <<<<<<<<<<

Sat Sun May

- ★ ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE / ISSUE OUTING FOR MAY ★
- 1 **SANTA FE RIVER CLEAN-UP DAY** Meet 10 AM, Alto Park (on West Alameda). A variety of events, including tree planting, habitat rehabilitation and trout release. Jointly sponsored by the Sierra Club, Petroglyphs por los Niños, Trees New Mexico, River Guardians, Sweeney and Agua Fria Elementary Schools, Santa Fe High School, and several neighborhood organizations. George Nagels (982-9454) (local Sierra Club contact) **JOIN IN !!**
- 1 **Bob McKee** (672-3426) Moderate Hike on the Quemazon Trail near Los Alamos. 9 miles roundtrip, 2200' elevation gain. Call for time and meeting place.
- ★ ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE / ISSUE HIKE FOR MAY ★
- 7 **Ted Williams** (984-2664) RETURN OF THE RIVER Easy Tour Mr. Williams, a civil engineer, has a dream [endorsed by the Old Santa Fe Association, among others] of having water running down the Santa Fe River all day, every day, all year long!! Walk several stretches of the river with him and see how he would achieve this exciting goal, and control flooding and erosion. Leave 9:30 AM.
- 7 **Caroline Glick** (984-3184) Strenuous Hike to Thompson Peak, via Glorieta Baldy. Considerable elevation gain. Call for reservations.
- 8 **Norbert Sperlich** (983-1962) Strenuous Hike Shaggy Peak and Deer Creek. Mostly off-trail. Call leader for reservations.
- 8 **Jeff Jones** (984-2389) Easy Hike on the Chamisa Trail. 4¼ miles roundtrip. Slow pace, suitable for parents with small children. Leave 9:30 AM.
- 14 **Norrine Sanders** (984-0386) Strenuous Hike to the Stone Lions in Bandelier from Ponderosa Campground. Leave 8 AM.
- 14 **Victor Atyas** (471-7545) Easy Hike on the Frei Trail in Bandelier from the campground to Ceremonial Cave. Leave 9 AM.
- 15 **Art Judd** (982-3212) Moderate Hike somewhere up in the high country. Leave 8 AM.
- 21 **Stephen Janus** (988-4137) Moderate/Strenuous Hike to Cerro Picacho and St. Peter's Dome via Sanchez Canyon. Considerable off-trail and elevation change. See some of the most remote portions of Bandelier. Leave 8 AM.
- 22 **Arnold and Caroline Keskulla** (982-9570) Easy Hike up Aspen Vista Road. Leave 8:30 AM.
- 28 **Lionel Soracco** (983-6715) Moderate Hike from Black Canyon campground, plus . . . some off-trail . . . hiking boots required. Leave 9 AM.
- 29 **Elizabeth Altman** (471-8490) Moderate Hike on Buckman Mesa. Leave 9 AM.
- Monday, May 30 (Memorial Day)**
- Julie Montoya King** (438-7197) Moderate Hike Hermit's Peak [near Las Vegas] 8 mi. RT. Leave 8 AM.
- Thursday to Monday, May 26 to 30**
- Norma McCallan** (471-0005) 5-day Backpack to Dark Canyon, Utah. Leave Wednesday noon. Will probably go down Woodenshoe Canyon and return via Peavine. 37 miles and some day hikes up side canyons. A beautiful, remote canyon system. Expect hot days.

NOTES FROM THE CHAIRS' CORNER . . . Mark Mortier and Norma McCallan

Now that the Santa Fe Mayoral and City Council elections are over and the primaries are coming up, it seems it is time to reflect on our Group's political endorsement process. We have heard a number of concerns from members about this process, so we would like to explain it and follow it with a plea for help from our members.

We began in January with a discussion by members of our Political Committee as to what issues were important to the Santa Fe Group. These included

development, water, transportation, energy, and waste disposal. From this discussion, a draft questionnaire was written and circulated among members of the Committee and the ExComm, as well as several other members. Based on their comments, the questionnaire was revised and sent out to all of the candidates to be used as the basis for our endorsements.

We received responses from almost all of the candidates. These were then circulated among the members of the two committees and discussed in the→

Sat Sun June

- 4 **Norrine Sanders** (984-0386) Moderate/Strenuous Hike Call leader for information.
- 4 **John Turnbull** (466-9329) National Trails Day Program Educational and constructive day jointly sponsored by Tres Piedras Ranger District, USFS and the Sierra Club, in some of the most beautiful country in NM. Read *Cross-country Ski Report* in this issue for details. Phone leader for carpooling and other arrangements. Leave 8 AM from Wilderness Exchange/Osco Drug parking lot.
- 5 **Victor Atyas** (471-7545) Easy Hike from Bandelier to Rio Grande (Falls Trail). Leave 9 AM.
- 5 **Stephen Janus** (988-4137) Strenuous Hike in Sangre de Cristos. Could involve snow shoes. Call leader for information.
- 11 **Joe Whelan** (984-0746) Moderate/Strenuous Hike in Pecos Wilderness. Leave 8:30 AM.
- 12 **Arnold and Caroline Keskulla** (982-9570) Easy Hike on Penstemon Ridge. Leave 9 AM.
- Saturday, June 18 to Saturday, June 25**
- Bill Donahue and Dana Densmore** (983-3675) Pecos Wilderness High Country Week to high camp near eastern end of Santa Barbara Divide. Equipment carried by horses. Day hikes: Sta Barbara Peak/Jicarita Peak/Rincon Bonito/Horseshoe Lakes/Gascon Pt. Cost of \$450 includes Bill's famous vegetarian meals. Call for complete description, leader approval and registration. Space limited.
- 18 **Normal McCallan** (471-0005) Easy/Moderate Hike to Glorieta Ghost Hotel. Dogs and kids welcome. 6 miles RT, 950' elevation gain. Leave 9:30 AM.
- 19 **Julie Montoya King** (438-7197) Strenuous Hike to Glorieta Baldy. 11 mile RT, 2800' elevation gain. Leave 8 AM.
- 25 26 **Bob McKee** (672-3426) Backpack in Pecos Wilderness. Call leader for information.
- 25 **Caroline Glick** (984-3184) Strenuous Hike to Trampas Lakes and possibly Hidden Lake. 11.5 miles RT, 2440' elevation gain to Trampas Lakes, 2 miles more to Hidden Lake. Call leader for reservations.
- 26 **Jeff Jones** (984-2389) Easy Hike Kids welcome. From Ski Basin down the Winsor Trail. Leave 9 am.

CHAIRS CORNER (cont'd.)

Political Committee meeting before the election.

This meeting was announced at our monthly general meeting and advertised in the newsletter and was open to everybody (as they always are). It was attended by a handful of members, including several ExComm members, who came to discuss the candidates and possible endorsements. Several long and difficult hours were spent in this discussion, before we even got to a vote on our endorsements. We tried to look at the candidates in terms of the needs and desires of the environmental community and the Sierra Club.

Some of the endorsements were easier than others, such as Frank Mantaño and Lynn Lawther, who we felt clearly would represent our members consistent with our needs and desires. However, in the mayoral race, we felt both Debbie Jaramillo and Linda Durham were candidates we could support. We were also hard pressed to decide between Cris Moore and Louise Leopold in District 2.

We explored issues and discussed the strong feelings people had and were torn between concerns that went beyond environmental issues. Several "straw" polls were inconclusive. We discussed Sierra Club rules and policies, whether we should be making endorsements at all and whether we could endorse more than one candidate in a race. In the end, we felt it was our responsibility to pick who we thought were the best environmental candidates in each race and endorse



them. They were sent to the Rio Grande Chapter Excomm for approval, after which we announced them in a press release (due to scheduling of the newsletter publication, we were unable to include them in it).

In making these endorsements, we did not intend to act as a select few who imposed a decision on the Group and did what we thought best for our members. However, the fact that less than a dozen people, out of a membership of over 2,000, participated in the process, reflects a problem that we are having with participation in general within our Group.

While we make a great effort to publicize and encourage participation in our activities, it is difficult to get enough people to participate in activities other than outings. We have a core group of activists who end up wearing several hats in the leadership and activism of the Group. **We need more of you to step up and help!** As we have learned from our previous activist work, it doesn't take many people to have an effect on the policies and practices of any organization.

If you have suggestions or are unhappy with how we are conducting our Sierra Club "business," PLEASE join us and help.

Sat Sun July

- 2 Lionel Sirocco (983-6715) **Moderate Hike** Atalaya-Arroyo Chamisa loop. Some off-trail. Leave 8 AM from St. John's College visitor's parking lot.
- 3 No hike leader available — Interested in leading hikes? Call Norma (471-0005) or Norbert (983-1962)
- Saturday-Sunday-Monday, July 2-3-4 ★ **ISSUE WEEKEND FOR JULY ★**
John Turnbull (466-9329) **Trails Development Work Weekend** Conducted jointly between Sierra Club, NM Volunteers for the Outdoors and Tres Piedras Ranger District, USFS. Chapterwide invitation — we hope folks from down south will join. Inexpensive motel accommodations in Ojo Caliente. Serious work weekend in spectacular scenery. Must be over age 18 (insurance reasons). See *Cross-country Ski Report* column in this issue for details. Departures at different times. **Important:** Phone leader for info.
- Saturday-Sunday-Monday, July 2-3-4
Steven Janus (988-4137) **Moderate Backpack** to beautiful Zapita Basin (east of Alamosa, near the Great Sand Dunes Nat'l Monument, CO) and optional climbs of the surrounding 13,000' and 14,000' peaks. Leave early Sat AM; call for details.
- 9 **David Brown** (662-2185) **Moderate/Strenuous Hike** to Lobo Peak (near Taos Ski Basin). Call for details of time and meeting place.
- 10 **Art Judd** (982-3212) **Moderate Hike** in the high country. Leave 8 AM.
- 9 10 **Julie Montoya King** (438-7197) **Exploratory Backpack** 12 miles each way. To Truchas Peaks Basin via the West Fork of the Santa Barbara, with aim of climbing Truchas Peak (13,103'). Call for reservations.
- 16 **Joe Whelan** (984-0746) **Strenuous Hike** to Jicarita Peak, elevation gain from the Tres Ritos/Angostura side. Leave 8 AM.
- 17 **Jeff Jones** (984-2389) **Easy Walk** up the Big Tesuque River. Good for parents with small children. Leave 9:30 AM.
- Saturday, July 16, to Saturday, July 23
Normal McCallan (471-0005) **8-day Exploratory Backpack** on Continental Divide Trail, CO Hwy 82 South to Monarch Pass. 70.5 miles. Leave Fri noon, July 15. Experienced backpackers only. Call for details and reservations.
- 23 **Caroline and Arnold Keskulla** (982-9570) **Easy Hike** from Ski Basin down Winsor Trail. Leave 9 AM.
- 24 **Norbert Sperlich** (983-1962) **Moderate/Strenuous Hike** to La Vega Overlook, off the Winsor Trail. Call for reservation and time of departure.
- 23 24 **Caroline Glick** (984-3184) **Car Camp/Strenuous Hike** San Pedro Parks Wilderness area. Call leader.
- 30 **John Jasper** (982-8572) **Strenuous Hike** Panchuela — Horsethief Meadows — Rico Perro Springs loop in the Pecos Wilderness. Leave 7:30 AM.
- 31 **Elizabeth Altman** (471-8490) **Easy Hike** Bear Wallow — Borrego Trail loop. 4½ miles RT. Leave 9 AM.

Outings Notes — All outings, unless otherwise specified, leave from the PERA parking lot at the corner of Paseo de Peralta and Old Santa Fe Trail (across the street from the State Capitol and Corbae). 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 experience appears unsuitable. Leader has the right to alter destination of hike or cancel the trip due to weather, unfavorable conditions, or insufficient numbers of participants. Unaccompanied minors must have written permission from parents or guardians to participate; permission forms are available at the Sierra Club office. Dogs not permitted on hikes unless noted otherwise. Telephone leader for details of the individual hike.

CHAPTER EXCOMM MEETING

June 4 and 5

Santa Fe hosts the quarterly meeting of the Rio Grande Executive Committee on June 4 and 5 at 2300 West Alameda, at the Commons House of the Cohousing community. Everyone is invited to a potluck on June 5 at 6 PM. Please RSVP to 983-2703. Also, please call if you have a spare bedroom. Rumors are there may be a dance following the potluck!

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

ELECTION NEWS

The race for the Governor of New Mexico will be decided during the June primaries when Jim Baca, the environmental candidate endorsed by the Sierra Club, will run against Casey Luna and Bruce King. **REGISTER TO VOTE NOW !! and VOTE IN JUNE !!**

Watch for news of receptions being held during the week of May 16 for Jim Baca, gubernatorial candidate, and Ray Powell, State Land Commissioner candidate, also endorsed by the Sierra Club.

Group Directory

Chair, Marianne Thaeler	522-3421
Vice Chair, Myra Price	524-0261
Secretary, David Pengelley	646-3901
Treasurer, Ben Zerbey	526-6207
Student Adviser, David Pengelley	646-3901
Outings Chair, Jim Basler	521-4822
Publicity, Cheryl Blevins	524-4861
Education, Jim Winder	267-4227
Education, Andrew Hands	523-9059
Water, Erika Kocsis	522-0726
Membership, Tony Chiaviello	525-1802
Kris Paulsen	523-9059
Marian Nygard	522-4689
Student Group, Lori Schmirer	524-9186

HOLLOMAN AFB CLEAN UP IN PROGRESS

Holloman Air Force Base (HAFB) is located between the City of Alamogordo, NM, and adjacent to White Sands National Monument. According to the Minutes of the HAFB Technical Review Committee meeting of January 28, 1994, 50,000 gallons of fuel were discovered in 1981 to have leaked from five underground storage tanks at the BX Service Station. Various systems consisting of recovery trenches and wells recovered 48,000 gallons of the free-phase product from beneath the site. Virtually all of the product has been recovered. However, the fuel-contaminated soil containing petroleum hydrocarbons at the average concentration of 8,000 ppm has not been remediated. The remedial action chosen for the site was soil vapor extraction. A 30 day Pilot Test, conducted on a small, highly contaminated area of the site in July and August 1993, reduced the petroleum hydrocarbon content of the soil by 48% and the BTEX concentration by 86%. Design specifications for a full scale soil vapor extraction system were received in January 1994. The full scale system will be constructed this summer.

At another site investigations were conducted in order to remediate an apparent 2,000 gallon release. However the contractor encountered from 5 to 7 feet of free-phase product on the water table beneath the site in a 500 x 700 foot area. The investigation was then expanded to delineate the full extent of

contamination beneath the site. There are estimated to be 1.7 million gallons of weathered JP-4 fuel beneath the site. The Army Corps of Engineers initiated a rapid response contract to remediate the site. Enhanced Soil Vapor Extraction was chosen as the most feasible alternative for removal of the free-floating product and remediation of the fuel-contaminated soils beneath the site. A 24 hour Pilot Test was conducted at the site in December 1993 in which 300 gallons of fuel were recovered from the water table. Ten additional wells were to be installed at the site in February, 1994. The operation and maintenance of the full-scale system is currently funded. All fuel recovered from the site will be burned through a flare system.

Hazardous waste had historically been discharged into the HAFB sewage lagoons. In 1988 HAFB entered into a Federal Facilities Compliance Agreement which set in motion a number of actions including the removal of 4,000 tons of PCB contaminate sludge in 1990. As a result the EPA has removed HAFB from the significant non-compliance list in 1993, as relates to the lagoons.

Numerous other sites are also being cleaned up on HAFB. General John Miller Commander at HAFB has stated that good progress has been made, and he hopes no additional new sites will be discovered as new construction projects continue on the base.

THE BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY CONVENTION

from Article by John Hopkins published in SC Public Lands Newsletter

The Convention on Biological Diversity entered into force on December 29, 1993, three months after the 30th country ratified its signing of the Convention. The Convention, as an international treaty, is legally binding on those countries that have ratified it.

President Clinton signed the Convention last year. Although the treaty is in force internationally, the Senate must consent to ratification of the treaty by a 2/3rd vote before the U.S. becomes legally obliged to refrain from acts that would defeat the treaty's object and purpose. President Clinton submitted the Convention to the Senate late last year, and we expect the Senate Foreign Relations Committee to take up ratification soon.

The Convention addresses the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components, and various issues related to the utilization of genetic resources. Several articles of the Convention lay out a set of basic steps necessary for the protection of biological diversity, although they include modifiers at the beginning of each article, attenuating phrases such as "as far as possible as an appropriate" or "in accordance with particular conditions and capabilities".

Articles Six through Eight of the Convention provide the key provisions for in-situ conservation and sustainable use. The actions they call on nations to undertake are all ones which federal land managers in this country should pursue on our public lands as well. Principally, these actions include:

- *develop strategies and programs for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and the integration of conservation and sustainable use into plans for other relevant sectors of the nations' activity.

- *identify and monitor components of biological diversity and activities that are likely to have a significant adverse impact.

- *establish a system of protected areas and promote protection of ecosystems, natural habitats and the maintenance of viable populations of species.

- *manage biological resources outside protected areas for conservation and sustainable use.

- *promote environmentally sound and sustainable development in areas adjacent to protected areas.

- *rehabilitate and restore degraded ecosystems and promote recovery of threatened species.

- *prevent introduction or control ecologically damaging alien species.

- *provide conditions needed for compatibility between present uses and conservation of biological diversity and sustainable use.

- *regulate and manage activities determined to have a significant adverse impact on biological diversity.

In addition, Article Ten calls for further measures to insure the sustainable use of components of biological diversity, including integration of conservation and sustainable use into national decision-making.

If nations address the spirit as well as the strict letter of the Convention, we will take large steps forward in the years ahead to curb a massive wave of species extinctions, set aside biologically functional systems of protected areas, and adjust a range of human activities to protect biological resources and use them sustainably.

The Sierra Club and many other organizations have formed a network known as "BioNET" (Biodiversity Action Network) to address global biodiversity issues. Although much of BioNET's focus is the international arena, it will also address domestic biodiversity issues.

LOCAL GOVERNMENTS LAUNCH "BUY RECYCLED" CAMPAIGN

Thirty-two cities and 18 counties in the United States announced that they would adopt policies that "mirror" Pres. Clinton's executive order on recycled materials issued last fall. Clinton's order calls for post-consumer recycled paper to be made up 20% of printing and writing paper bought by the federal government by the end of 1994, and 30% by the end of 1998. It also mandates purchases of re-refined oil and retread tires.

The announcement kicks off a National "Buy Recycled" Campaign by the US Conference of Mayors and the National Assn. of Counties, meant to boost demand for the 42 million tons of recyclables collected annually by local governments. More than 400 cities and counties already require some purchases of recycled goods. According to a Mayors/Counties press release, the campaign aims to foster "even more aggressive" programs for buying recyclables.

What is your city, county, and state doing?

OUTINGS

April 23, 1994 - Hike - strenuous, all day, leaves at 6 AM to the Organ Mountain Needles. Call Jim Basler 521-4822 for reservations and information.

May 7, 1994 - Hike - Achenbach Canyon in the Organ Mountains. Easy to moderate. Bring water and lunch. Call Jim Basler 521-4822 for meeting time and place.

May 28, 1994 - Hike - Emory Pass Trails. Which trail will depend on the experience of those taking the hike. Call Jim Basler 521-4822.

MEETINGS

April 21, 1994 - Combined with the Student Group. Dr. Rich Spellenberg will present slides and presentation on the differences in Chihuahuan and Sonoran Desert. NMSU, 107 Science Hall, 7:30 PM.

Thursday, May 26, 7:30 P.M., 107 Science Hall, NMSU. John Kramer, Gila National Forest, Wilderness District, will present slide program "Hiking in the Gila: Lesser Known and Lightly Used Trails." For more info, call 522-3421. For Summer Sierra Club Meetings check your Las Cruces newspapers, for time and place.

Other meetings of interest:

May 4, 1994 - 9-12 AM. Grazing Reform what the new proposed regulations actually say and mean. Presented by the BLM at BLM Offices, 1800 Marquess St., Las Cruces (between Boutz and Valley).

May 4, 1994 - 7 PM. BLM Scoping Meeting for 5 proposed designations of Areas of Critical Environmental Concern in the Caballo Resource Area. Alamogordo, 7PM, Civic Center, 800 First St., Alamogordo.

May 5, 1994 - 7 PM BLM Scoping Meeting same as above, in Las Cruces, BLM Offices, 1800 Marquess St., Las Cruces (between Boutz and Valley Drive).

SYSTEM COULD GENERATE POWER WITHOUT DAMS

Northeastern U. professor Alexander Gorlov has created a patented hydropneumatic system that is designed to efficiently generate electricity with water flowing from a dam that is only 10 feet high, or without any dam at all if the water flow is fast enough. If Gorlov's model works, it could obviate what is perhaps the biggest drawback to hydropower; the huge dams that can disturb the "delicate ecological balance of rivers," block fish migration and flood thousands of acres of land.

Central Maine Power plans to build a 100-kilowatt test generator next to a conventional turbine generator. If the tests are a success, the firm says it could construct hydropneumatic systems for riverside businesses that are seeking to generate their own power. Gorlov has submitted plans to the US Army Corps of Engineers to generate electricity in Massachusetts's Cape Cod Canal, according to Technology Review 4/94 issue.

ADC

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ever, since ADC was banned from state trust land, it and the New Mexico Department of Agriculture have trained ranchers in the use of M-44s. I am increasingly troubled by the wider use of all types of toxicants by private individuals and I discourage it. I am carefully evaluating the situation.

COMMENT: Commercially manufactured padded leghold traps are just as non-selective and injurious as unpadded traps.

RESPONSE: Padded leghold traps can be species-selective and can target offending animals in problem areas when placed carefully and adjusted properly by experienced professionals. In fact, this technique is the most selective method compared with other available methods, with the possible exception of firearms. The methods of research on this subject are generally approved by the scientific community, although the issue is debatable. But based on peer-reviewed publications, padded leghold traps appear to reduce injuries significantly.

Other provisions complement and enhance selectivity for target animals and minimize injuries. We would require devices to release non-target animals and a 24-hour trap-check with emphasis on early morning inspection to minimize the length of time a non-target animal is held.

CONCERN: There are no enforcement provisions to ensure ADC is checking traps every 24 hours.

RESPONSE: The position statement emphasizes reporting and accountability, and allows my staff to accompany ADC personnel when deemed necessary. It should not be assumed that professional employees of ADC would intentionally falsify reports. However, State Land Office employees will be monitoring ADC activities and if abuse is occurring, I will take immediate action.

CONCERN: The position statement does not address aerial gunning by ADC.

RESPONSE: The statement does not specifically identify aerial gunning as a permitted or prohibited method of predator control, but in conjunction with other provisions it would not be a feasible technique. The statement requires that activities be specific to the offending animal. While aerial gunning can be used for targeting offending animals, it is not cost-effective and ADC would have to justify this method to take one or two offending animals.

CONCERN: Predator control by grazing lessees is not addressed and has no force of law.

It should be promulgated as a regulation. RESPONSE: Rules would have to be promulgated to restrict predator-control activities by lessees. Public policy has generally discouraged such regulations. Nevertheless, the current proposal may lead to a bilateral agreement with ADC, and that's a good start. And since we have a cross-section of citizens working together toward comprehensive recommendations, it would be premature to develop a rule now. This is an interim proposal, and I intend to develop a comprehensive policy and regulations based in part on the group recommendations.

CONCERN: The press release issued in conjunction with the proposal suggests the proposal was developed by participants of the work group.

RESPONSE: I did not intend to convey the impression that it was a product of the work group. The document was produced solely by me and my staff at the State Land Office. However, it incorporates many of the concepts discussed in the group and reflects the competing values expressed by the members of the group. It is sensitive to the deeply held emotions and takes into account what it would take to move the debate toward a real solution.

In closing, I did not distribute the draft position statement with the idea that it was perfect or in final form. It was distributed for comment so that it may be improved. It should not be judged based on opinions printed in the newspapers, but rather upon its own merit. I have mailed dozens of copies to interested people who are reviewing the document for themselves.

The controversy over ADC activities on state trust land is one of the most contentious issues I have faced. I strongly believe, however, that a lasting solution must be developed by working through our differences. To do that, we must get beyond the rhetoric, understand each other's values and interests, seek consensus wherever possible, and continue working toward a responsible solution.



Letters

(continued from page 2)

not only her strong position on ADC that is important — but her concern to make the Land Office generate revenue to the State while insuring protection of our fragile state lands. The Land Office currently needs great reform — as documented in the Sierra Club's last newsletter, in the excellent article by Kevin Bixby. Therefore, we do not understand your recent endorsement of Ray Powell, Jr.

Choosing the candidate most likely to win, or closest to the Governor is certainly not in the best interest of New Mexico public lands, or our State's wildlife. Choosing the candidate closest to the Chairman of the N.M. State Democratic Party is also not in the best interests of true reform at the state level of government. By the Sierra Club's endorsement of Powell, you send out to the public a dangerous message: that the status quo is all right, that true reform on our public lands is not needed, that the ranching and oil industry will be allowed to continue to exploit our fragile public state lands, and that a change in the priorities of New Mexico State government is not needed.

Even with your endorsement of Jim Baca for Governor, if you do not endorse a compatible candidate who will work closely with Jim to protect our public lands, or a candidate who does not have the close political ties to our current Governor, then you have not done what is best for the land in New Mexico.

This letter is being sent to many Sierra Club members in northern New Mexico. They depend upon the Sierra Club to support those candidates who will best be a voice for the environment. This is why many people join the Sierra Club. They depend on your organization to educate the public on conservation issues and candidates, and to work for those candidates committed to protection of our natural resources. I am sorry to have to write this letter, and hope that in the future, the Sierra Club will not do the politically convenient thing, but rather what is best for the earth.

David Brower quit the Sierra Club for these very reasons, and Glen Canyon Dam was built and a river destroyed for the same reasons.

Joanie Berde
for Carson Forest Watch, La Comunidad,
and concerned Sierra Club members in
Taos County

Response from Chapter Chair Gwen Wardwell:

The mission of the Sierra Club is "to explore, enjoy, and protect the Earth." One of the ways we try to protect the Earth is by working to elect candidates who will help us reach this mission. The operative word here is "elect." While we might choose to support a candidate with very little chance of being elected, that would be an unusual circumstance, with no difference between other candidates running for the office or no candidate who would advance our views.

This is not the case in the race for State Land Commissioner. Not only do we feel that Mr. Powell is a significantly better choice than his primary opponents, but we also believe he has made positive steps in the management of the State Land Office and will make more.

We agree with the general ideas expressed by Kevin Bixby in "Ten Needed Reforms" for the State Land Office. Some of these were begun under Commissioner Baca and continued under Commissioner Powell and others were begun by Commissioner Powell.

The Sierra Club is a grassroots organization, controlled by its members. An overwhelming majority of the Chapter Executive Committee voted to endorse Ray Powell. Not every member will agree with every decision, but every member has a chance to influence these decisions. Take advantage of that opportunity.

Dear Ms. Wardwell:

I am deeply honored by the endorsement of the Rio Grande Chapter of the Sierra Club. I want to thank all of the members of the executive committee for their confidence and support.

My goal at the State Land Office is to build the most qualified, responsive, and trustworthy team; the best team to properly take care of our environment and our trust responsibilities. I feel we are well on our way toward reaching that goal.

I am the only candidate for commissioner of public lands with the qualifications and desire to change the State Land Office in a significant way and move it toward the 21st century. My sole interest is the environmental and economic health of New Mexico.

Thank you for your support,
Ray Powell

Albuquerque Company's "Smart Buildings" Protect the Environment

Improving the global environment by creating an entirely new approach to passive-solar architecture is the goal of Suntek, an Albuquerque-based company with only ten employees. The company's first product, a low-emissivity window coating called Low-e, has produced over \$3 billion in sales worldwide and has accounted for the elimination of more than one billion tons of carbon dioxide and other pollutants from the air. Suntek's latest product, a "smart shutter" called Cloud Gel, has the potential to reduce world-wide energy consumption by 17 percent.

Roy Chahroudi, Suntek's President, believes that "We have developed not just products, but a way to heal the environmental, a strategy to reduce the need for fossil fuels—and concomitant environmental, financial, and geopolitical problems."

Cloudy Day Solar Collection

Most passive-solar buildings are designed to collect as much heat as possible on sunny days, store the heat in masonry, rock, etc., and then release it at night and on cloudy days. But much of the world's population dwells in regions that are often cloudy, and installing enough heat-storage material to get through days or weeks of cloudy weather is prohibitively expensive. So, most solar buildings must rely on back-up heating systems to provide much of their heat.

These buildings also face a problem when it's sunny: They can trap too much heat when it's not needed. A sunroom or atrium that's a comfortable haven on a sunny winter day, for example, can become stifling in the summer; a greenhouse that's productive during winter months can require shades in summer; and an office that's comfortable and sunlit in winter may require shutters (which in turn run up the lighting bill) and/or air conditioning in the summer. What's needed is an automatic shutter, i.e., one that admits sunlight when it's needed, but becomes reflective when interior temperatures exceed a desired level.

Enter Suntek's Weather Panel, which controls both heat loss and heat gain. Weather Panels are designed to collect heat even on cloudy days, minimizing or eliminating the need for back-up heating systems even in places as cold and cloudy as Boston and Seattle. On sunny days, the panels' Cloud Gel turns from clear to translucent white at a predetermined interior temperature or level of light intensity, so it reflects excess sunlight

while providing a constant level of natural illumination. The reaction, which produces 90 percent reflectivity, can also be controlled electrically for such applications as view windows. The entire roof can be used as a solar collector without substantially affecting a building's appearance—and without adding to construction costs, since Weather Panels cost about the same as conventional roofing (about \$20 per square foot).

"By collecting heat and light from cloudy skies, and only when needed, Weather Panels make solar architecture simple and cheap enough to fulfill its promise," says Roy's brother, Day Chahroudi, the inventor of both Low-e and Cloud Gel. In 1974, while a faculty member at MIT, he founded Suntek to develop and commercialize molecularly designed building products. Suntek spun off Southwall Technologies in 1979 to produce and market Low-e. The product, introduced in 1982, currently has a market penetration of over 40 percent in the U.S. and is projected to reach 80 to 100 percent by the year 2000.

Business Strategies

Southwall Technologies went public in 1987, enabling Day Chahroudi to invest \$2 million in the final development of Cloud Gel and establish offices, a laboratory, and a pilot plant in Albuquerque. Roy Chahroudi became president of Suntek that same year. Suntek has been further supported by \$3 million from socially responsible investors interested in making buildings more in tune with the world around them.

Suntek's business strategy is to profitably bring "environmentally beneficial products quickly and inexpensively to market." The company and its investment partners profit through licensing fees and royalties. "By remaining a technology-licensing company, Suntek can stay small and do only what it does well," says Roy Chahroudi.

Suntek currently is completing tests of Cloud Gel and the Weather Panel in Europe, in cooperation with one of the world's largest glass companies.

The company is raising capital to finance operating and marketing expenses until receipt of licensing and royalty income. For more information, contact Roy Chahroudi at (505) 345-4115.

[The above article was submitted by Suntek.]