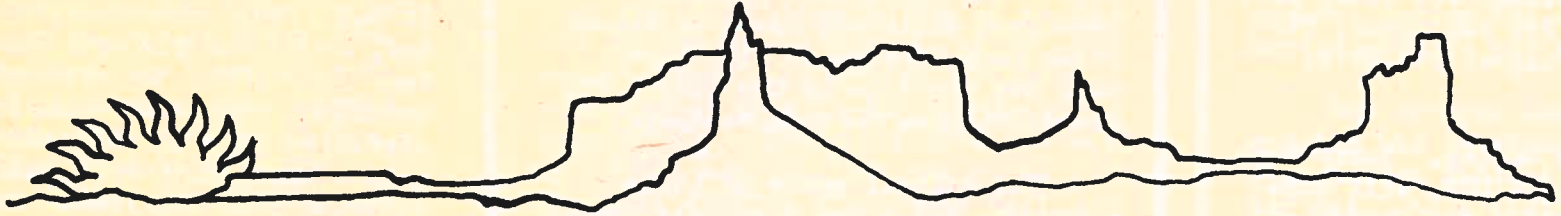


# The Rio Grande SIERRAN



THE RIO GRANDE CHAPTER OF THE SIERRA CLUB

JUNE-JULY 1981

## THE CLEAN AIR ACT

ACT NOW OR FOREVER HOLD YOUR BREATH

The Reagan team is preparing its proposals for rewriting this law which has been so instrumental in protecting the well being of those of us who breathe. Mr. James Watt chairs the Clean Air Act Working Group which will set the tone of the Reagan bill!

In the meantime, conservative congressmen have, with industry's blessings, unveiled their desires to rewrite the Clean Air Act. Their bill, HR 3741, was introduced by James Broyhill. It has already been cosponsored by many members on the Health & Environment subcommittee.

The Broyhill bill contains many of the worst provisions of Reagan's proposals and contains important weakening changes in the Act.

Both the administration and Broyhill bills would largely eliminate enforceability from the Clean Air Act. Both Broyhill and Reagan propose to extend or to eliminate deadlines for the implementation of air quality standards. These compliance deadlines are extremely important; they serve as a crucial enforcement tool by which legal action can be initiated. Furthermore, both plans would make EPA penalties and civil action against violators weak or discretionary. Sanctions against noncomplying states would be eliminated as well.

Among the other programs which would likely be eliminated by the Broyhill and the Reagan plans would be inspection/maintenance (I/M for autos, needed to keep pollution controls working properly. Automobiles remain the largest source of air pollution in Albuquerque, and experience in several cities has shown that significant reductions

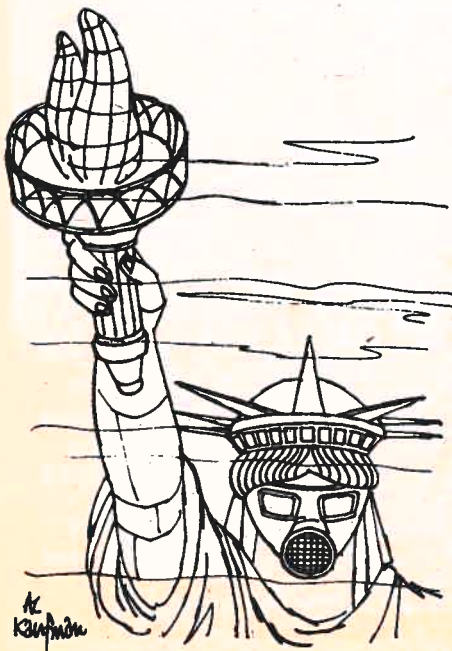
in pollution can be achieved through proper maintenance of auto emission control systems. At the same time that Reagan would eliminate the I/M program, he would roll back emission limits for automobiles which are already being met by all new cars in California and many of the new cars being sold nationwide.

The vast majority of New Mexico has air cleaner than the national air quality standards require. The program for the prevention of significant deterioration (PSD) keeps the air in New Mexico from being degraded to the levels found in our major cities. It helps protect the 70-100 mile visibility on which our lifestyles depend, and it prevents economic dislocation by reducing the temptation for industries to move away from developed areas to avoid pollution control requirements. Finally, the PSD program has been an extremely effective mechanism by which to encourage industries to develop better and more efficient pollution control technology. Broyhill and Reagan would repeal all meaningful protection for clean air areas, and would legally permit air quality in New Mexico to degrade to a point where visibility would be less than 15 miles.

Reagan and Broyhill both propose that new coal-fired power plants burning low sulfur coal, such as that found in New Mexico, not be required to use scrubbers to control the release of sulfur dioxide as much as possible. In addition, the administration would indefinitely postpone the sulfur dioxide compliance deadline for the copper industry. The copper industry, an important economic presence in New Mexico, has already been given special consideration in the 1977 Act in the form of a ten year extension of the SO<sub>2</sub> emission reduction deadline. We are fortunate in New Mexico that the Phelps-Dodge smelter is new and relatively clean. Further, Kennecott plans to modernize and cleanup its Hurley operations in

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# OUTINGS

## ALBUQUERQUE

Sept. 12-13

Pitaca Pinta Wilderness Study Area outing. Call Jay Patterson, 243-7927, or Jon Teague, 266-4875, for details.

Sept. 19-20

Bisti Badlands Outing. Barry Kues, paleontologist at UNM, will show us around. Call Kathy Chaney at 296-4320 or 345-8886.

Edbudito Trail - For information on what maintenance will be done, call either Nick Nicolaus at 268-2040 or Mike Jackson at 266-4909. John Southwick, local volunteer coordinator for the Forest Service praised Sierra Club very highly for all the good work on this trail. Our thanks to all of you who have gone out to work on it.

## SANTA FE

Sept. 5-7

Maurice Dixon, 983-1096 will lead a backpack along the continental divide, northern N.M. & southern Colorado area.

Sept. 6

Nobert Sperlich, 983-1962, will lead a strenuous hike to Pecos Baldy

Sept. 13

Betsy Fuller, 983-8870, will lead a strenuous hike somewhere

Oct. 10-12

Columbus Day Weekend - Betsy Fuller, will lead a backpack to the Black Range

Also: check for special native plant/geology during the month of September.

# TRIP REPORTS

Imagine sitting around a campfire at Mora Flats in the Pecos and having a chef ask you, "How would you like your filet mignon cooked, sir?" You sip a 1977 Cabernet Sauvignon while the taste of French onion soup lingers on your lips. Such was the fare on the July 4 Rio Grande Chapter Gourmet Backpack.

The initial group of Linda Arbagast, Pat & Tom Brasfield, Susan, Bill and Reagan White, Barbara Massey, Pam Belan, Gene & Bruce Bullock, and Esther & Rollin Wickenden met at the Pecos Ranger Station for breakfast. We then drop up to Iron Gate campground to meet the rest of the crew: Kathy Chaney, her daughter Rachel, Darrel Hicks, Pat Rogers, and Jennie Cracco. Our "sherpas" were Ginger & Guy Miller (the newlyweds), and Rani and Jon Teague. Jon was most helpful carrying the wine supply!

Darrel not only led the group in to Mora Flats, but gave us a botany lesson on the way. After a trail lunch of brisket sandwiches and avocados, we hiked down to Mora Flats. While Darrel led a day hike up El Rito de las Esteros, the cooks and helpers set up camp, collected firewood and set some wine bottles to chill in the Rio Mora.

Bartender Bill White popped the first cork on the French Colombard and Happy Hour began. We settled down to onion soup with croutons, fresh garden salad, filet mignon, wild rice, corn on the cob and stawberry shortcake!

The trip was a real success. I appreciate everyone's willingness to help, especially the sherpas!

Rollin Wickenden

On Saturday, June 13, seven members of the Albuquerque Group visited the LaDron Mountains, located West of the Rio Grande between Albuquerque and Socorro. It was a hot, cloudless, beautiful day, with only a slight haze (from Four Corners?). We climbed and scrambled four miles with 2600 ft. elevation gain to the summit of LaDron Peak (9176 ft.), and were rewarded with excellent views of the proposed BLM wilderness study area. Fleeing suffocation by billions of gnats on top, we had lunch on the rocks in the scree chute used for the ascent.

Derek Wallentinsen

# RECYCLE

One-third of the total of disposed waste in this country is containers and packaging. Beverage containers are a major problem in themselves as more throw-away" containers are used each day. Convenience typifies our consumer and corporate buying practices. Not only are we throwing away money, minerals and energy in the form of these containers, but it is costing our cities large sums of tax money to dispose of this waste. Our 48 largest cities spend approximately one-half of their budget on solid waste management alone. About 80% of the cost of processing post-consumer solid waste is accounted for in their collection and transport to disposal sites. Even an effective means of disposing of this waste is expensive, and the long-term environmental impact of many methods can only be predicted.

There is an answer to this problem - recycling. Recycling reduces the problems of disposal faced by many cities, helps save energy, protects natural resources and helps redevelop our cities. If recycling were increased by 50% in the steel industry, more energy would be saved than is generated by seven nuclear power plants. A tripling of recycling in the paper industry would save the same amount of energy. Total energy saved by these two actions would be equivalent to 500,000 barrels of oil a day. Comparable energy savings could also be attained by increased recycling of other solid waste such as aluminum, glass, and plastic. Yet we, as a nation, seem committed to other ways of disposing of our garbage and satisfyin our energy needs.

We would like to get a recycling drive going in Albuquerque. Anyone interested in becoming an area coordinator, please call Dixie Jackson at 266-4909.



Albuquerque Group Members  
in the LaDrons

## FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

Environmental activism is buzzing in New Mexico these days! Some of us just got back from a weekend meeting of the Southwest Regional Conservation Committee of the Sierra Club. It was held at the beautiful Vallecito Ranch in northern New Mexico as guests of Harvey Mudd. New Mexicans Ron and Kay Grotbeck and family, Rafael Harpaz, Dave Glowka, Marilyn Price, Betsy Barnett, Ken Ferguson, Roz McClellan, Brant Calkin, Rob Smith, Jary Weller and family and Bob and I met with Sierra Clubbers from our 4-State Region and a few guests from California, Washington, D.C., and Wyoming. Doug Scott, Sierra Club Director of National Affairs, came to inspire us and give us the latest news on the Club's national campaigns.

We discussed Clean Air Act strategy. You can help by sending letters to your Senators and Congressmen assuring them of your desire for clean air protection and that you do not want the Clean Air Act weakened. You received in the mail the Club's "Breathers' Manifesto" -- our 11 point response to the Reagan Administration "principles" for clean air. Ask civic, social, academic, religious, or professional organizations to adopt it by Sept. 8. If we get enough such endorsements they will be powerful tools for our lobbyists in Washington.

Rafael Harpaz of Albuquerque went to Washington to lobby for the Clean Air Act for two weeks this summer. We'll be sending other people this fall. If you can donate towards those air fares we would be very grateful. Please send donations to the Sierra Club, 1709 Paseo de Peralta, Santa Fe 87501.

Important things are happening with respect to the Hayakawa Anti-Wilderness bill in the Senate. If you haven't written to Senator Domenici yet please do immediately.

Our Chapter now has over 2000 members! This is a 23% increase since Sept. 1980. Welcome, all you new folks! Clip the membership Contest coupon and ask a friend to join! As the slogan goes, "Everybody loves a winner!" and our Chapter could be a big winner if each of you brought in one new member.

Our members have been meeting with Congressmen this month. Albuquerque Group people have asked for an appointment with Watt when he comes to town next month.

We now have over 700,000 signatures on the Watt Petition and expect to have a million within the month. Scott's impression is that the petition drive is already having some effect. (Have you thought about the fact that a million is one of every 230 people in the U.S.?) If you are holding partially-filled petitions please send them to San Francisco immediately. The petition drive will continue, but the Club has plans for that first million this fall.

Our Chaco Canyon/Bisti Task Force led by Dave Glowka is getting mad that their input to BLM is falling on deaf ears. They're gearing up to go to battle to save the wilderness areas in the San Juan Basin. The October issue of Sunset Magazine will have a major Bisti article. Look for upcoming Bisti outings this fall elsewhere in this issue.

BLM Wilderness needs your attention. There are outings scheduled for September, and watch for an announcement about a BLM Wilderness Workshop later this fall.

The Forest Service is talking about oil and gas leasing in the Capitan Wilderness!

Like I said -- things are buzzing. If you'd like to learn more and become part of the action attend your local Sierra Club meetings and/or attend the Chapter meeting Sept. 19 and 20 near Cloudcroft. Call me or your Group Chairman for details.

But also be assured that your letters to Congress are vital to our success. Doug Scott stressed that over and over last weekend. Letters from home to Congressmen and Senators help increase the effectiveness of our Washington lobbyists tremendously.

Phyllenore Howard  
Chapter Chairman

## MR. LUJAN

On August 13, Representative Manuel Lujan met with representatives of the Rio Grande Chapter, Albuquerque Group and Santa Fe Group. Mr. Lujan met with Sierra Club members at their request during the congressional recess when he was in Albuquerque.

The primary purpose of the meeting was to discuss the current legislation pending on the Clean Air Act. As a resident of New Mexico, Mr. Lujan was sympathetic to the idea of keeping our air clean. He admitted, however, that only congressmen from this part of the country understand the fact that we have 100 mile visibility, and that probably regulations which allow us to enjoy such clear skies would be loosened.

Also currently in the legislature is the Hayakawa anti-wilderness bill. Although Mr. Lujan is a cosponsor of this bill, he said he could not support it, that in fact, he had agreed to cosponsor it before he had thoroughly read it.

On the subject of Mr. Watt, Mr. Lujan supported the Secretary of the Interior, suggesting that possibly bad press was the reason for Mr. Watt's poor image.

Mr. Lujan requested comments from Sierra Club members in two areas: (1) nuclear energy, and (2), the purchase of public lands for parks vs. the maintenance of existing parks. In the area of nuclear energy, most members expressed their concern over the still incomplete knowledge in the area and suggested that further study was still needed. On the subject of land acquisition for parks, it appeared to Sierra Club members that there was not money for either purchase or maintenance of existing parks, and that some action was needed.

## MORAL SUPPORT

Sierra Club Lobbyist Brock Evans recently wrote an article entitled, "We Must Fight Back" for the Sierra Club Council publication. In it were five basic principles which may give you some moral support and encourage you to act:

1. Don't be afraid.
2. Persevere, never quit.
3. Listen to the other side and learn from them.
4. Reach out for new opportunities.
5. The rewards are there.



Win a National Sierra Club outing for two.

Lots of individual prizes. A \$3.00 rebate to your Chapter for each new membership.

For details, see the May/June issue of *Sierra*.

**Sierra Club  
Chapter Membership  
Contest**

**Washington Update**

The National Clean Air Coalition and the Sierra Club have not been sitting still as the legislative environment gets polluted. Recently they stated a Clean Air Act lobbying blitz. About 25 folks from around the country converged on capitol hill to forcefully launch our response to the heavy industry lobbying which has been taking place over the past months. Brant Calkin, Nina Dougherty and I went along to represent the Southwest region of the Sierra Club. In an extremely productive two week period, each member of Congress was approached and presented with a comprehensive, organized position paper. We exchanged views and concerns about the Clean Air Act, and asked about the extent of correspondence from constituents and from industry.

**WE NEED AN IMMEDIATE GRASSROOTS RESPONSE OPPOSING THE BAD FEATURES OF THE REAGAN AND BROYHILL PROPOSALS!**

To add a little drama to our efforts, Rep. William Dannemeyer introduced an amendment to the EPA appropriation bill would have eliminated funding for the implementation of auto inspection-maintenance programs around the country. The intent of this amendment was to short circuit the careful congressional committee debate process by which the Clean Air Act will be comprehensively considered. We approached as many House members as possible in the hours before the bill reached the floor, and in an early but major victory, we surprised many observers and defeated the proposal by a vote of 184 to 177. Rep. Lujan voted with us and deserves our thanks.

Aside from seeing Congress in action, I learned just how important our letters from home really are. It was particularly revealing to see how our competent, politically savvy staff in Washington maps its lobbying and its grassroots strategies.

Raphael Harpaz

**The Law**

We are very fortunate to live in the United States, in a country that is governed by a democracy. Our representatives in congress are charged with the job of making the laws for the nation; it is OUR job to let them know our opinions and keep them as well informed of our opinions as we can. If we don't respond, decisions will be based on our INACTION. We need to voice constructive criticism or objection to proposals we don't agree with AND offer support and encouragement when it happens that we support a given issue.

Public input to congress is extremely important ALL THE TIME. We know how difficult it is under ideal circumstances to be heard, and so we need to overcompensate. Our representatives need to know that we are aware and concerned citizens, and they are interested in keeping our votes. We need to saturate every communication resource available to us; that means personal letters, newspapers, radio, TV, and personal visits when they can be arranged. Our lobbying effort must be so efficient that no congressman will ever have any doubt about the position of the Sierra Club. Our congressmen should never want for information on any environmental issue; it should be at his finger tips.

Unfortunately, there are many organized lobbies supported by industry that allow our adversaries to be on the spot in Washington all the time to do nothing but lobby. WE NEED HELP FROM YOU. Keep in mind that you CAN influence decisions and try to express your opinions often. Help your Group in whatever way you can to get the message to the people who are making the law.

**Low Impact People**

One of the most sensible (and amusing) articles I have read recently was written by an architect; it has to do with maintaining his lifestyle in his house. It happened he built a solar house in the resort town of Cape Cod, Mass., and while he was warned by local inhabitants that he would be overwhelmed with visitors during the summer, he didn't believe it until it happened.

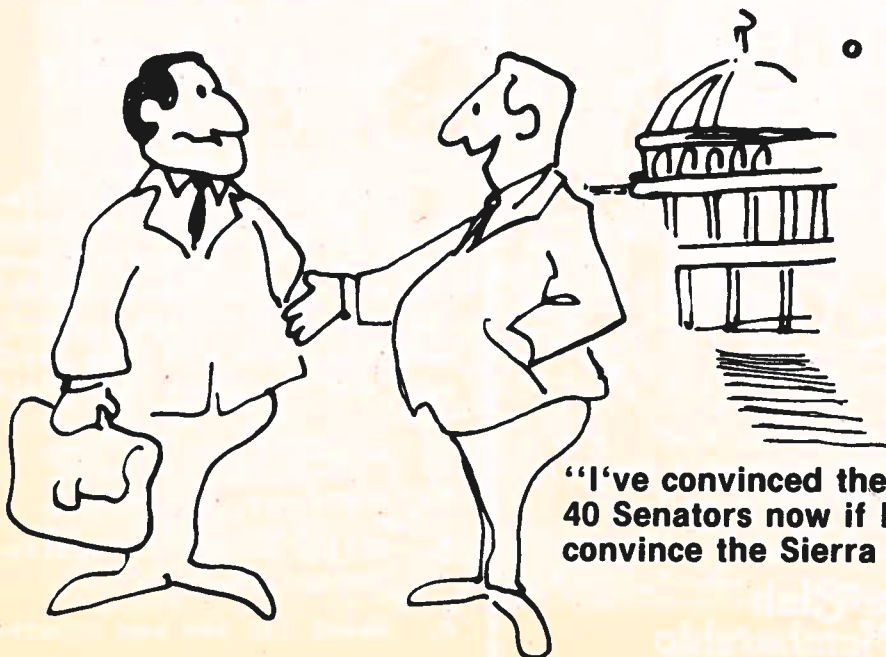
As new guests arrived, he would try to set forth the "rules" of the house. Some guests were amused, some were offended; not many paid attention. So, he produced a pamphlet to hand out to people staying at his house. Simple. It was impersonal (didn't offend anyone), and it was in writing and easy to use for reference. It didn't embarrass or confront anyone, it simply stated how his house worked, or didn't work, as the case may be.

His pamphlet dealt with all the basics of living; running the water (hot and cold) for baths and flushing toilets, energy consumption for such items as clothes dryers, dishwashers, and hair dryers (easy - don't use them!), dressing properly to be comfortable without using energy to regulate temperatures, what to do with the trash, etc.

Hopefully, not many of us are in the same position as this architect. Generally, we live with the same people for long period of time and everyone will be familiar with the house rules...or will they? How long has it been since you took stock of your personal lifestyle? Creatures of habit that we are, we become accustomed to and take for granted all the things that make our lives more pleasant and/or easier. One time luxuries become essentials, we become unaware of how spoiled we've become, and we lose touch with ourselves.

There is pleasure to be had doing things for yourself and knowing how to survive without depending on seeming endless resource consumption. Think about how you are living and enjoy yourself to the fullest - but not at the expense of the environment.

**BE A LOW IMPACT PERSON - ON THE ENVIRONMENT, THAT IS.**



I want to thank all those who have contributed articles to this issue of the SIERRAN and would like to again solicit help from all of you for the next issue. The deadline for articles will be Oct. 1. All contributions should be sent to me: Barbara Davis, P. O. Box 739, Sandia Park, NM, 87047, phone 505-281-1248. Thanks.

## ANTI-WILDERNESS

In 1964, the National Wilderness System was established "to secure for the American people of present and future generations the benefits of an enduring resource of wilderness." The Act establishing the system required the President to present, within ten years, recommendations to Congress on the suitability of designation as wilderness all land in the national forests classified at that time as "primitive." After many years of study, and one false start, the RARE (Roadless Area Review & Evaluation) II program was completed in January of 1979. In conjunction with RARE II, the Forest Service studied over 62 million acres of land to determine its suitability for wilderness designation. After receiving input from the general public, the lumber industry, mining industry, and conservation groups, the Forest Service made its final recommendations: 36,151,558 acres (59%) were designated nonwilderness; 10,796,503 (18%) were allocated for further planning; and 15,088,834 (23%) were recommended for wilderness designation.

Bills now being considered in the House and Senate threaten to undermine the compromises worked out over the years of study and public input under RARE II. Senate Bill S842, authored by Senators Hayakawa and Helms, would set arbitrary deadlines under which the RARE II wilderness areas would have to be designated by Act of Congress. For example, under this Act, any lands recommended for wilderness, but not placed into the National Wilderness Preservation System by January 1, 1985, would "no longer be recommended for wilderness," and would revert to nonwilderness status. Thus, delaying tactics by a small minority of Senators or Congressmen could undermine the entire RARE II program, which was contemplated by the Wilderness Preservation Act of 1964.

It should be emphasized that this bill is completely one-sided in that it rubberstamps and endorses the RARE II recommendations for land development (nonwilderness areas), but it does not designate a single acre of land as wilderness. In addition, the bill would prohibit the Forest Service from ever again considering wilderness as a possible land management option.

In the House, a nearly identical bill has been introduced. It is HR 4047 by Reps. Jerry Huckaby, Don Young, and a handful of other cosponsors. Both Representative Lujan and Representative Skeen have agreed to cosponsor this bill.

Interested persons should write to our representatives and urge them to withdraw their sponsorship. Senators Domenici and Schmitt should also be written and urged to oppose S 842.

In your letters:

1. Oppose release language - the timber industry seeks to bar permanently reconsideration of wilderness as an option for roadless areas in future National Forest planning.
2. Oppose any nationwide bill - only the state-by-state approach allows review of merits of each roadless area.
3. Oppose deadlines for approval of proposed wilderness. If Congress did not approve these areas by 1985, roadless lands would automatically be open for development.

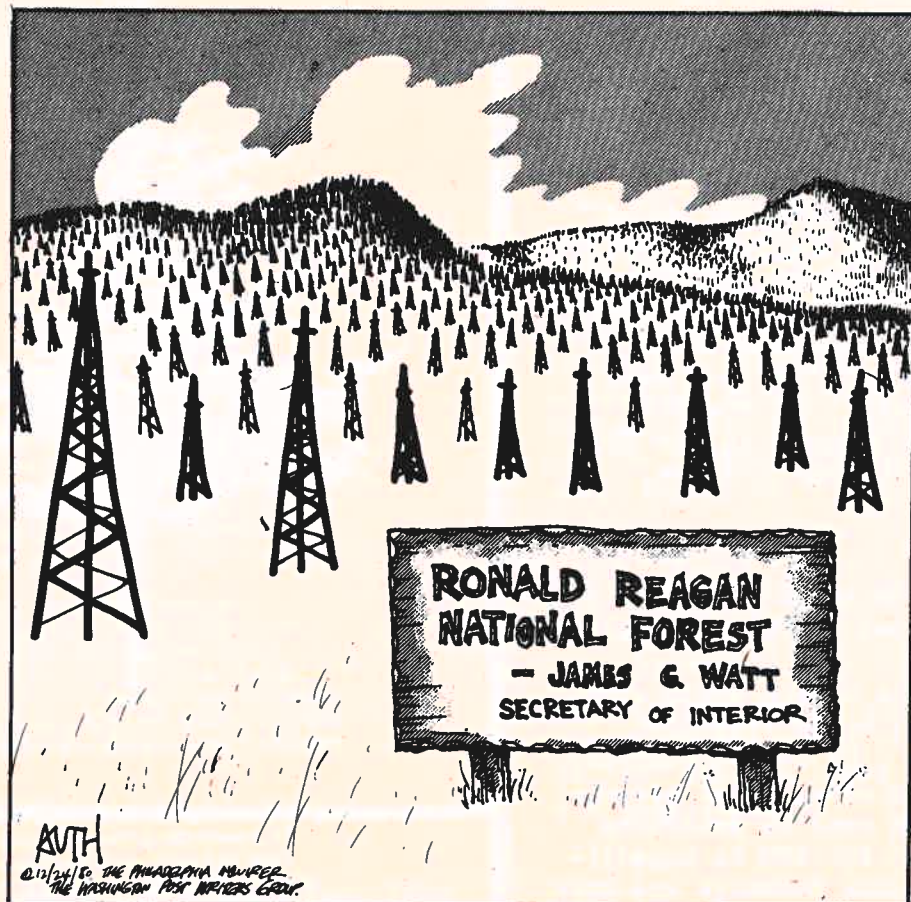
Members interested in further details on this issue should contact Ken Ferguson in Albuquerque at 505-268-0398.

### EL MALPAIS WILDERNESS HEARING

BLM has announced public hearings on their proposed El Malpais Wilderness proposal. They are September 29 at the Holiday Inn in Grants, and September 30 at the Albuquerque Convention Center (Navajo/Nambe Rm) Both are at 7:00 pm. The purpose of the hearings is to receive oral and written testimony on the contents of the draft Environmental Impact Statement and Wilderness Study Report. You may obtain a copy by writing BLM, P.O. Box 1219, Socorro, NM 87801. Please call Phyllenore Howard, 268-8185, if you are familiar with this area.

### SIERRA LADRONES TASK FORCE

Anyone who went on the Albuquerque Group trip to the LaDrons may be interested in joining the wilderness task force being chaired by Jay Patterson. Call Jay at 243-7927 if you can help support wilderness designation for this area.



# CHACO-BISTI UPDATE

As predicted, the three documents recently released by the BLM are totally inadequate in their assessments of the environmental impacts of energy development in the San Juan Basin.

## Ute Mountain Land Exchange Environmental Assessment (EA)

This document discusses only the impacts of PNM and the BLM trading titles to the land involved in the proposed exchange. It does not address the impacts of the development proposed for the public lands which PNM would acquire, even though the EA acknowledges from the outset that PNM proposes to build a large coal-fired power plant and a town site of 2,000 to 20,000 people. Since the environmental impacts of trading pieces of paper are not significant, the EA is, accordingly, a worthless document. Due to its basic flaws, it is hard to evaluate specific inadequacies of the EA; however, some of the major objections to the proposed exchange are:

1. The proposed development would cause significant impacts on wilderness, recreation, wildlife, grazing, paleontological resources, archeological resources, air quality, underground aquifers, and the social well-being of local residents. How can the BLM possibly justify its position of not addressing these impacts, when the Ute Mt. Exchange will be the major vehicle for causing them?
2. The Federal Land Policy & Management Act (FLPMA) states that public lands shall be retained in federal ownership unless it is determined that an exchange would be in the national interest. Since the need for New Mexico Generating Station (NMGS) has not been demonstrated, no determination of "national interest" has been made for this exchange. Yet the BLM seems intent on completing the deal in apparent violation of FLPMA.
3. Nearly 7,000 acres of public land would be conveyed to PNM to simply "enlarge (their) land and water holdings." This action would eliminate the total known livestock operations for nine Navajo ranchers who live in the area. What assumptions have been used to determine that the "need" for PNM to consolidate their grazing holdings are more important than the need for the traditional users of the land to retain federal grazing permits in order to maintain their livelihoods?
4. PNM would retain mineral and water rights at Ute Mt. and would be allowed to explore for minerals there, even if the BLM otherwise managed Ute Mt. as a primitive or wilderness area.

5. Due to the lack of data which exists on cultural (archeological) resources, the BLM has committed itself to no specific mitigation plans. It appears that these precious public resources would simply pass into corporate ownership.

## Environmental Assessment for Preference Right Leasing

The major problem with this document is that it does not adequately address the environmental impacts of granting leases to Preference Right Lease Application (PRLAO) holders. Instead, it defers the gathering of data and the assessment of these huge impacts to the mine plan state, which is not necessarily subject to public scrutiny. In the meantime, however, the BLM will apparently make its decisions on leasing and lease stipulation based on this inadequate EA.

A more rational and, perhaps, legal approach for the BLM to take would be to defer the leasing until after the completion of the Regional Coal Leasing EIS, scheduled for 1983. This EIS will be addressing the impacts of further leasing in the



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San Juan Basin above and beyond the PRLA's. It will be developing data which apply to the PRLA areas as well. Without this data, the BLM simply does not have the knowledge required to attach to PRLA leases adequate stipulations to protect the environment and precious resources other than coal.

## Management Framework Planning (MFP) Update

Land use planning in the San Juan Basin is currently underway. Major land use decisions are being made by the New Mexico State Director and the Albuquerque District Manager of the BLM. These decisions will be based upon the Chaco/San Juan MFP Update and public response to this document.

We found upon reading the MFP Update that land use recommendations are far too industry-oriented. On very small areas are recommended to be considered unsuitable for coal leasing, as the BLM is leaning toward adopting a policy of making as much land as possible available for leasing. This would be a very ill-considered decision, because adequate studies have not been completed to quantify the water resource or determine the effects of mining on this and other resources.

Furthermore, the recommendations of environmentalists developed at the BLM Albuquerque Workshop were entirely ignored. Although the MFP update acknowledged most of these recommendations, no analysis of them were made, and they had no apparent effect on any of the MFP's land use recommendations.

Unfortunately, the short comment periods for these documents have expired. The Sierra Club did file extensive comments. If you would like more information, contact Dave Glowka at 281-1488. (Also, call or write the BLM Albuquerque District Office anyway. Pressure never hurts!)

## BOOKS

Sierra Club books and 1982 Sierra Club calendars are available through all groups in the Rio Grande Chapter. All of you are familiar with the high quality of these publications. They make excellent gifts and, of course, you'll want to treat yourself to at least a couple also.

Keep in mind that your local group treasury keeps the profit from these sales. (That's not the case if you purchase through a book store.) Plan to do your buying through your group - it helps to support the group financially all year long.

# MR. WATT

The "Replace Watt" campaign by National Sierra Club continues to go well. The latest word from San Francisco is that approximately 700,000 signatures have been gathered to date! We appear to be nearing our goal of 1,000,000, so keep up the good work!

The drive to accumulate signatures will continue, but National would like to have those petitions that are completed or even partially completed so they can be counted. Get them in the mail as soon as you can. In addition to petitions, National is urging members to write to representatives and senators commenting on Mr. Watt and all he symbolizes.

Believe it or not, some people actually support Watt. The letter reprinted on this page from the American Plywood Association is an example of organized support FOR Mr. Watt. Hopefully, reading this letter will motivate you to gather more signatures and write more letters!

## CLEAN AIR (CONT'D.)

a joint project with Mitsubishi. There is, consequently no reason for our congressmen to support further extensions for the copper industry.

Finally, the administration would scrap a federally-based Clean Air Act which has achieved major documentable reductions in air pollution and return to a state controlled system that utterly failed to protect public health throughout the 1950's and 60's.

Rather than issue its own bill, the Reagan administration will work behind the scenes with Congress to weaken Clean Air legislation. This strategy is difficult to deal with, since criticism cannot be aimed directly at a specific bill.

EPA Administrator Anne Borsuch announced on August 5 eleven "principles" which will guide the administration as it works with members of Congress on the Clean Air Act. The statement was bland, but reiterated what we already knew about the Administration's objective:

- 1) Health Standards which do not contain a margin of safety to protect the elderly, young, and people with lung and heart disease;
- 2) Relaxation of auto emission standards for nitrogen oxides and carbon monoxide;
- 3) Elimination of protection for clean air regions such as ours where air quality is currently significantly better than national health standards;
- 4) Relaxation of Federal enforcement roles;
- 5) Remove requirement that all new power plants install control equipment to remove sulfur. This would have significant impact on visibility in our region, and might increase acid rain.

**YOUR LETTERS TO CONGRESS ARE NEEDED TODAY!**

Senator \_\_\_\_\_  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20010

Representative \_\_\_\_\_  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20015

We need to remind our Congressmen that the Clean Air Act has gone a long way in cleaning up our air over the last decade. It has been saving lives annually. The lack of detrimental economic impact has been repeatedly confirmed by various government and academic studies. Perhaps more importantly, the Clean Air Act remains immensely popular among Americans. In a Harris poll released last June, 86% of the American people wanted the Clean Air Act kept strong or strengthened further.

Call Rafael Harpaz at 265-0956 or the Clean Air Coalition at 265-0732 to get the current scoop on the clean air legislation.



Bronson J. Lewis  
Executive Vice President

May 12, 1981

President Ronald Reagan  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Reagan:

It has come to our attention that environmental organizations are sponsoring petitions and promoting a vehement media campaign urging that Interior Secretary James Watt be removed from office.

On behalf of plywood producers nationwide, the American Plywood Association affirms its strong support for Secretary Watt as a dedicated public servant committed to fair multiple-use management of public lands.

Mr. President, the resounding public mandate your Administration, received in November included nationwide recognition of the urgent need to correct policies of the previous Administration and Congress which sacrificed multiple-use management to the overzealous creation of single-use wilderness. The abandonment of multiple-use principles has severely impacted the consumer by reducing the supply of timber and other essential materials, leading to runaway inflation at rates exceeding in some instances that of OPEC oil.

Mr. Watt and the other public servants nominated by you in agencies concerned with land management have no intention of altering the status of existing wilderness -- or of "destroying the environment," as has been suggested. Their goal is to better serve the American public by assuring the more intensive development, subject to appropriate environmental safeguards, of lands other than wilderness.

We ask that Mr. Watt and the professionals he directs be allowed the same chance to put their multiple-use plans into action as preservationist militants were given to pursue opposite goals in the Carter Administration.

Sincerely,

# Everybody Loves A Winner!

The Sierra Club Chapter Membership Contest . . . a little friendly competition, with everyone a winner.

Our Chapter is a winner. For every new membership recruited during the contest, our chapter gets a special \$3.00 rebate. And you know we need the money.

You can win. Recruit five new members and get a free Sierra Club Calendar; 10, a "silver" Sierra Club pin; 15, a "gold" Sierra Club pin; 20, a personalized Sierra Club Cup.

The Grand Prize for recruiting the most memberships during this Contest? A national Sierra Outing for two.

The Sierra Club is a winner. Each new membership means a stronger, more effective Sierra Club.

And most of all . . . the earth is a winner. Perhaps never before have the challenges to wilderness, clean air and water, and a healthy, livable environment been so great. We'll continue to win those battles . . . but we sure could use some help.

Use the special membership form below. Additional forms are available from your Chapter Membership Chair and are in the May/June issue of *Sierra*. Contest ends September 30, 1981.

## CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP CONTEST FORM

YES, I want to join! Please enter a membership in the category checked below:

New Member Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

So that we may know who has recruited this new member, please enter the following information. This will qualify you for prizes and your chapter for the \$3.00 rebate.

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Number \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

GIFT MEMBERSHIPS will be announced by a special gift card in your name.

Check here if you would like to be billed for renewal of this gift membership next year.

### MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

	Individual Dues	Joint	LIFE MEMBERSHIP	
Regular	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$29	Per Person	<input type="checkbox"/> \$750
Supporting	<input type="checkbox"/> 40	<input type="checkbox"/> 44	Spouse of Life Member	<input type="checkbox"/> 12
Contributing	<input type="checkbox"/> 100	<input type="checkbox"/> 104	(annual dues)	
Senior	<input type="checkbox"/> 12	<input type="checkbox"/> 16	All dues include subscription to <i>Sierra</i>	
Student	<input type="checkbox"/> 12	<input type="checkbox"/> 16	(3.00) and chapter publications (1.00)	
Junior	<input type="checkbox"/> 12			

Mail To: **Sierra Club**

DEPARTMENT H-801  
P. O. BOX 7959  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94120

**Contest Ends 9/30/81**

## Tell Somebody about the Sierra Club

### RIO GRANDE CHAPTER DIRECTORY

#### CHAPTER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

##### Chairman

Phyllenore Howard  
1522 Stanford N.E.  
Albuquerque, NM 87106

##### Vice Chairman

Jim Owen  
9905 Cork  
El Paso, TX 79925  
915-598-9332

##### Council Delegate

Ken Adam  
416 Apodaca Hill  
Santa Fe, NM 87501  
505-983-1949

##### Patty Adam

419 Apodaca Hill  
Santa Fe, NM 87501  
505-983-1949

##### Jim Stewart

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Albuquerque, NM 87105  
505-831-1941

##### Rollin Wickenden

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##### John Tiwald

4701 Burton SE  
Albuquerque, NM 87108  
505-266-4822

##### Mary Lou Williams

Rt. 5, Box 114D  
Santa Fe, NM 87501  
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### EL PASO REGIONAL GROUP OFFICERS

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8704 Catalpa Lane  
El Paso, TX 79925  
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James Owen  
9905 Cork  
El Paso, TX 79925

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Kathy Morrison  
Box 767  
El Paso, TX 79905

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Gilbert Vallari  
915-584-7567

### SANTA FE GROUP OFFICERS

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Spencer Shannon, Jr.  
P. o. Box 1251  
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Wesley Horner  
P. O. Box 110  
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505-983-1824

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#### Treasurer

Judy Bishop  
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1415 Phoenix NW  
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#### Treasurer

Barbara Davis  
P. O. Box 739  
Sandia Park, NM 87047  
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### SOUTHWESTERN REGIONAL GROUP

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Box 3AF  
Las Cruces, NM 88003  
505-696-2934

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Las Cruces, NM 88001  
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