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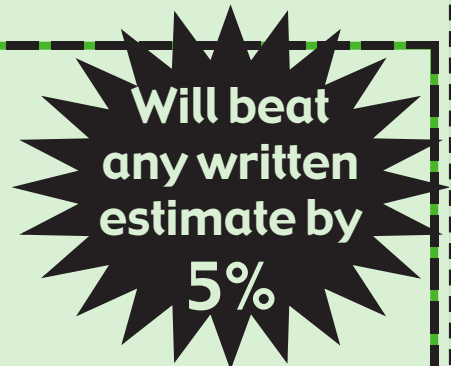
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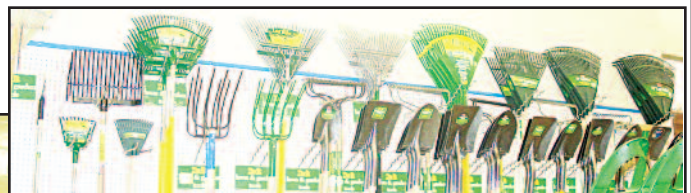


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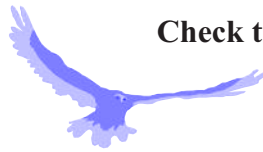
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Bull Elk in rut at
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Give It Back

Article and Photographs by Diane Bergstrom

At the tail end of the KGNU broadcast of the Conference on World Affairs session, *Getting Outside* with John Huston (polar explorer/teacher) and Mary Reynolds Thompson (writer/eco-coach), a caller noted we focus on taking rather than giving back to Nature and in any relationship both exist. An article topic is born. Over the years, my articles have outlined nature perks, park visitor alerts and recommendations, and wildlife watching tips to encourage readers to take advantage of the innumerable benefits of our Front Range backyard resource, Rocky Mountain National Park. So, not today. Today I change lanes and encourage you to follow. Today I recommend how you can give back. Harrison Ford said, "Nature doesn't need people—people need nature..." True. She'll survive without us. But our public lands need public support, and the power of public support shouldn't be underestimated. Three parcels close to Zion National Park in neighboring Utah, one of the most visited parks, were recently targeted for oil and gas drilling leases. After receiving 40,000 public comments including from local business owners and residents, the BLM decided against the lease. Closer to home, 27,500 public land acres in Grand County, seven miles from the western edge of RMNP and a quarter of a mile from the Colorado River, were up for leasing. In a county where Trump won with 52 percent of the vote, challenges to the auction were filed by the Grand County commissioners, The Wilderness Society, local dude ranch owners and others. Existing wells aren't productive while tourism is a huge economic driver in the area. The water quality effects would threaten wildlife, plants, ranching and tourism dependent on the Colorado River and its tributaries. The BLM withdrew the acreage from the auction. Now leases on Dinosaur National Monument are up for a December sale. Utah Republican Gov. Gary Herbert joined Monument Superintendent Mark Foust to ask the BLM to reconsider three of the parcels closest to the monument. The National Park Conservancy Association reported that in 2016, 330 million people visited National Park sites, generating \$35 billion in economic activity and supporting over 318,000 jobs. NPCA noted that improperly sited oil and gas leases put that economic engine at risk. Most

Americans love our wild places, want to retain economic sustainability, and support park preservation. Wilderness preservation is a non-partisan issue.

Before acting on the local level, let's look at changes on the macro level. While preservation is a non-partisan issue, protections are mutable. The Obama administration



instituted a BLM process named Planning 2.0 to gather more public input upfront. The Trump administration scrapped it. In the case of Bears Ears Monument, current Secretary of the Interior Zinke reduced the standard public comment period for proposed federal regulatory changes from 60 days to 15. The previous time to process a drilling application took approximately 257 days. Zinke has ordered response time to be reduced to 30 days and that lease sales be held quarterly. Trump and Zinke have issued orders, prioritizing drilling and expansion in federal lands and waters. Previous rules being rescinded include: the BLM's hydraulic fracturing (Continued next page.)

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Challenges are being mounted.

What can you do? Be aware of the organizations that support national parks and join them or contribute however you can, with time or money. The Public Lands Alliance creates non-profit partnerships with national public lands to assist with preservation, education, conservation and projects. The partners provide great financial and project assistance, tailored to individual park needs. Go to www.publiclandsalliance.org. Rocky Mountain National Park's partner is



outline; company requirements to follow procedures for environmental protection; and a 2016 rule limiting the harm caused by drilling in national parks. (Elizabeth Shogren, HCN) It is important to note that the gas and oil industry already has 8,000 leases, with permits, on public lands that have yet to be drilled, shelved in part by lower gas and oil prices. The differences are clearly evident over Bears Ears National Monument. A historic first, five North American tribes created the Bears Ears Inter-Tribal Coalition and worked with former Interior Secretary Sally Jewell, the Obama administration, tribal authorities, representatives from the Native American Rights Fund, and Utah stakeholders to designate the 1.35 million acres in southeast Utah as a national monument. They did it through a very open public process. Humans have been in the area 13,000 years and Ethan Branch, Attorney General for the Navajo Nation, commented, "We rely on these lands to heal and strengthen our people, and to pass on our beliefs and cultural practices to our next generation. In other words, to continue who we are as Navajo people." The land held sacred to five tribes, with over 100,000 archaeological sites, also has oil, gas, coal and uranium reserves. Zinke has recommended a reduction in acreage resulting in rescinding the portion's national monument designation, and Trump has ordered 27 out of 127 monuments be reviewed. No national monument has ever been un-designated, and this could set precedents for other national monuments including parks.

the Rocky Mountain Conservancy, www.rmconservancy.org, (970) 586-0108. Their expansive help includes funding the junior ranger program, offering field classes, conservation corps for college students, trail improvement corps, and buying adjacent lands to protect the park. The National Park Conservation Association, www.npca.org, is a true voice for national parks, and their mission is to protect and enhance the American Park System for present and future generations. They are a watchdog for park issues, such as underfunding, and environmental issues and protections, which they share and advise the public of grassroots engagement options.

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How can you help Rocky Mountain National Park? First, plan ahead when you plan a visit. They are understaffed due to budget freezes earlier this year so the more prepared you are, the better your experience will be. Go on the website to learn of latest conditions, free ranger talks, walks, programs, activities, and rules and regulations to make your visit more fun, interesting and safe. www.nps.gov/romo. This information is also in the park newspaper. Learn about the ongoing research in the park, such as climate change effects on the wildlife, plant life, streams and lakes, ultimately altering the ecosystems. Involve your kids in the Junior Ranger program (any age). Obtain free booklets from the Visitor Centers or ranger kiosks and help them with the activities and questions. They can get a badge after completing the booklet and presenting it to a ranger. Every 4th grader can get a free national pass for the whole family by going to www.everykidina-park.gov. Eight screens have a few simple questions (*don't get confused by the past tenses used in the questions—you don't have to visit the park before getting the pass*), print the final page and bring it to any fee entrance station to get the pass. This program was implemented by the former administration and I suggest you don't wait. In association with the Leave No Trace Foundation in Lyons, the Volunteer Office is offering drop-in volunteer opportunities of merely an hour of your time. Learn about the seven Leave No Trace principles while picking up trash. It's a great way to teach your kids how to contribute before or after a hike, or as I say, leave it better than you found it. The program runs through October 13th and the details are: Tuesdays, 9 am, Beaver Meadows Visitor Center; Thursdays, 9:30, Moraine Park Campground; Fridays, 10:30 am, Hidden Valley Ranch. You can receive a certificate and an appreciation gift from the rangers. The free shuttles run until October 9th. Go online to see the schedules and routes, or pick up a park newspaper. Taking shuttles reduces the congestion and pollution in the park while you get more viewing time.

More visitors enter the park in September than July, for the elk rut and changing flora colors. Knowing how to behave around elk will keep you safe and reduce the stress on the staff and volunteers who would rather share elk information with visitors than remind them they can't park on the tundra, leave their cars in the middle of the road, or approach the elk for selfies. Pay attention to the

meadow closure signs. The elk are most active at dawn and dusk but they also don't keep time. You don't want to walk into an area where bulls are fighting for their harems, no matter how much you want that photo. If wildlife changes their behavior because of your presence, by looking at you, ceasing grazing, or walking away, you are too close or too loud. Cut your engines, turn off your lights, and don't have



a false sense of security by standing on the asphalt or behind fences if elk are approaching. Barking dogs inside cars are still seen as threats to a bull elk whose testosterone is already elevated. Leave them at home or roll up the windows. The cows are also very protective of their calves. Give them space on the road too. Years ago, an effective ranger told two young men who didn't want to leave a meadow that the bull had two things on his mind, fighting and mating, so if they were insistent, they needed to be prepared to do one or the other. They backed off to a safe distance.

I usually close with the reminder to leave your dogs, drones and pot at home. (Marijuana is still illegal on federal lands in Colorado.) Today, I want to suggest you don't just go to the park, figure out how you want to give back. Every healthy relationship is a reciprocal one. Enjoy!



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Guardians Of The Rural West

By Maddy Butcher

If the universe wanted to challenge volunteer firefighters, it would arrange for a fire emergency right smack in the middle of a small town's annual festival, when fire crews are busy helping run the parade and other events.

In this case, lightning started a fire sometime between Saturday night and Sunday morning during Mancos Days, a July celebration in this town of 1,400 in southwestern Colorado. Five members of the 15-member Mancos Fire and Rescue crawled out of their beds and responded when the wildfire was reported at about 5:30 a.m. on Sunday, July 30.

As if to test their mettle, smoke was coming from a hard-to-reach cranny of a canyon, with steep terrain full of scrub oak, cedars and pine at an elevation of 7,800 feet. The blaze was also close to homes and less than a mile from the harsh remnants of the devastating Weber Fire, which burned 10,000 acres and caused dozens of evacuations five years ago.

Massive fires tend to dominate the headlines. But people often forget that even the biggest conflagration starts out as

a flicker, and that the first sighting is often responded to, not by helicopters and Hotshots, but by local volunteers with day jobs. Before sunup in Mancos that Sunday, the crew headed east up Highway 160 in three Type 6 brush trucks, specially outfitted pickup trucks loaded with 200 gallons of water and many yards of hose. They continued as far as they could on private gravel roads, and got closer in an all-terrain vehicle driven by a local resident. Then they bushwhacked for 30 minutes to get to the fire, according to Mancos Assistant Fire Chief Ray Aspromonte, who was on the crew. Aspromonte, who works in town as a diesel mechanic, was joined by Gene Smith, a machinist in a local lumber mill; Tavis Anderson, a welder for a local construction company; David Franks, a park ranger at Mesa Verde National Park; and Drew Simmons, a planner for neighboring LaPlata County.

Of the approximately 30,000 fire departments nationwide, nearly two-thirds are run solely by volunteers, according to a 2017 study by the National Fire Protection Association, a Massachusetts nonprofit established in 1896. In communities with populations under 2,500, more than 90 percent of the fire departments *(Continued on next page.)*

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are all-volunteer.

By about 8 a.m., at the site of the fire, the crew had felled a burning tree and dug a perimeter around it. The plan was to monitor the blaze. Lacking much water, they hoped that the tiny but volatile fire would sputter out from lack of fuel and lack of wind.

They'd carried in 15 gallons of water weighing 125 pounds, along with fire shelters, tools, first aid kits, and the chainsaw. They rested briefly before picking up hoes and Pulaskis to resume their work.

Most members of this crew are married, with children, and have been responding to calls for years. They are a busy bunch, attending training sessions every Monday and handling calls almost every day. Last year, they handled 340 calls within a district that spans about 200 square miles.

They were the first responders to the Weber Fire five years ago, and they stayed on it for 10 days. They responded to a nine-alarm fire at the Western Excelsior mill this spring and to a recent double-fatality caused by a motor vehicle accident. After a man and his son died on Highway 160, firefighter David Franks realized that the pair, along with the rest of their family, had been part of a tour he'd led earlier of the Cliff Palace at Mesa Verde.

As the sun climbed, the crew began dissecting the dead tree to locate its hottest segments. They split the wood and doused the embers with water. They extinguished any persistent flames and relayed information on their radios. Sometime after noon, they gathered their equipment and headed back to the trucks.

Meanwhile, at the Mancos Days festival, the Water Fights, an annual contest between local fire departments, were underway. Firefighting teams from the towns of Mancos, Dolores, Lewis-Arriola and Rico competed, and the Mancos women's team triumphed. Though there's only one woman in the fire department, other firefighters' wives joined her to complete the team. The men's team fell to Lewis-Arriola in the finals.

It's unlikely that many spectators knew about the volunteers who'd been up before dawn to fight a nearby fire. "I'm sure there are some who don't care," said Aspromonte, but "most people seem to think we do good."

Maddy Butcher is a contributor to Writers on the Range, the opinion service of High Country News (hcn.org).

She writes in Mancos, Colorado.

Editor's Note: Before the fire bans in Coal Creek Canyon, I smelled smoke from my back porch. I called my neighbor to see if she had her woodstove going (*chilly day, she did not*). Weeks later I found a rough campfire ring behind my home. Our local Fire Chief informed me I should have called 911 to **report Smell of Smoke** so they could have located the source with a canyon volunteer. It is advised whenever having a fire (*in a chiminea, etc.-not during burn bans*) to call and tell the local fire department.

Solar - A Homegrown Industry-Let's Keep It Growing

By Valerie Wedel

Protect our access to solar energy and job growth! Tell your congress people to support trade deals as written, so we can build many more great solar installations around our country! Keep 80,000+ Americans employed and more job growth coming! (See *Suniva Trade Deal at end of this article.*) But wait... some of you are asking what is solar energy all about? What's the big deal? Why do we want solar energy anyway?

Solar energy has traveled quite a distance since the far days of yester yore (1979), when President Jimmie Carter installed 39 solar panels on the White House.

During this time there was an infamous Arab oil embargo. This caused a national energy crisis in the United States. At that time we were largely dependent on foreign oil. With some justification, Arab oil exporters were feeling exploited, and chose to unify and embargo the west, in order to win what they considered fairer business contracts. President Carter called for a campaign to conserve energy. Solar panels were installed on the White House as a demonstration of renewable energy.

President Carter made the following prediction: "...a generation from now, this solar heater... can be ... part of one of the greatest and most exciting adventures ever undertaken by the American people; harnessing the power of the sun to enrich our lives..."(1)

This writer remembers the 1970's, and even the 1960's. In those days gas cost – wait for this - about 35 cents per gallon. Many parts of our country had already crippled their train systems, and we were becoming a car culture. American cars were heavy and large, made of Detroit steel. They got terrible mileage, sometimes as low as 10 miles per gallon. No one really cared.

Also at this time, houses and other buildings were not particularly well insulated. Building codes for commercial spaces in those days called for greater air turnover per hour than we call for today. Some roofs were designed flat, and heat was actually designed to rise out through the roof in winter, so as to melt the snow off. And

then the oil embargo began.

Then, abruptly, the oil embargo was over. No more long lines waiting at gas stations. President Reagan entered the white House. All 39 solar panels were removed from the White House shortly after Reagan took office. (*Why that happened is a story for another day.*) During Reagan's presidency, the fledgling environmental movement in the United States stalled and sputtered.

What is solar energy used for today? I recently had the pleasure of sitting down with Blake Jones, founder of *Namaste Solar* in Boulder, to discuss solar energy. Namaste is a local, home grown business. Jones helped found this company "by accident" in 2004, shortly after returning from Kathmandu, Nepal, where he had been installing solar arrays for local communities. Namaste has grown since 2004 to include over 150 employees, distributed among offices in Boulder and Denver.

"There were no positive role models," said Jones of the founding days of the company. Namaste was always envisioned to be employee owned, with complete democracy and transparency. "We were told no one was doing this (business model) and it wouldn't work – but we believed... and it works!" The democratic business model is worth taking a close look at *(Continued next page.)*

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another day. It is about as common as solar energy arrays, and has as many positive qualities.

According to Jones, the United States stopped developing solar energy in the early 1980's, due to government research funds disappearing during Reagan's presidency. However, Japan and Germany both saw solar had a future and continued research. When the United States began to work with solar energy again, the technology had improved, thanks to that work in Germany and Japan.

Today the cost of installing a solar array on one's house or land to provide home grown electric power has actually decreased by 90% compared to costs from 2004, when Namaste was founded. This cost decrease is largely due to improvements in manufacturing and higher efficiency of the photovoltaic arrays.

"Solar has really gone mainstream," says Blake Jones. According to Jones, the homegrown - and growing - solar industry in this country relies on local American companies that design and install solar arrays for homes and businesses. The cost effectiveness of solar energy is demonstrated by several well-known businesses that are possibly going 100% solar, including FedEx, Costco, Wal-Mart, Ikea, Macy's and Apple. For these businesses the change to solar is about bottom line as well as the environment. They see solar as cost effective. Solar can

currently be cost effective for homeowners also, both in retrofits and in new construction.

Most of the solar photovoltaic arrays sold in this country are manufactured in China and Taiwan. Innovations in manufacturing from these two countries have allowed arrays to be priced significantly lower and thus to become cost effective for both homeowners and businesses in the United States. Our international trade agreements with these countries support our growing solar design and installation jobs and businesses all across our country. And this is where we can all help keep solar thriving, and more businesses and jobs growing in our country!

As this article goes to press two failing solar array manufacturers have filed a lawsuit with the International Trade Commission (ITC). One is Chinese, the other German; both have factories in the United States. Both have already received subsidies from our country but are still failing even though the solar industry is booming. These two foreign companies have filed a lawsuit with the ITC complaining that Chinese and Taiwan solar imports to the United States are hurting their business. This is a very strange situation since the two companies filing lawsuits are both foreign. If the ITC finds in favor of the plaintiffs, one outcome might be a tariff imposed on the Chinese and Taiwanese imports to the United States. Tariffs could raise

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the cost of solar arrays significantly and destroy the solar industry in our country. The local business and job growth presently going on around our country thanks to affordable solar arrays could be ended.

The name of the case is: **Section 201 Trade Case or Suniva Trade Case**. Politics makes strange bedfellows. In this instance, according to Blake Jones, the Koch brothers have aligned with environmentalists! Both want the imports of photovoltaic arrays to continue without tariffs or other sanctions.

The ITC is expected to finish research on the **Suniva Trade Case or Section 201 trade Case** by September 22, 2017. As Tony Clifford writes in his article linked here: "In summary, we have two bankrupt companies, neither of which is American-owned, leading the charge against the 38,000 American solar manufacturing workers and the total 260,000 workers in the U.S. solar industry." (2)

And Abby Hopper writes: "Let's be clear: the Section 201 trade case now under consideration at the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) is about jobs, plain and simple. If the petitioners get what they want, tens of thousands of American solar workers will lose their jobs." Hopper continues: "This case, filed with the ITC by two foreign-based solar companies, both deeply in debt, is a last-ditch effort at a bailout. It could halt tens of gigawatts of U.S. solar installations through 2022. But most importantly, it will cost 88,000 Americans their jobs."

Please contact your congress people. We can all help support solar energy in our country by contacting our legislators. Let your congress people know you support the solar industry in our country - keep trade deals as they are now, so American companies can continue designing and installing solar photovoltaic arrays on our homes and

businesses! The best protection of our American job growth in this industry is to keep the trade deals as they are.

Please see articles linked here for further reading on the Suniva Case, and also about solar panels on the White House.

References: (1) <https://www.thoughtco.com/history-of-white-house-solar-panels-3322255> (2)<http://www.renewableenergy-world.com/articles/2017/08/the-section-201-trade-case-suniva-s-tangled-web.html> (3)[https://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/read/how-two-bankrupt-companies-are-threatening-american-solar-jobs\(4\)file:///C:/Users/Val/AppData/Local/Temp/Suniva-Trade-Case-Membership-Factsheet_SEIA_6-15-2017-final.pdf](https://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/read/how-two-bankrupt-companies-are-threatening-american-solar-jobs(4)file:///C:/Users/Val/AppData/Local/Temp/Suniva-Trade-Case-Membership-Factsheet_SEIA_6-15-2017-final.pdf)
About the writer: She lives in Coal Creek Canyon and very much enjoys playing really old music on Celtic harp.

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Slow Down - You Drive Too Fast...

People often forget that driving is a privilege, not a right – and all too often they forget or conveniently ignore laws passed to protect them and others when they are driving. The big buzz these days is distracted driving by using a cell phone to talk or text, when all along distracted driving such as eating (*haven't we all been guilty of that*) or changing the music/radio station, etc., or letting your kids or other passengers distract us from the road? Anything can become a distraction that pulls your attention away from your complete concentration on keeping your vehicle, i.e. possible lethal weapon, where it should be and doing what you need it to do.

What I've witnessed for several years and just recently, are failures by drivers to pull to the side of the road for Emergency Vehicles or Law Enforcement with lights and sirens going. I don't understand why people don't slow down and move away whenever they see a vehicle on the side of the road: either pulled over by a State Patrol, or with vehicle troubles, or even taking pictures of wildlife. It has long been a problem in the canyons that bicyclists are 'in the way' riding side by side, and a hindrance to drivers because on the mountain



roads it is inconvenient to wait for a place to give the riders adequate room when passing them on a blind curve or oncoming traffic times it just right to be there as you try to pass. But guess what folks, by law they have a right to be there, just as pedestrians have the right of way so too do others that pay taxes and share the road isn't just a saying - it is the law.

I've been driving a long time so when I learned how to drive, defensiveness was tantamount to being the utmost priority. Now days I see more aggressive driving than defensive. Courtesy to other drivers is nearly a thing of the past, along with knowing what YIELD or MERGE really means and then following through with those directives. Continuous lanes as you turn right is so often ignored or misunderstood that the congestion of a right turn creates hazards. Left turns are so often done illegally I suppose law enforcement is forced to ignore that drivers just go for



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any lane into the road they are turning onto – when by law they are supposed to turn into the farthest left lane and put on a turn signal to get into a right lane after they turn.

I've said this before but it needs repeating:

TAILGATING IS ILLEGAL and dangerous. Unless you are preparing to pass in a legal passing zone, stay back one car length for each ten miles per hour you are traveling. The three-second rule is so bogus and impossible to compute, it might as well be deleted out of the driver's handbook. I know most folks tailgate for a multitude of reasons but NONE of them is worth someone's life. The conditioning of driving the four lanes of I-70 and I-25 make driver's afraid to follow the 'No Tailgating' laws because if they do everyone cuts in front of them, changing lanes with no turn signal – way too close and way too fast.

But on mountain canyon two lane roads there is no excuse for tailgating: none, zip, zero, nada. So few passing zones I agree and too often slow drivers ignore the ten vehicles behind them as they create a hazard by not pulling over to let other's driving the speed limit go by (which by law is illegal also, obstructing traffic). But who will die when an accident from tailgating occurs? Usually everyone gets hurt and even some collateral damage occurs to oncoming vehicles should they be in the way of the accident.

What is all too often a complete hazard and totally illegal are folks that speed on our bedroom community roads, arterial roads just off the State Highways. Speed limit signs are posted – usually 20 to 25 mph and homemade signs implore drivers to SLOW DOWN – children playing, Caution- Look for horses and riders, Hidden Driveways abound, and still drivers ignore all the signs just to get wherever they are going saving only a few moments – pedestrians or who/what be damned.

Forget about the wildlife, what do they matter anyway – until you hit a deer: it comes up onto your hood and smashes through your windshield to crush you to death.

Okay, okay too graphic? Well, so is being tended to by an EMT or living with the fact that your speeding vehicle took someone's life or put them in the hospital or a wheelchair for the rest of their lives. I see new resident's trying to walk their dogs on Copperdale Lane: dodging speeding little race car types coming down from Coal Creek Heights to get to Highway 72, or jumping into ditches as the County Dump Trucks, huge Garbage Trucks, massive EcoCycle trucks, UPS trucks, Fed/Ex trucks, dually diesel trucks – they all do it – plow trucks

too, drive illegally... well over the 20 mph posted and come close to killing any pedestrian or equestrian that ventures onto Copperdale Lane, Twin Spruce and Ranch Elsie Roads. It isn't long before the smarter ones give up and go somewhere else to walk the dog safely. *By A.M. Wilks*

(Photo of deer crossing Copperdale Lane, courtesy of Julie Jacoby.)

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Court Upholds Methane Rule~Gold Hill Gold Rush

This info was originally published by Mother Jones and is reproduced here as part of the Climate Desk collaboration.

A federal court just dealt a blow to the Trump administration’s ongoing efforts to roll back environmental regulations. On Monday, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit ruled that the Environmental Protection Agency must enforce an Obama-era rule which sets pollution limits for the oil and gas industry and requires companies to identify and fix methane leaks. Methane is an extremely potent gas that contributes to global warming. While the gas can come from natural sources, the oil and gas industry contribute the greatest amount of industrial emissions. According to the Environmental Defense Fund, methane is 84 times more potent than carbon dioxide for the first 20 years after it is released into the atmosphere. The Obama administration implemented the rule in 2016 and said it would slash methane emissions 40 to 45 percent by 2025.

In April, EPA head Scott Pruitt announced that the agency would “reconsider” the methane rule. In a letter to the oil and gas industry, Pruitt said that the “EPA is continuing to follow through with President Donald Trump’s energy independence executive order” and that “American businesses should have the opportunity to review new requirements, assess economic impacts and report back, before those new requirements are finalized.”

In June, Pruitt issued a notice that would set a two-year pause on the rule which would give companies time to review the rule and accept public comment. Several environmental groups including the EDF, the Natural Resources Defense Counsel, and the Sierra Club filed a

lawsuit the same day asking a federal appeals court to reserve the decision. The groups alleged that the EPA did not follow the procedures laid out in the Clean Air Act when it announced the freeze on the rule. Earlier in July, the D.C. Circuit blocked Pruitt’s attempt to halt the regulation saying the agency “lacked authority.” Monday’s decision went a step further, mandating that the EPA actually carry out the rule.

Environmentalists are considering the latest court ruling a victory. Peter Zalzal, EDF’s lead attorney said it “protects families and communities across America under clean air safeguards that EPA Administrator sought to unlawfully tear down.” *Nathalie Baptiste/Mother Jones*

Celebrate **Gold Hill Gold Rush - Sunday September 17th 2017 9am – 3pm** Main Street in Gold Hill (located 9 miles West of Boulder via Sunshine Canyon)

All proceeds will benefit the Gold Hill Town Meeting and will support individuals (relief fund) and the community at large.

The Gold Rush features our Annual Bake Sale featuring homemade pies, cookies & more. The Rummage Sale will offer antiques, clothing and much more. If you like to shop at thrift shops, you’ll love this festival.

The Arts & Crafts Fair will feature hand made items from Front Range Artists. There will be drinks, bratwursts and live music through out the afternoon. Come early for treasures!!

Gold Hill is a historic mining town celebrating its 157th anniversary, located an easy drive 9 miles west of Boulder via Mapleton Ave/Sunshine Canyon. Enjoy a stroll down Main Street and take in the beauty of times gone by. Businesses to visit include the Gold Hill General Store (<http://goldhillgeneralstore.com/>), the Red Store featuring pottery & stained glass and the Gold Hill Inn (<http://www.goldhillinn.com>) open for dinner at 5pm. Gold Hill also boasts Colorado’s oldest running school, a History Museum and a unique spirit that has endured for years. Please join us for this celebration of survival, culture and a very special sense of Community!!

This event is FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

For more information, visit <http://goldhilltown.com/> or contact Dan Maedke maedkedan@gmail.com (305) 699-7299

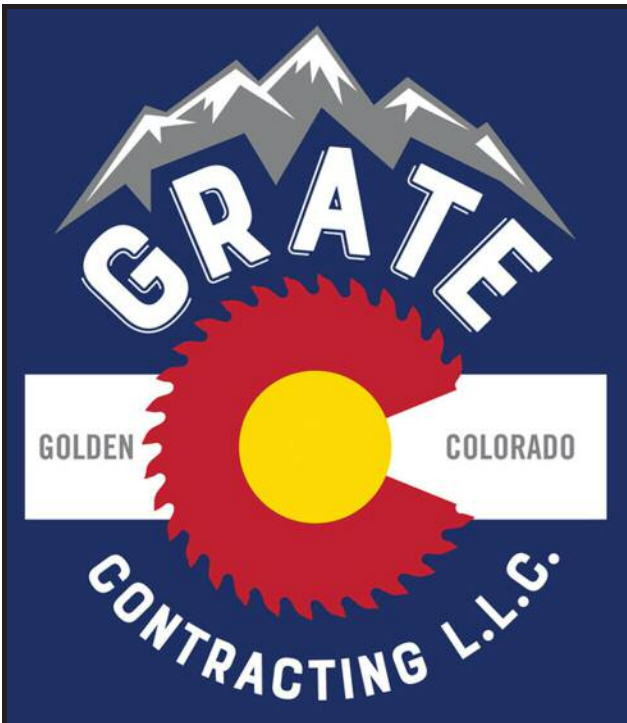
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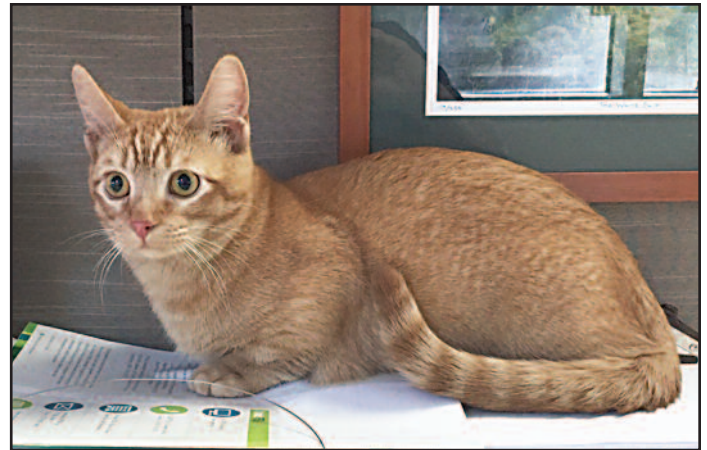
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Animals & Their Companions

Previous Page bottom left: Allen & Tenkara.

Top right: Riki & Beloved.

Top left & Bottom right: Frankie.

This Page: Top left, Swirca & Athena.

Bottom left: Wiley.

Bottom right: Yampa, Cody & Katie.



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Three Pillars Of Safer Cloud Computing

From Jim Plane - State Farm Insurance

Cloud computing is convenient: It stores your data on remote servers so you can access and share the information from any device, at anytime and from anywhere. But it also can present cyber security risks.

Take steps to protect information you store remotely:

Research trustworthy cloud service providers

Search the web for complaints against the company. Review the provider's safety systems and privacy policies.

Make sure the provider encrypts your data. Look for the 's' after 'http' in the web address to know whether data is encrypted.

Look into whether the provider shares your information with third parties. Review the provider's privacy policy — often accessible through a link from the site-to learn more.

Check that the provider alerts users to changes made to its policies.

Password-protect data

Create strong passwords. Use at least eight characters, mixing in symbols, numbers, and uppercase and lowercase

letters.

Create unique login information for each of your online accounts.

Change passwords regularly.

Never share your account login information.

Use two-factor authentication processes when they're offered. These require users to sign in with a username and password plus a verification code that's typically sent via text message or displayed through an application on your device.

Keep track of passwords with a password manager. Available as a desktop program or as an app, this tool stores passwords locally and securely, and some even generate unique passwords for you.

Be a safe Internet user

Always back up the data you store in the cloud.

Update your operating system and/or web browser often to take advantage of security patches and updates.

Invest in anti-virus and malware programs. Keep these updated as well.

If possible, customize privacy settings so you control who can view your information and what information they have access to.

Restrict the amount of information you share online. Protect personal information by keeping it personal.

Avoid directing all password recovery messages to a single address — a practice known as 'daisy-chaining.' A hacker who gets hold of your email login could gain access to all of your accounts.

Learn more tips for safer computing from the National Cyber Security Alliance, which also sponsors National Cyber Security Awareness Month in October.



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What A Way To Go

By Rob Pudim

The West seems to have a different attitude about life and death than other parts of the country. Of the five states that allow medical aid in dying, known as MAID, four are west of the Mississippi — Oregon, Washington, California and Colorado. The fifth is Vermont and, although it is not a state, the District of Columbia.

Other states have come close. Montana courts have found that there is no public policy against assisted death, and New Mexico briefly allowed it in 2014 before overturning it in 2015. In Arizona, the Legislature will not let the bill out of committee even though most Arizonans are said to favor it.

Most Westerners, I think, believe that allowing people to obtain medical aid to die is simply a matter of choice that should not be a decision made by the state, a state legislature, a medical association, a religion or any other person. Maybe it has to do with the independence of people or geographical distance from each other, or the knowledge that we sometimes have to depend on only ourselves. A lot of us believe that each person has the right to decide about our life or death, and whether life is worth living when a condition is incurable and the future filled with pain.

Granted, we all have the ability to commit suicide but generally that choice is not pleasant — jumping off Golden Gate Bridge, guns, death by police or an auto crash.

If you assist or encourage someone — and there was a recent controversial case of a young woman encouraging a boyfriend to commit suicide — you can be charged with being an accessory to murder. Medical help in dying, however, is neither suicide nor murder, and most cases of a loved one helping another to die are dismissed.

In 1996, the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals ruled: “Those who believe strongly that death must come without physician assistance should be allowed to follow that creed, whether they be doctors or patients. But they should not be free to force their views, their religious convictions or their philosophies on all other members of a democratic society, nor should they be free to compel those whose values differ from theirs to die a painful, protracted and agonizing death.”

Briefly stated, it’s your life. It’s your death. It ought to be a personal and private choice.

A dear friend I have known for more than 50 years has an incurable, progressive disease that will kill him. He is educated, alert and rational, and right *(Continued next page.)*

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Highlander Issues

now feels no pain or anxiety because a hospice manages his discomfort. Yet he does not like being tethered to an oxygen line while he slowly suffocates. He wants his life to be over but is too incapacitated to do anything about it. At one point he asked me if I could get him a gun.

According to the Colorado referendum, two physicians have to agree that a person's medical condition is incurable and the drug cocktail has to be self-administered. It sounds simple.

Nothing is simple.

What if your doctor has religious beliefs that preclude assisted dying, or has a literal interpretation of the Hippocratic Oath, which states that before anything else, do no harm? What if your doctor's beliefs require you to live out whatever life has dealt you? What if the pharmacist thinks the same way and refuses to issue the prescription?

What if the hospital does not have the correct protocols in place or the legal boilerplate necessary to allow a patient to die by choice? What if the hospital is run by a church? What if you are physically unable to take the drugs you need to end your life?

According to Compassion & Choices, a national

organization that pushed medical aid in dying in Colorado, 10 prescriptions have been filled so far, but it is not known how many have ever been used. Advocates say about one in three patients who receive the drugs fails to take them. They may have just wanted the option available.

My old and dear friend has been facing this. He could move to another state and establish residency, which could take at least six months, or is it a year? He does not have the time or ability to do this, though paradoxically he has a lot of time — to lie in bed and think about his future.

In Colorado, lawmakers put \$44,000 into the budget in May to help doctors with patients who might ask about receiving aid in dying. Republican State Sen. Kevin Lundberg says tax payers should not support the practice: "This is not the job of a doctor, it's certainly not the job of the government."

Well, whose job is it when you're stuck in a bed with tubes and wires attached to you? And what if this happened to you?

Rob Pudim is a contributor to Writers on the Range, the opinion service of High Country News (hcn.org).

A writer in Colorado, he says his friend died while in hospice care on June 16.

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Editor's Note: Not far off this subject is the responsible choice of having a Living Will. Everyone should have one and now online choices make it easy, free or affordable. If you have children, even more so than just being responsible to provide for them should the worst happen. Wills and Living Trusts also help keep government out of your personal business, especially after you are gone. Do it and avoid the worry so you can enjoy your life now.

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Freedom

By Ingrid Winter

*Releasing a flock
of juvenile ducks
at the lake
one cannot help but rejoice
in watching them discover*

*The choice of opening
those new wings and rising up
becoming airborne and soaring
into the vast
cloudless blue sky!*

*Photo Courtesy Alexa Boyes. Greenwood Wildlife
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or left
forward
or backward
to swim in a
circle
or a straight line
One can see
the delight
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Hot Springs' Overuse

By Rebecca Worby - High Country News

If you were to hike nearly nine miles into a wilderness area, paralleling a creek through alpine meadows and woods, you might expect to find solitude. But that's not the case at Conundrum Hot Springs, an extremely popular area of natural pools at an elevation of over 11,000 feet with views of surrounding peaks in White River National Forest. Dozens — and on busy weekends, sometimes hundreds — of overnight visitors hike in. Some even carry speakers and cases of beer. "It'll be like you've gone to someone's backyard for a pool party," Karen Schroyer, Aspen-Sopris district ranger, says.

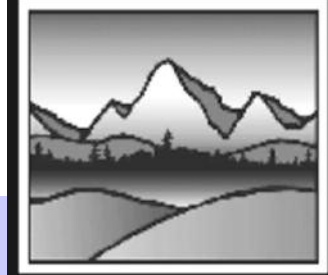
When Schroyer came to this job three years ago, she realized that the time had come to curb Conundrum's overuse. On a wilderness retreat to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act, she learned about the issues rangers were dealing with: human-bear conflicts, trash, trees hacked away for firewood, unofficial campsites too close to water and trails. And, most disturbingly, many visitors were answering nature's call and neither burying nor carrying out the waste. "I was honestly just blown away," Schroyer told me when I met her at her office on a

Friday afternoon earlier this month.

Conundrum lies within the Maroon Bells-Snowmass Wilderness, a particularly popular area of the most visited national forest in the country. The Forest Service has been documenting problems with increasing overnight use in the area for over thirty years — and in the last decade, visitation of the hot springs has increased nearly four-fold, from just 1,395 overnight visitors in 2006 to 5,372 in 2015. Under a new proposed management plan, if all goes well, Conundrum will go the way that so many over-loved federally-protected lands across the country may be heading: Starting next year, a permit system will limit the number of overnight visitors. Though final numbers are still in the works, the new system will likely allow around 100 people per night to camp at the 36 compliant campsites in the Conundrum Valley. The restrictions, land managers hope, will address impacts to the area — but the move raises questions about how wilderness should be managed as visitation grows far beyond anything the Wilderness Act could have anticipated.

The dirt road that leads to the Conundrum trailhead is lined with leafy aspens, tall pines, and NO PARKING

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Highlander Wilderness

signs. On a recent Saturday, cars were crammed in to the last sign. I carefully wedged my car into the only available space — and immediately watched a couple in a pickup truck pull in, find no spot and leave. The current situation at Conundrum Hot Springs arose from the overall increase in people recreating on Colorado's public lands — a trend that will almost certainly continue — and the swift publicity of photos on social media and in glossy magazines. Schroyer said the internet has been “incredibly powerful” with places like Conundrum and Hanging Lake, which have become bucket-list destinations. She sees why people want to come — and they're going to keep coming. “This is a gorgeous, gorgeous area,” she said. “We just need to do a better job of managing that use.”



Nelson, wilderness and trails program coordinator for the Aspen-Sopris Ranger District, says. “The best thing that we can do for wilderness is exercise restraint.” But places like Conundrum test the limits of that restraint. “It's hard

Hikers crowd into Conundrum Hot Springs in the heart of the Maroon Bells-Snowmass Wilderness.

Courtesy White River National Forest

But so much use in a wilderness area puts land managers in a tough position: Managing wilderness goes against the very nature of wilderness, where natural forces are meant to reign. “It's almost an oxymoron to manage it,” Katy

because you want people to enjoy it, but you also want it to be protected,” Nelson says. “They're kind of opposing forces.” She sees trying to reconcile those forces as the biggest challenge of our era when it comes to wilderness protection. “I know this is so cliché,” she adds, “but it is genuinely a conundrum.”

The reservation system for

(Continued next page.)

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Highlander Wilderness

Conundrum is the first phase of a new management plan for the Maroon Bells-Snowmass Wilderness that Schroyer and her team have worked on for two years. If it's successful, a reservation system for the Four Pass Loop, a popular

areas of Canyonlands National Park, Rocky Mountain National Park, the Desolation Wilderness, and several more. A permit system for entry to Zion National Park is currently under consideration. Already, six out of

Colorado's 44 designated wilderness areas, including the Indian Peaks Wilderness, either have or are in the process of implementing limited use permits.

Schroyer sees the plan for Conundrum and the rest of the Maroon Bells-Snowmass Wilderness as a potential model for other wilderness areas facing similar issues. If a place like Conundrum can rebound from such intense impacts, it will serve as a powerful example. As Sloan Shoemaker, executive director of the Carbondale-based nonprofit Wilderness Workshop put it, "How do you manage to reach the expectations of people who go to a wilderness hot springs and end up at a rave?"



Rebecca Worby is an editorial fellow at High Country News.

backpacking route, will follow. The plan is the result of careful documentation over the course of years, gathering the kind of data that really drives home the extent of the problems at Conundrum, such as the 344 "unburied poops" rangers packed out in 2015.

Amid soaring popularity, other places in the West are grappling with how to limit use: permit systems exist for

Photo here: A bear fishes through a camper's backpack in the White River National Forest. Courtesy White River National Forest

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Depleting Colo. River

By Bob Berwyn/Project Earth

In the West, water wars never really end — they just fade away, only to re-emerge during a drought, or when there's a new proposal to build another dam or divert a river through a mountain range.

The latest flare-up, not surprisingly, is about the 1,450-mile-long Colorado River, born in crystal clear springs in the Rocky Mountains of Colorado and Wyoming. In wet years it reaches the Gulf of California as a muddy trickle. In dry years, it vanishes in the dust before empties into the sea, and long before it satisfies the claims that have been made on it.

Along the way, the river hydrates 40 million people and hundreds of millions of dollars worth of produce, from Denver through Arizona and Nevada, all the way to Southern California, via dams, pipelines and diversions. In early July, Denver Water, Colorado's largest water provider, won a crucial permit from the federal government to once again tinker with the plumbing and make the river work just a little bit harder. The \$360 million Moffat Tunnel Collection System expansion project would divert more water (about 4 billion gallons per year) from the Fraser River, one of the Colorado's primary tributaries, west of the Rockies' crest. The water would be shunted eastward through the existing six-mile Moffat Tunnel beneath the Rockies, emerging near Boulder and emptying into Gross Reservoir, where an existing dam would be heightened by 131 feet.

Denver Water CEO Jim Lochhead says the project will protect Denver against shortfalls during drought. "We will complete this project responsibly, as evidenced by our actions during the public process and the resulting robust environmental protections we've agreed to along the way," he says. "We're proud to be doing the right thing."

Old feud - Crumbling gravestones under tilted cottonwoods in Nevada, Utah and Colorado stand testament to the deadly feuds that erupted over the rights to rivers and streams during the Gold Rush. In time, Western communities adopted a first-come, first-serve rule for water. That so-called right of prior appropriation shaped the modern West, including Denver, which is to Colorado what Los Angeles is to California — a thirsty sponge soaking up water from valleys and mountain ranges far from city taps.

River conservation advocates say Denver's plan is an expensive boondoggle and will further dry up the Colorado and some of its key mountain tributaries that have already been severely depleted. Before the ink was dry on the U.S. Army Corps of Engineer permit, the watchdog group Save the Colorado said it would likely challenge the decision in court.

The brewing legal battle over the (Continued next page.)

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Highlander Issues

project is emblematic of emerging water conflicts worldwide in a warming world, but there are some seeds of hope. Some Western water experts say that far-reaching conservation measures included in the permit will actually help improve conditions in some streams with extensive monitoring and adaptive management.

Denver Water will monitor streams below the diversion points and curtail the amount of water it takes when conditions approach dangerous thresholds for fish. The water provider will also maintain a certain amount of water in the enlarged reservoir for environmental flows, available to bolster streams during dry spells. The details are spelled out in a series of agreements with towns, water agencies and environmental groups, marking a departure from the old days, when a water rights owner would simply go to court to validate a claim.

Denver Water has also committed millions of dollars to restoring native fish and to cleaning up streams polluted by decades of traction sand washing off mountain highways, and to rebuilding some stream channels so they provide habitat at lower flows. All those are measures that will be needed along many rivers in the future to adapt to global warming, even absent any new dams.

Residents of the Colorado mountain towns that would be most affected by the new diversions are well aware that global warming will cause intensifying heatwaves and droughts that will dry up aquifers and reservoirs and prematurely melt mountain snows feeding river systems during the summer months. Andy Miller, who has watched the water wars since the 1970s — first as a journalist and more recently as a town trustee in Fraser, just few miles downstream of Denver Water's diversions — says Denver doesn't have the right to completely degrade the headwaters of the Colorado River in Grand County. Miller says existing diversions have already limited the town's opportunities for economic growth and raised the price of water as local demand increases.

"Climate change has increasingly drained the Colorado River. It's already severely depleted, and the people of Boulder County don't want the project," he says, referring to neighborhood groups around the existing reservoir, where the enlargement would require several years of intensive construction. Wockner says some simple math shows Denver Water would be far better off investing in conservation. The cost of the new project is estimated at about \$380 million and would yield about 18,000 acre feet of water. During the recent California drought, the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California spent about \$350 million to pay people to get rid of their lawns, yielding about 80,000 acre feet, according to Wockner. "It's an extraordinary waste of money to be building dams. **The vast majority of this is about grass and lawns,**" he says. "This is immoral in my opinion."

And since the project was proposed, new research has

bolstered the evidence that the Colorado River is vulnerable to global warming impacts. One new study shows that warming alone, regardless of precipitation trends, will cut the river's flows 30% by 2050, an amount that would make any additional diversion unsustainable. Wockner said the Corps also didn't adequately account for Denver's declining water usage, which has dropped from more than 100 gallons per person daily to 82 gallons daily.

New solution? - A court battle might be satisfying in some ways, but the outcome is uncertain and the need to make the best of limited resources is only going to grow, says Ken Neubecker, who has been advocating river conservation for decades. Neubecker heads the Colorado Basin program for American Rivers, which has put the Colorado on its endangered river list several times, so it's surprising to hear him say that this might be the best deal the river can get. "Because of the concessions and mitigations that Denver Water made, I think they recognize the realities of what we're having to deal with, with regard to ecosystem concerns and climate change," he says. "The conservation and restoration activities built into the permit reflect the beginning of a deep shift in the stewardship of the West's resources. Everything that we're talking about requires a major cultural shift."

Long-term vision - Douglas S. Kenney, director of the Western Water Policy Program, has also been watching the water wars the past few decades, and says that any project that pulls more water from the Colorado River is a real concern. "That's not the direction we should be moving," he says. Other proposals have included a new dam on the relatively free-flowing Yampa River in western Colorado, and the so-called Big Straw that would siphon water out of the Colorado River at the Utah border and pump it hundreds of miles back upstream.

The real long-term solution to supply water for the thirsty and sprawling metropolitan complex around Denver is more regional water sharing and planning, says Mark Squillace, a University of Colorado Boulder natural resources law professor. But current water governance discourages cooperation, so each town hoards its own supply and tries to ensure redundancy.

Editor's Note: Having followed this proposed project since the first scoping meetings in 2003; reading draft environmental impact statements of over 3,000 pages, final impact statement too lengthly by law, it is apparent to all that live near the existing Gross Dam and Reservoir that it is only to promote masive development in the Northwest Quadrant. Recently the FAA deemed the Jeffco Parkway toll road as too close to the adjacent airport. Without the benefit of an exit off a toll road, planned development could be in peril. Denver lawns or greed do not warrant the complete destruction of a canyon bedroom community's qauality of life, air, safety or noise level for five years - nor the complete depletion of the Colorado and Frazer Rivers.

Buffalo Field Campaign-buffalofieldcampaign.org

Buffalo Field Campaign attended the August 3rd Interagency Bison

Management Plan (IBMP) meeting in Bozeman, Montana. Morning discussions revolved around the expansion of habitat into the Taylor Fork area of the Gallatin River, part of the buffalo's newly gained ground which they haven't chosen to use in many decades. Natural migration, translocation, and assisted migration were discussed as ways the buffalo may actually utilize this habitat. The agencies didn't make any specific decisions on this but suggested a technical committee convene to answer these questions on suitable habitat, private interests etc.

Buffalo aren't naturally migrating north into that area these days, but when they decide to, BFC will support them all the way. The sad reality is, during the 1990's, the Montana Department of Livestock killed so many buffalo that were migrating in that direction that it's possible they killed the herd memory to take that route. There's also the possibility that lodgepole pine trees that have grown back since the 1988 fires in Yellowstone may be choking the corridor they once used. Perhaps, one day, fires will open it up again and the buffalo will find their way back.

Yellowstone Superintendent Dan Wenk, representing the National Park Service, said that winter operation plans for

the 2017-2018 season remain unchanged and had no



information in regards to how many buffalo they plan to kill this winter. Yellowstone is also planning on using a portion of the Stephens Creek buffalo trap as a quarantine facility. When Dan Wenk was questioned by an Indigenous representative of the IBMP about whether the "upgrades" to the Stephens Creek Facility meant upgrades to the existing structure or expansion upon

the existing structures to increase the number of buffalo the trap could hold, he was insistent that it was just an upgrade to the existing facility and that no expansion has taken place.

But BFC has documented enormous new fencing, expanding beyond the existing trap, and this fencing is currently holding more than fifty bull buffalo under pseudo-quarantine conditions, something we strongly oppose.

Indigenous representatives stressed that although their treaties supersede the IBMP, they are still playing by the IBMP's rules. Tribes blamed the IBMP, stating that by adhering to it, they are being forced to hunt in relatively small areas. This often creates situations with numerous hunting parties crammed onto small landscapes and going after the same groups of buffalo. *(Continued next page.)*

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Highlander Wildlife

Such situations give the impression, especially among local residents, that tribal hunts are chaotic and unsafe. Many residents seem to forget that the Indigenous hunters' connection to these lands are thousands of years old. Public safety concerns were brought up but residents were informed that there are extensive safety measures imposed by the different hunting groups and that law enforcement is present whenever a hunt takes place.

Ryan Clarke gave a presentation highlighting the findings of the recent brucellosis study by the National Academy of Sciences (NAS). Elk were highlighted as the main concern for brucellosis transmission to livestock. As we reported earlier in the summer, elk are now in the crosshairs of livestock interests and the governments that serve them. And while the NAS found that buffalo were not the culprit, they recommended business as usual. BFC recommends removing cattle from the Greater Yellowstone region as livestock, not buffalo nor elk, are the problem.

Dr. Clayton Marlowe gave a presentation on plant studies he has been conducting in both the Gardiner and Hebgen Basins. His presentation was very informative in regards to the amount of available forage in the different plant community types. He mapped out what he and his crew deem to be potential buffalo habitat relative to available forage, slope, and historical use by the buffalo. Relying on that information, he developed a scientific approach to estimating the carrying capacity of these two areas. The numbers he found are under a hush clause by the U.S. Forest Service (USFS). Information on his findings can't be made public until the USFS "sufficiently" reviews the information. When Mary Erickson, USFS, was asked if the information is able to be obtained through the Freedom Of




Information Act the answer was "no." Whatever this study reveals, the earth chose the buffalo—along with prairie dogs and other species—to be the creators and care takers of the Great Plains. Buffalo manage their own habitat, they know their needs, and they can help restore what has been lost.

Every one of these meetings I've attended has reinforced the notion that this culture values the domestic over the wild. It's all about control for profit. Very little is ever really accomplished. The buffalo know where they want to be whether this culture wants to admit it or not. Human beings have created these conflict areas by finding themselves in every nook and cranny on earth bringing the baggage of domestication and civilization, subduing both indigenous human and non-human communities in the wake. It's time to


remember that we as humans are but temporary visitors on the earth. Do we care about what we leave for future generations, both human and non-human? Given the circumstances, that answer would be a definitive "no." Here's to hoping that this culture starts to question and act to create a positive outcome in all of this mess. For the wild!

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Paul Forbes

Anger, Gossip, Frustration-Forgive Them Anyhow

By Frosty Wooldridge

Back in high school, rumors started as fast as a lightning storm to destroy any girl's reputation. Often out of jealousy for some perceived transgression, classmates concocted stories to create hurt for another person.

As we grew older, most of us learned through the years that everyone paddles his or her canoe as best they can on this unique journey through life.

But along the way, in most communities around the world, people talk about other people. They make judgments. They hold verdicts. They render conclusions based on their perceptions. Someone always gets emotionally damaged by bitter reprisals, anger, gossip and other peoples' frustrations. It's been said that, "Life begins at the end of your comfort zone."

I once knew a friend who carried grudges against those who wronged him. He piled them into a potato sack that he slung over his shoulder everyday when he traveled to work. When I saw him for lunch one day, he carried on with new additions to his "potato sack full of grudges."

Finally, I said, "Jack, you carry so many negative thoughts about folks who have done you wrong that you keep piling complaints into that sack that you carry around on your back. The more you complain, the more you add to the sack—I think it must be getting pretty heavy and

pretty rotten. Have you ever thought of forgiving all those who wronged you?" "I just can't," Jack said. "If you did," I said, "it would take a load off your mind and emotions. Give it a try." "How do I do it?" he asked. "People can be harsh, unfair, perverse, dishonest and irrational," I said. "Just forgive them anyhow. Forgive them unconditionally in your own mind and heart. They don't need to know it. You don't have to tell them. Just know that you forgave them. In doing that, you forgive yourself. It's really freeing."

Jack seemed to "click" the solution into his mind. From that day, he let go of his anger, bitterness, frustrations and disappointments he experienced with people. One of the best things he did: Jack associated with people who supported him. He fled "those" people who remained in his former paradigm. He changed jobs.

The facts: if you grow into a successful person, others may deride you. Forgive them anyhow. It's possible that if you maintain honesty and speak your mind, others may call you names or betray you. Forgive them anyhow. You may build a business or work hard to succeed, but someone undermines you. Forgive them (Continued next page.)

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anyhow and move toward your dreams on your earned experiences. If you show positive energy and aliveness, others may be jealous and display their envy. Guess what? Forgive them anyhow. In my lifetime, I have picked up a half-million pieces of trash from rivers, lakes and streams. Also, I picked up trash in the oceans, along roads and in parks. People keep throwing it. As angry as it makes me, I forgive them anyhow. Therefore, you may do good things in the world, but people don't care and forget quickly. Do your good anyhow. While the world disappoints, frustrates and diminishes everyone along the journey, give the world your best anyhow. During and at the end of



your life, you discover that you define your journey, how you live it and how you maintain yourself in the whirling tempest of living. Shakespeare's Polonius in Hamlet said, "Neither a borrower or a lender be. For the loan oft loses both itself and friend, and borrowing dulls the edge of husbandry. This above all, to thine own self be true, and it must follow as the night the day, though canst be false to any man." Interesting because Polonius' detractors spoke of him as overly officious, garrulous and impertinent. Be yourself anyhow, because in the end, it's all between you and the Great Spirit that expresses through all of us.

(During your lifetime, you face curving roads, blind corners that you can't see coming and things up ahead that you can't imagine. You will also meet friends, moments and predicaments that bewilder you. Keep pedaling, paddling or hiking toward your truest self. The journey will reward you with an amazing life.) Photo by Frosty Wooldridge

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The Silver Horse - pg 33 303.279.6313
The Rustic Moose - pg 33 303.258.3225

REVERSE MORTGAGES

Universal Lending Corp. pg 11 303.791.4786

ROOFING

Independence Roofing pg 3 720.399.0355

STEEL STRUCTURES

Steel Structures America ins cov 970.420.7100

TAXES

Michelle Marciniak, CPA pg 31 303.642.7371

WATER & WELL

Arrow Drilling pg 27 303.421.8766
Colorado Water Wizard pg 29 303.447.0789
Doctor Water Well pg 23 303.438.6669

SEPTEMBER
2017

POWER UPDATE

Co-op Connections® Card



Co-op Connections Card Puts Value in Your Pocket.

Save More with the Co-op Connections Card

United Power's commitment to you goes beyond safe, reliable and affordable electricity. United Power's Co-op Connections Card is a money-saving tool we're proud to offer our membership.

Need a copy of your Co-op Connections Card? Visit the Co-op Connections link at www.unitedpower.com under the 'Co-op & Community' tab to print a new card.



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Tell Us How You'll Spend Your Capital Credit Refund for a Chance to Win

Capital credit refunds began making their way to members in August. Members have a chance to win even more by telling us the unique, fun or charitable way they're planning to spend their capital credit refunds this year.



For a chance to win one of three \$100 bill credits, share the way you will spend your capital credits by emailing unitednewsline@unitedpower.com, or share on our Facebook or Twitter page with the tag #mycapitalcredits. We'll draw three lucky winners and publish the best entries in the October *United Newsline*.

United Power exists to provide its members with reliable and affordable service, not to boost profits for shareholders. This year a total of \$5 million in capital credits was returned. Amounts are based on electricity use and the number of years as a United Power member. Members who are receiving \$10 or more are issued a check, and refunds under \$10 will be applied to bills as a credit in either August or September.

September is National Preparedness Month

Are You Ready?

September 2017 marks the 14th Annual National Preparedness Month, sponsored by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, FEMA. Through its *Ready* Campaign, FEMA educates and empowers Americans to take simple steps to prepare for and respond to potential emergencies that could affect us where we live, work and also visit.

This year's theme, *Disasters Don't Plan Ahead. You Can.*

You Can, focuses on encouraging people to take action and prepare. The campaign goal is to increase the overall number of individuals, families and communities that engage in preparedness actions at home, work, businesses, school and places of worship.

It's important to think about an emergency communication plan focusing on how your family will get emergency alerts and warnings, how your family will get to safe locations, how your family will get in touch if cell phones, internet and land lines don't work and how families will get to a meeting place after the emergency. It's important to also keep in mind any unique needs of family members, friends and neighbors

For more information on National Preparedness Month, visit www.ready.gov.



Customer Service: 303-637-1300

Coal Creek Office: 303-642-7921

www.unitedpower.com

Pancake Breakfast 9/23 – CCCIA Hall 31528 Hwy 72 Support Our Scholarship Fund!



941 Indian Peak Road
Fabulous Mtn Retreat w/5 Car Garage
5 BD/ 3 BA 1.09 Acres **\$745,000**



11 Eagles Nest
Dynamic Continental Divide Views!
1 BD/ 1 BA .69 Acre **\$249,900**



255 Divide View Drive
Views of Eldo Canyon & City Lights!
3 BD/ 2 BA .83 Acre **\$379,000**



10827 Brook Road
Sunny & Bright! Separate Cabin Included
3 BD/ 2 BA 1.67 Acres **\$379,000**



11711 Spruce Canyon
Sweet Cottage in Enchanted Setting
3 BD / 1 BA 1.37 Acres **\$379,000**



11835 Vonnie Claire Drive
Hard-to-Find Horse Property!!
3 BD/ 2 BA 3.17 Acres **\$394,900**



31227 Burke Road
Oversized Garage w/ 2nd Floor Office
2 BD/ 1 BA .53 Acre **\$314,000**



5011 Garrison #102
Fantastic Wheat Ridge Condo!
1 BD/ 1 BA + Sunroom **\$179,000**



100 Outlook Drive
Rustic Tiny House w/ Amazing Views!
1 BD / 1 BA **\$199,750**



722 8th Ave., Longmont
Circa 1910 Old Town Charming!
2 BD/ 2 BA Oversized Garage **\$395,000**



19 Ronnie Road
Views, Well, Septic, Building plans
included .7 Acre **\$115,000**



3491 Gross Dam Road
A Slice of Mountain Privacy
38.92 Acres **\$189,000**



13371 W. 63rd Place, Arvada
Lovely Home w/Park-Like Yard
4 BD/ 4 BA 3-Car Garage **\$485,000**



144 Wonder Trail, Wondervu
Vintage Cabin - Well Drilled
2 BD **\$94,500**



34535 Stanton Drive
Log Home With Solar!
3 BD / 3 BA **\$569,900**



201 Skyline Drive
Beautiful Home, Beautiful Setting!
3 BD/ 3 BA 1.15 Acres **\$414,900**



194 Wonder Trail
Charming Cottage w/Super Views!
1 BD / 1 BA **\$249,900**



11249 Ranch Elsie Road
Multi - generational Living Setup!
3 BD / 2 BA **\$414,900**



249 Rudi Lane
Post & Beam Constr. - Passive Solar
2 BD / 3 BA **\$399,900**



**BUY OR SELL A HOME
WITH Kathy Keating or
Susan Peterson and USE
the moving truck for FREE**



Kathy Keating,
CRS, ABR, GRI
EcoBroker,
Broker Associate
303.642.1133

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