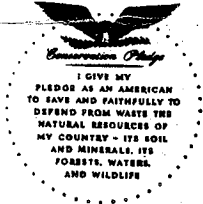


NM Wildlife Federation, Inc.  
Affiliate Chapter, AWF  
3240-D Juan Tabo NE  
Albuquerque, NM 87111

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MR & MRS DAVID WEINGARTEN  
12413 PLACID NE  
ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87112



## Albuquerque Wildlife Federation

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ORGANIZED BY SPORTSMEN IN 1914 TO PROTECT AND PERPETUATE  
OUR WILDLIFE AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
P. O. Box 1234  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103



### GENERAL MEETING

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 1993**  
7:00 P.M.

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

NOTE: Meetings will begin at 7 p.m. this year, instead of 7:15.  
There will be time for refreshments and to talk with speakers and  
others following the program.

**\*\* \*\* \* JANUARY PROGRAM \* \*\* \***

#### **EXOTIC INTRODUCTIONS AND NATIVE WILDLIFE**

Bruce Morrison, assistant chief of the Game and Fish Department's Habitat, Environment and Lands Division, will describe the effect of introduced exotic wildlife on native plants and animals. Focusing on hooped mammals in the Southwest, he will provide examples of what happens to native wildlife when animals are brought in from other areas. Exotic ungulate species in New Mexico are the Siberian ibex, Gemsbok (Oryx), Barbary sheep, and Persian wild goats. They compete for food and other necessities of life with such animals as mule deer, bighorn sheep, and antelope.

Members of the Department of Game and Fish presently are preparing a report on exotics for consideration by the Game Commission.

#### **NEW MEXICO NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM**

Pat Mehlhop, director of the New Mexico Natural Heritage Program, will show slides and tells us how the program operates. Her office maintains a data base on rare species and significant ecosystems in New Mexico. She'll describe how the data base is developed and used to protect sites important to the welfare of rare or endangered species. Pat also will show slides of various rare species in New Mexico, telling where they are found and what their problems are.

The Nature Conservancy started the Natural Heritage Program at the national level 17 years ago. The network now includes 82 biodiversity data centers across the Western Hemisphere.

We welcome Pat as one of the newest members of the Albuquerque Wildlife Federation.

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

During this long session of the state legislature, contacting our senators and representatives on issues of concern will be important. The New Mexico Wildlife Federation's legislative committee, headed by AWF board member Steve Padilla, will spearhead efforts to pass several wildlife and hunting-related bills.

These include making harassment of hunters illegal, changing the name of the Game and Fish Department to the Department of Wildlife, and not allowing additional Class A Game Parks. Wildlife Federation members also will oppose bills detrimental to conservation and wildlife.

If your legislator sits on a key committee, a member of our legislative telephone committee likely will be calling you.

Joyce

### LEGISLATIVE TELEPHONE TREE

Volunteers are needed to call members concerning conservation and wildlife bills in the state legislature. Callers will not be asked to make more than six calls at any one time. If you can help, call 265-3840 or let us know at the meeting. The more volunteers we have, the more effective we can be.

### SHARE WITH WILDLIFE

Near the bottom of your state income tax form you'll see a box for Share with Wildlife, a non-profit fund dedicated to wildlife and its habitat in New Mexico. Although Share with Wildlife is coordinated by the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, the program is supported entirely by contributions--many of those from New Mexico taxpayers, like you. By checking the box on your tax form, you can give as much as you want of your refund to the program.

Share with Wildlife funds go directly to projects, not for administrative costs. The program funds research, habitat preservation, wildlife rehabilitation and public education. It focuses on projects to benefit wildlife species that do not receive funding from any other source, including many threatened and endangered species.

If you have an accountant prepare your state income tax, please tell him or her you want to "check it off" for Share with Wildlife. Or you can donate directly by sending your contribution to New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, 141 E. DeVargas Street, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87503.

Claire Tyrpak, Share with Wildlife Coordinator

### DALE JONES APPOINTED TO LANDOWNER-SPORTSMAN RELATIONS BOARD

Dale Jones, recent past president of AWF and a retired Forest Service biologist, was appointed last month to the advisory board for the Game and Fish Department's Landowner-Sportsman Relations Program. Only three of the seven board members represent sportsmen, so it is an honor for Dale to have been chosen.

### Results of elections held at the Dec. 1992 Annual Meeting:

#### OFFICERS

President Joyce Mendel Vice President Richard Becker  
Treasurer Roby Wallace

#### DIRECTORS

Barbara Bergstrom Bill Reed  
Yvonne Chauvin Sybil Russell  
Steve Padilla

#### CALENDAR

Hunting Committee--Jan. 19  
Riparian/Wetland Committee - Jan. 13  
AWF Board - Jan. 21

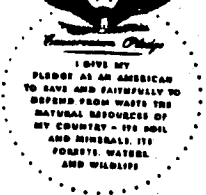
Meetings are held at 7 pm at the NMWF office, 3240-D Juan Tabo NE; enter through the east door. Members are invited and welcome to join any of the committees, or attend any AWF Board meetings.

New Mexico Game Commission meeting - High Mesa Inn, 3347 Cerrillos Road, Santa Fe, Jan. 11, 9 a.m.

New Mexico Wildlife Federation Special Meeting - Los Volcanes Senior Center, 6500 Los Volcanes NW, Saturday, Jan. 23, 9:30 am; two proposed by-law changes will be addressed.

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P. O. Box 1234



## GENERAL MEETING

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1993  
7:00 P.M.

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

NOTE: Meetings will begin at 7 p.m. this year, instead of 7:15.  
This will allow time to talk with the speaker following the  
program.

**\*\* \*\* FEBRUARY PROGRAM \*\* \*\* \*\***

### WILDLIFE AROUND THE WORLD

Bill Zeedyk will show slides and talk about wildlife and landscape in the South Pacific, Asia, Egypt and Southern Europe. Wildlife in New Zealand, Australia and Nepal will be highlighted. He also will discuss the problems of people in various parts of the world who are faced with increasing populations and dwindling resources.

Bill is a wildlife biologist, has retired as a Forest Service regional director of wildlife and fish, and is a long-time AWF member. He recently has returned from a nine-month trip around the world, and will share his experiences at our meeting.

\*\*\*\*\*

### CALENDAR

The hunting committee and riparian/wetland committee will begin meeting quarterly instead of every month. Their next meetings will be in April.

AWF Board - Feb. 23, 7 p.m.

The meeting will be held at the NMWF office, 3240-D Juan Tabo NE; enter through the east door. Members are invited and welcome to attend.

New Mexico Game Commission meeting - High Mesa Inn, 3347 Cerrillos Road, Santa Fe, Feb. 17, 9 a.m.

Fifth Annual Bosque Symposium: After the Flood -Rio Grande Nature Center, 2901 Candelaria NW, Feb. 27, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. \$5

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

In recent years, there have been three major issues that AWF has supported enacting state legislation on. They are: making harassment of those who hunt and fish illegal; changing the name of the Game and Fish Department to the Department of Wildlife; and ending Class A Parks.

At the time of this writing, only an anti-hunter harassment bill has been introduced in the 1993 Legislature. In fact two bills have been introduced, HB 230 in the House and SB 186 in the Senate. The outlook for their passage is good, but your support is needed.

The fact that anyone would consider harassing a hunter indicates that we need to start publicizing the many contributions of hunters toward increasing wildlife populations.

A bill is in the works that would stop issuance of future permits for Class A Game Parks, as well as gradually phase out present Class A Parks.

Presently there are no legislative efforts being made to change the name of the Game and Fish Department. A name change to Department of Wildlife would reflect the department's modern role in wildlife management. Because wildlife is totally dependent upon habitat, the department is involved in habitat preservation issues, such as environmental analysis of timber sales. It also works to benefit endangered species and has a strong environmental education program.

Last year the Albuquerque Wildlife Federation sponsored a resolution to change the department's name. The resolution was passed by the New Mexico Wildlife Federation at its annual meeting.

Joyce Mendel, 265-3840

### SECRETARY NEEDED

We still are without a secretary for this year and need one badly. The only requirements are to attend board meetings and take minutes. They can be hand written if you don't type. To volunteer, call 265-3840 or indicate your interest at the February meeting.

### BIGHORN SHEEP FOR THE SANDIAS

The board voted to champion the restoration of bighorn sheep in the Sandia Mountains. Board member and wildlife biologist Bill Zeedyk believes a likely reason for the decline of the former bighorn sheep population was genetic inbreeding.

Anyone interested in working on a committee to look into this matter and work on restoration if feasible can let us know at the February meeting or call 265-3840.

### FOREST FIRE MEETING

Don Schofield represented AWF at a recent public meeting concerning use of nature fire under prescribed conditions in the Apache Kid Wilderness. He expressed our strong support for prescribed fire.

### AWF Board Actions

At its January meeting, the board voted:  
To approve the appointment of Bill Zeedyk to the board. Bill is a retired Forest Service director of wildlife and fish for the Southwestern region.

Enthusiastic support for bighorn sheep re-introduction at Wheeler Peak.

To champion the restoration of bighorn sheep in the Sandia Mountains.

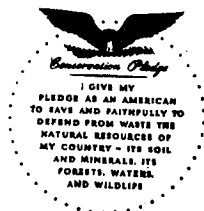
To support continued management as game animals of the exotic barbary sheep, Persian ibex and oryx, but only to the extent that populations are strictly controlled as to numbers and distribution by management area.

To support continued use of steel leg-hold traps. (Last fall we advocated checking steel traps every 24 hours as more humane than a 48-hour trap check.)



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## GENERAL MEETING

THURSDAY, MARCH 11, 1993  
7:00 P.M.

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

NOTE: Meetings will begin at 7 p.m. this year, instead of 7:15.  
This will allow time to talk with the speaker following the  
program.

**\*\* \*\* \* MARCH PROGRAM \* \*\* \*\* \***

### **WILDLIFE OF COSTA RICA**

Gary Williams, who teaches field photography at the University  
of Michigan's biological station, will show slides he's taken while  
traveling through Costa Rica. He'll show the wildlife, flowers,  
tropical forests and people of Costa Rica.

### **POSSIBILITY OF BIGHORN SHEEP REINTRODUCTION IN THE SANDIAS**

Larry Coper, biologist for the Cibola Forest, will discuss  
the Forest Service's stance with regard to reintroduction of  
bighorn sheep in the Sandia Mountains. He'll describe the goals  
and objectives of a prospective reintroduction project, as well as  
its problems.

\*\*\*\*\*

### **AWF AND BIGHORN SHEEP IN THE SANDIAS**

Four persons signed up for a committee to work on restoration  
of bighorn sheep in the Sandia Mountains. However the group needs  
a chairman who would work with the committee to determine the  
feasibility of restoration. If the board becomes convinced of the  
project's feasibility, the next step would be to organize the  
needed resources. It's a project that could involve school  
children and much of the community. Are you interested in chairing  
the committee or working on it? Let us know at the March meeting  
or call 265-3840.

## CALENDAR

AWF Board - March 23, 7 p.m.

The meeting will be held at the NMWF office, 3240-D Juan Tabo NE; enter through the east door. Members are invited and welcome to attend.

### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

The 1993 state legislative session is starting to wind up. It's important to let your state legislators hear from you concerning bills you support or oppose. They can be contacted by calling the legislative switchboard, at 986-4300, and asking for them by name, or by writing to them at 334 State Capitol Bldg., Santa Fe, NM 87503. If you need their names, call the county clerk or the League of Women Voters office.

Joyce

### **STATE LEGISLATIVE BILLS SUPPORTED BY AWF**

The anti-hunter harassment bill has been passed by the House and is making good progress through the Senate, where it is SB 186. Chances for its passage are excellent.

A bill to change the name of the Department of Game and Fish to the Department of Wildlife has been introduced in the House by Rep. Cisco McSorley. A name change is needed to reflect the Department's modern role in wildlife management. The state Wildlife Federation passed a resolution last spring, sponsored by AWF, calling for the change of name. It is HB 881.

### **STATE LEGISLATIVE BILLS OPPOSED BY AWF**

#### **AMENDING THE ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT**

AWF members attended a Senate Conservation subcommittee hearing on Senate Bill 57 and presented testimony opposing the bill on behalf of the New Mexico Wildlife Federation. The bill, which would amend New Mexico's Wildlife Conservation Act pertaining to Endangered Species, was amended slightly at the hearing and forwarded to the full committee with a "Do Pass" recommendation.

Even as amended, carrying out the provisions of the bill would be extremely costly--at a time when the Game Department is paring down its budget by several hundred thousand dollars. In addition, the Department likely would lose \$227,300 in federal matching funds for endangered species projects, because the bill would make economic impacts a consideration for listing or delisting wildlife as endangered.

The amended bill states that, to add or delete a species from the state list of endangered wildlife, the Game Commission would have to hold public hearings in every area of the state where habitat exists for that species or where the proposed change would have an economic or social impact. The bill seems to also require that the entire list of state endangered species be reviewed in this manner every two years.

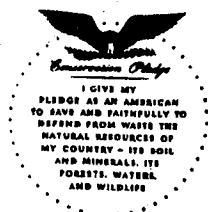
This provision creates the expense of staff time and travel to hearings, as well as the cost for records of the hearings. Also, the director of the Game and Fish Department would have to prepare an analysis based on the hearings--still another expense.

Another part of the bill would eliminate the Department's cooperative law enforcement efforts with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on behalf of federal endangered species not considered endangered in New Mexico. The Game Department no longer would be able to help stop illegal trafficking of big cats in New Mexico using the authority it now has.

The bill also would eliminate state listing of any federally listed species that is not considered endangered in New Mexico.

#### **TAKINGS**

We have a long-standing position against "takings" legislation. Takings bills would make it difficult and expensive for government environmental regulators, including the Game and Fish Department, to do their job of setting regulations. In the past, such bills would have set up onerous administrative review requirements for new environmental regulations and established a broad new class of litigation. We haven't seen the "takings" bills introduced this session, but they are Senate Bill 536, introduced by Don Kidd, and House Bill 684 introduced by G. X. McSherry. Both are called the "Property Protection Act."



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## GENERAL MEETING - THURSDAY, April 8, 1993 7:00 P.M.

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

**\*\* \*\* \* APRIL PROGRAM \* \*\* \*\***

### CALLING AND HUNTING WILD TURKEY

Wildlife biologist Bill Zeedyk will help prepare us for the spring turkey season, which starts April 17, by telling how to call and hunt wild turkeys. Bill was director of Wildlife and Fisheries for the Southwest Region of the US Forest Service, served on the board of the National Wild Turkey Federation for several years, and coauthored the chapter on Gould's turkey in The Wild Turkey: Biology and Management. He presently serves on both AWF and New Mexico Wildlife Federation boards of directors.

### SPRING FISHING IN NEW MEXICO

Ti Piper, Albuquerque Tribune fishing columnist and author of Fishing in New Mexico, will tell about beautiful places to fish this spring, as well as where not to fish. He'll talk primarily about trout fishing; but will add some tips for warm-water fishing, from the bank.

### CALENDAR

\* Hunting Committee Meeting - April 20

\* Board of Directors - No meeting this month  
Meetings are held at 7 pm at the NMWF office, 3240-D Juan Tabo NE; enter through the east door. Members are invited to attend committee and AWF Board meetings. Members are encouraged to join any of the committees.

AWF Table at Earth Day Fair - Albuquerque Convention Center, Thursday, April 22.

AWF Gallinas Work Project - Saturday, May 22. Replace pipe at trick tank and remove old fence. (see other side)

AWF Valle Vidal Work Project - July 16, 17, 18

More!!! on other side

CALENDAR (CONTINUED)

Public Meeting on Public Lands Grazing Fees - U.S. Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt will hold a series of meetings to learn about grazing fees. Ranchers, environmentalists, scientists and politicians are urged to participate. Albuquerque, May 14.

National Wildlife Federation Range Reform Workshop - Albuquerque, May 15.

\* \* \* \* \*

PRESIDENT'S REPORT, by Joyce Mendel

NMWF legislative watchers, Steve Padilla and Dave Weingarten, report that things went well for outdoors people during the past session of the New Mexico legislature. "Regulatory takings" bills and a bill to amend the state endangered species act, failed this session. A bill to prohibit interference with legal hunting and fishing was passed; but, the bill to change the name of the Department of Game & Fish to the Wildlife Department was defeated. The Senate Judiciary Committee gave it a do not pass; it had passed two house committees and the House.

Steve Padilla, AWF, successfully teamed up with Charlie Weisleder, NM Shooting Sports, to work for passage of the bill prohibiting interference with hunters and fishermen. Objections to the House bill were raised in House committee hearings. Representative William Porter, Las Cruces, and Senator Patrick Lyons, Cuervo, sponsored identical bills in the House and Senate.

\* \* \* \* \*

OTHER ACTIVITIES

LEGISLATIVE TELEPHONE TREE - Members were called concerning the hunter interference bill and the endangered species act amendment. Thanks to the following who made calls to alert other members of impending legislative action on the bills: Bob Nordstrum, Sybil Russell, Bill Reed, Don Schofield, John Snowdon, Ray Walkowski, Bill Zeedyk.

EARTH DAY FAIR - We need volunteers to staff a Wildlife Federation table at the Earth Day Fair, April 22. If you can help, call Joyce at 265-3840. Our thanks to Sybil Russell for creating an attractive photographic display for use at this and other fairs.

WORK PROJECT - You are invited to help put in a new pipe at a trick tank, for a wildlife watering-unit, and perhaps take down an old wire fence. This project is at Gallinas Peak, near Corona, May 22. For more information, or to sign up, call Bill Reed, 281-3996, our work project chairman.

FUND RAISING - Your Board of Directors voted to hold a monthly drawing for our education fund and treasury. At the April meeting a \$1 donation will give you a chance to win a turkey call or hand tied flies.

We are also considering holding a yard sale in June, if an appropriate location can be found. If you know of a good location, let us know at the meeting, or call 265-3840. In the meantime save items that you would like to donate to the cause.

\* \* \* \* \*

RECENT ACTIONS

A letter was written in response to the Animal Damage Control draft Environmental Impact Statement. We stated that greater emphasis needs to be placed on animal husbandry and that monitoring guidelines are needed to evaluate the effectiveness and costs of ADC control methods.

AWF representatives: + Spoke in opposition to establishment of any additional Class A parks and in favor of eliminating automatic transfer of Class A park licenses, at the February State Game Commission meeting.  
+ Testified on behalf of NMWF in opposition to a bill amending the state endangered species act at the Senate Conservation Committee hearing.  
+ Steve Padilla and others spent time at the capital working to advance bills benefiting wildlife and against detrimental bills.

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## GENERAL MEETING

THURSDAY, MAY 13, 1993  
7:00 P.M.

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

There will be time for refreshments and to talk with the speakers  
following the program.

\*\* \*\* \* MAY PROGRAM \* \*\* \*\* \*

### FISHNET

~~Mike Mauer, president of New Mexico Trout, will talk about the possible formation of a local "Fishnet"-type coalition.~~

Fishnet is a coalition of national organizations, including the National Wildlife Federation, created in 1986 to develop a cooperative approach to issues concerning fisheries conservation. Efforts of Fishnet participants helped increase the fisheries budgets, by nearly 60 percent between 1988 and 1993, for the four primary federal agencies with fisheries responsibilities.

However, Mauer says that in 1992 the Southwest Region of the Forest Service returned about \$200,000 of fisheries money unused. New Mexico Trout wants to form a local Fishnet network to see that money appropriated for improvement of streams and riparian areas actually is used for on-the-ground projects.

### STREAM AND RIPARIAN RESTORATION USING BEAVER

Cliff Dahm, a University of New Mexico associate professor of biology, will present a slide program on stream and riparian restoration using beaver in the Bluewater Creek drainage of the Zuni Mountains.

Nuisance beaver were relocated at Bluewater Creek in 1988 to slow erosion and stabilize riparian areas for the revegetation of riparian plants. Dahm will talk about a UNM study concerning the effects of beaver on the creek's ecosystem. He also will talk about the history of beaver populations in North America, as well as about places where beaver can be used effectively and areas where they are problematic.

## CALENDAR

### AWF Board Meeting - May 25

The meeting will be held at 7 pm at the NMWF office conference room, 3240-D Juan Tabo NE; enter through the east door. All members are welcome to attend.

### AWF Gallinas Work Project - Saturday, May 22

Replace pipe at trick tank and remove old fence. (See next page.)

### AWF Valle Vidal Work Project - July 16, 17, 18

### NMWF Annual Meeting - Hobbs, May 28-30

#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As you know, Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt held a hearing May 6 concerning livestock grazing on public lands. I attended the Albuquerque hearing to support grazing reform.

AWF supports multiple use of public lands. However much land is in poor condition due to grazing. Therefore, we favor raising the fees for grazing on public lands so that more money will be available to monitor the impact of grazing. We support an incentive system, once fees are raised sufficiently, that would reward ranchers who demonstrate good land stewardship. We also support redirecting grazing fee revenues to range restoration and seek more public involvement in grazing management decisions on public lands.

There still is time to write to Bruce Babbitt on this subject. The address is: Secretary Bruce Babbitt, Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street NW, Washington, DC 20240.

Joyce

#### MAY WORK PROJECT

We need volunteers to help put in new pipe at a trick tank and perhaps take down an old barbed wire fence, at Gallinas Peak (in the vicinity of Corona), on Saturday, May 22. For more information, or to volunteer, call work project chairman Bill Reed at 281-3996.

#### WILDLIFE WEEK

Our education chairperson, Beverly DeGruyter, delivered about 1,500 Wildlife Week teacher kits to Albuquerque schools for National Wildlife Week, April 18-24. Good work Bev. The theme of Wildlife Week this year was "Rainforests: Help Save Their Layers of Life."

#### EARTH DAY FAIR

We thank all who helped make the AWF display table during the Earth Day Fair, April 22, a success. Beverly DeGruyter, Joyce Mendel, Oscar Simpson, John Snowdon and Lavelle Thompson worked at the table, talking to people and giving out informational literature.

Beverly also created a small display concerning rain forest products, to point out the importance of the forests to the many school children and teachers who stopped by the table in the morning.

Barbara Bergstrom provided informational materials on national issues for the fair and put together an AWF scrapbook and photo album. Sybil Russell created a photographic display of our work projects.

#### MEMBER NEWS

AWF board members Yvonne Chauvin and Roby Wallace will be married September 4. They met two years ago at an AWF work project in the Zuni Mountains. Also, Yvonne graduates from UNM this month with a degree in biology. Our congratulations and best wishes to Yvonne and Roby.

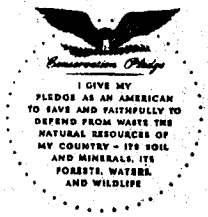
At the drawing held at last month's meeting, Andy Iskra won the turkey call and Phil Russell won the flies.

New members this year are: Javon Evanoff, Amy Fisher, Terry Sanders, and Don Zembiec.

#### RECENT ACTIONS

The board voted to support the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's proposed action [the "balanced alternative"] for its Refuges 2003 plan. This action would allow hunting to continue on wildlife refuges as at present, while also providing more attention to nongame and endangered species and to protecting aquatic ecosystems.

The board also voted to support the Game and Fish Commission's new Landowner-Sportsmen Cooperative Program. The objectives of the program are to "encourage Landowners to improve wildlife habitat and Sportsman access, encourage Sportsmen to respect and support Landowners' habitat efforts and private property rights, and to improve cooperation and communication among Landowners, Sportsmen and the New Mexico Department of Game & Fish."



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## GENERAL MEETING

THURSDAY, June 10, 1993  
7:00 P.M.

NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF GAME AND FISH--ALBUQUERQUE OFFICE  
3841 Midway Pl. NE

**\*\*Note the change of location for this meeting**

Directions: Take Jefferson north from Montgomery or west from its exit on I-25 or south from Osuna. Turn west on Singer, then north on Office Blvd. The building is located at the junction of Office Blvd. and Midway Place.

**\*\* \*\* \* JUNE PROGRAM \*\* \*\* \***

### NEW MEXICO WILDFLOWERS

Common wildflowers of the mountains and deserts of New Mexico, and where they can be found at various times of the year, will be the subject of a slide program to be given by wildflower expert Pearl Burns. She'll also talk about plants that provide important food for wildlife and about plants that have been traditionally used by natives for medicine.

\*\*\*\*\*

### JUNE DOOR PRIZE

The door prize this month is a useful and beautiful book on identifying wildflowers in the Southwest. Help out our treasury and possibly win the prize by donating \$1 per ticket for the book. Tickets will be available at the meeting.

### CALENDAR

AWF Board of Directors Meeting - June 22

The meeting will be held at 7 pm at the NMWF office conference room, 3240-D Juan Tabo NE; enter through the east door. All members are welcome to attend.

AWF Valle Vidal Work Project - July 16, 17, 18

### VALLE VIDAL--July Work Project

July 16-18 we'll again hold our annual major work project at Valle Vidal. This year we'll put in more fish structures and remove old fence. We'll have the usual Saturday night hamburgers and potluck and Friday night cheese and wine party. Plan to come and bring your family and friends. Valle Vidal is one of the most beautiful places in the state and we always see a lot of wildlife. Come all three days or for the weekend. For more information, call Bill Reed at 281-3996.

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MR & MRS DAVID WEINGARTEN  
12413 PLACID NE  
ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87112

## MINING REFORM

We urge that you, as an individual, immediately write or call New Mexico's senators and Vice President Al Gore concerning reform of the 1872 mining act.

An environmentalist-backed bill has been sponsored in the Senate by Senator Dale Bumpers, S.257. (A similar bill in the House is H.R. 322 sponsored by Congressman Nick Rahall).

The bill provides for royalties of 8 percent to be charged on the gross value of hard rock minerals mined on unpatented federal land. Half of the royalties would be used to restore abandoned mines. At present, hard rock minerals are free to those permitted to mine them.

The bill also contains provisions regarding environmental standards and reclamation on federal land, and would prohibit future patenting of mining claims. Presently miners can buy the federal land on which their claims lie for \$2.50 to \$5 an acre.

A very different mining bill, supported by the mining industry, stands in opposition to the Bumpers' bill. It is S. 775, introduced in the Senate by Senator Larry Craig. (Congressman Orton introduced the House version, H.R. 1708.)

S. 775 would continue to allow patenting--the conversion of public land into private--by payment of a fee based on the surface value of the land, even though the minerals underneath are worth much more. A 2 percent royalty would be charged on the net value of minerals extracted. Environmentalists fear that by basing the royalty on net instead of gross value, companies would pad their expenses.

Call or write Senators Jeff Bingaman and Pete Domenici concerning Bumpers' bill, S. 257 and Craig's bill, S. 775 at: United State Senate; Washington, D.C. 20510 (phone: 202-224-3121). Also, call or write Vice President Gore, who has lead responsibility for the 1872 Mining Law in the White House: The Vice President; The White House; Washington, D.C. 20500 (phone: 202-456-7125).

## AWF RECEIVES NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION AWARD

The Albuquerque Wildlife Federation received the National Wildlife Federation Chairman's award "for continued work to improve the lands on the Valle Vidal Administrative Unit," as well as for other activities. The award was presented at the May 29 New Mexico Wildlife Federation annual banquet by NWF Regional Executive Suzanne Van Gytenbeek.

At Valle Vidal volunteers contributed about 4,000 hours toward habitat improvement over the past ten years. This included the improvement of stream habitat to benefit Rio Grande Cutthroat trout on Costilla, Commanche and McCrystal Creeks; enhancement of critical riparian vegetation on Commanche Creek; elk enclosure fencing; and the planting of over 1900 trees.

The award also is for such other activities as our work on national issues; our annual youth fishing clinic with the Cibola National Forest; and the efforts of our members on a number of state-wide wildlife committees.

## GALLINAS PEAK--May Work Project

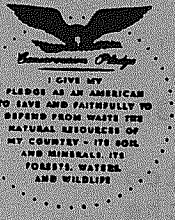
Wild animals now have more water available, in the area of Gallinas Peak, as the result of our May 22 work project putting in a new trough, float box and pipeline to repair an old trick tank. We also took down barbed wire fence surrounding the tank. We thank the following who worked on this project under the direction of wildlife biologist Jim Anderson: Richard Becker, Barbara Bergstrom, Ed Machin, Chuck Easton, Billie Reed Ehle, Alex Ehle, Cliff and Joyce Mendel, Larry Miller, Bill Reed, and Mary Reed who watched Billie's children.

## RECENT ACTIONS

The board is advocating the reintroduction of beaver in the Manzano Mountains. We view the activities of beaver as an excellent way to improve riparian areas, so long as the beavers are placed at an appropriate site and their numbers are controlled.

A letter was written to Rep. Cisco McSorley thanking him for sponsoring the bill to change the name of the Department of Game and Fish to the Department of Wildlife.





# Albuquerque Wildlife Federation

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ORGANIZED BY SPORTSMEN IN 1914 TO PROTECT AND PERPETUATE  
OUR WILDLIFE AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
P. O. Box 1234  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103



## GENERAL MEETING

THURSDAY, July 8, 1993  
7:00 P.M.

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

There will be time for refreshments and to talk with the speakers following the program.

### \*\* \*\* JULY PROGRAM \*\* \*\*

#### MANIPULATIVE FLOODING AT THE BOSQUE DEL APACHE WILDLIFE REFUGE

Cliff Crawford, a UNM biology professor, will show slides and talk about a five-year study to look at the ecological effects of flooding in the Rio Grande bosque. The study is in its third year.

Flooding is largely responsible for the creation of new cottonwoods. Because of past measures taken to control Rio Grande floods, cottonwoods are not being regenerated. However, little else has been known about flooding effects.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### JULY DOOR PRIZE

The door prize this month will be a bird field guide. Tickets will be available at the meeting.

### CALENDAR

AWF Board - Will not meet this month

AWF Valle Vidal Work Project - July 16, 17, 18

CHILDREN'S FISHING CLINIC - Aug. 28

#### VALLE VIDAL--July Work Project

July 16-18 are the dates for our biggest work project/nature viewing/socializing event of the year. If you can only work Saturday, July 17, that's all right too. Come when you can. Among the projects, we'll be putting in additional fish structures and removing old fence. This will be our 11th year to work at Valle Vidal.

Bring a dish for the Saturday night potluck. Hamburgers also will be served. And come to the Friday night cheese and wine party.

Work project coordinator Bill Reed says he already has a good-sized crew together, but can use more. We will camp at Shuree Lodge this year. For further information and directions, call Bill at 281-3996.

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## I N M E M O R I A M

Lawrence J. (Larry) Merovka: September 17, 1903-April 6, 1993

The Wildlife Conservation movement, both here in New Mexico and across the nation, lost a staunch friend and advocate with the passing of Lawrence J. Merovka in early April of this year. This activist in the field of wildlife conservation, enjoyed a distinguished career encompassing 41 years as an enforcement agent with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. He came to Albuquerque in 1941 as enforcement supervisor for the Southwest Region.

Following retirement, Larry's deep and abiding interest in the future of wildlife focused through the New Mexico Wildlife Federation, the National Wild Turkey Federation, and Ducks Unlimited. An avid sportsman who shared his love for hunting and fishing with both young and old, he was often a featured guest on "New Mexico Outdoors." Larry lent special expertise via TV that at once fostered a keen interest in outdoor pursuits and engendered a sense of responsibility among those who participated. He always played the game by the rules!

We will certainly miss Larry, but will treasure great memories of good times shared.

By John Davis

[Those wishing to make a donation in Larry's memory may contribute to the National Wild Turkey Federation, PO Box 530, Edgefield, S.C., 29824, and designate it for the Super Fund.]

### CHILDREN'S FISHING CLINIC

Saturday, Aug. 28, we'll join the Cibola Forest in sponsoring our annual children's fishing clinic. This year the clinic will be held at a park at Kirtland Base, and will follow a written curriculum, called "Pathway to Fishing." Groups of children will pass through 12 teaching stations, receiving five minutes of instruction at each.

Our member Beverly DeGruyter, who works for the Cibola Forest, is coordinating the event. She says she could use about 10 volunteers from AWF. All that is needed is a liking for children and a desire to teach them about fishing.

To volunteer, call Joyce Mendel at 265-3840.

### GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT NEWS--from John Crenshaw ELK MANAGEMENT PLAN

A committee is getting ready to write an elk management plan that will be presented to the Game Commission. Public meetings concerning the plan will be held beginning Aug. 15 and the plan is scheduled to be completed Oct. 31. The issue to be addressed is what should be done about New Mexico's growing elk population.

### REORGANIZATION

Reorganization of the department occurred a couple of months ago in accordance with recommendations made by the Wildlife Management Institute.

A third assistant director has been added--Jim Vaught, who had been chief of law enforcement. He is overseeing Field Operations at the four area offices. Dick McCleskey now is overseeing Resource Management and Wain Evans is over Support Services.

Area Office specialists are now under the direct supervision of area chiefs instead of division chiefs.

### TWO COORDINATORS TO BE HIRED

The Department will hire a coordinator for the landowner/sportsman program in early August. Also, a planning coordinator will be hired in the next couple of months. The planning coordinator will help the department develop a comprehensive fish and wildlife plan. The major part of the plan is to be completed by the end of 1994.

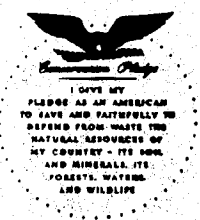
### WATCHABLE WILDLIFE

The Watchable Wildlife program is under way with sites identified and writing begun. A guidebook is expected to go to press shortly before Christmas.



# Albuquerque Wildlife Federation

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## GENERAL MEETING

THURSDAY, August 12, 1993  
7:00 P.M.

Room 1--Bear Canyon Senior Center--4645 Pitt NE  
(North from Montgomery & Eubank, right on Lagrima De Oro  
for one long block, then left on Pitt for a short block to BCSC)

NOTE: Because of renovation, our usual room will not be available. Instead we are meeting in Room 1, which is the first room as you walk west from the main entrance. Enter through the main entrance instead of the side door.

There will be time for refreshments and to talk with the speakers following the program.

**\*\* \*\* \* AUGUST PROGRAM \* \*\* \*\***

### **ELK MANAGEMENT PLAN/ELK HOT SPOTS**

Mark Birkhauser, a New Mexico Department of Game and Fish public affairs officer, will talk about an elk management plan currently being written and about controversies concerning elk in New Mexico. The plan could affect elk hunting in the state for the next few years. He also will talk about areas in which to hunt elk.

The intent of the plan is to determine goals for elk management in New Mexico and to lead to better cooperation and understanding between the Game and Fish Department and landowners.

Ranchers have been complaining that too many elk are eating grass they feel belongs to their cows. Game commission members wonder why more elk are not hunted if there are so many.

Public meetings soon will be held concerning the plan.

### **NEW MEXICO'S ENDANGERED SPECIES**

Sonja Jahrsdoerfer, New Mexico Endangered Species Coordinator for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, will show slides presenting an overview of the state's endangered plants and animals. She will talk about which species are endangered, where they are found, and what the threats are to their existence. She also will discuss the Endangered Species Act and tell of efforts to change the focus of recovery efforts from single species to ecosystems.

\*\*\*\*\*

### CALENDAR

**AWF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING - Tuesday, August 17**

The meeting will be held at 7 pm at the NMWF office conference room, 3240-D Juan Tabo NE; enter through the east door. All members are welcome to attend.

**CHILDREN'S FISHING CLINIC - Saturday, Aug. 28 - Kirtland Base, 10 a.m.**

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Albuquerque, NM 87111

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**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE--COMMITTEE MEMBERS WANTED**

We're seeking volunteers for a new Endangered Species Committee that AWF is starting.

The committee will look into threats faced by New Mexico's federally-listed endangered and threatened species and the status of their recovery plans. Members also will learn about the national Endangered Species Act and proposed amendments; then inform others of their findings. Call me if you're interested.

Richard Becker, chairman of the AWF Wetlands Committee, has asked members to contact him if they're interested in studying proposed national wetlands legislation and then discussing it with an aide of Congressman Steve Schiff. Call Richard at 255-7156.

The board has been working on establishing a grazing position. Let us know if you also are interested in being involved with writing the position.

Joyce Mendel (Phone 265-3840)

**VALLE VIDAL Work Project--Bill Reed, Project Leader**

We had 35 volunteers at the Valle Vidal work project July 16-18. Members of the Albuquerque Wildlife Federation, New Mexico Wildlife Federation, Sandia Mountain Wildlife & Conservation Association, Wild Turkey Federation, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation and several friends made up the group. There also were four U.S. Forest Service personnel and Larry Temple from the N.M. Department of Game and Fish.

We split up into three groups and worked on stream structures, repaired an elk enclosure, put up a lay down fence, and put stumps in the new McCrystal Lake for fish structure. As usual, we had a very enjoyable time and accomplished a lot. Herds of elk from two to over 200 were observed as well as several bucks and does.

I want to thank Fred Brown and Terry French for cooking the hamburgers and hot dogs and all who brought pot luck dishes. My thanks to all the volunteers, and hope to see all of you next year.

One thing happened while we were there that was unpleasant. A 6 x 6 bull elk was poached on Wednesday night on Comanche Creek. Only the hind quarters and hide were taken.

**CHILDREN'S FISHING CLINIC**

We still could use a few more volunteers for our annual children's fishing clinic on Saturday, Aug. 28. This year the clinic, which we cosponsor with the Cibola Forest, will be held in a park at Kirtland Base. It will run from 10 a.m. to noon, but volunteers should arrive an hour early.

Still needed are volunteers to give casting demonstrations, to help with registration, and to work at the final station giving out posters and certificates.

Our member Beverly DeGruyter, who works for the Cibola Forest, is coordinating the event. To volunteer, call Beverly at 761-4650 or stop by at an organizational meeting on August 18, 5:30 p.m., at the Cibola Forest office.

**AUGUST DOOR PRIZE**

The door prize this month will be a Legend 6 Igloo cooler--perfect for 6-packs. As usual, tickets will be available at the door.

**ALBUQUERQUE WILDLIFE FEDERATION membership application**

P. O. Box 1234, Albuquerque, NM 87103

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Family (\$25)\* \_\_\_\_\_

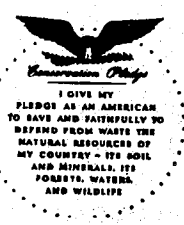
name of person to be NMWF member \_\_\_\_\_

additional NMWF member (\$10/member) \_\_\_\_\_

Single (\$20)\* \_\_\_\_\_

\* Includes one NM Wildlife Federation membership.

Additional NMWF memberships for family members can be added for \$10.



# Albuquerque Wildlife Federation

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## GENERAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY, September 8, 1993  
7:00 P.M.

HIGHLAND SENIOR CENTER--131 Monroe NE, Room 1

NOTE THE CHANGE IN DAY AND PLACE. Bear Canyon is closed for renovation.

There will be time for refreshments and to talk with the speaker following the program.

### \*\* \*\* \* SEPTEMBER PROGRAM \* \*\* \*\*

#### CHANGING CONDITIONS IN SOUTHWESTERN FORESTS

Marlin Johnson, assistant director of timber management for the Southwest region of the Forest Service, will show slides and talk about how human use has caused change in Southwestern forests and about the implications of that change.

Forests are constantly changing under natural conditions. However grazing, logging and controlling forest fires have brought about a different kind of change. Johnson will talk about some of the changes and discuss the future consequences if they are allowed to continue.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT REORGANIZATION

The State Game Commission has been reorganizing the Game and Fish Department. Among changes is the transfer of six positions from the Santa Fe office to the field, for conservation officers at area offices. The positions will come through existing vacancies and attrition over the next few years. The officers will have responsibility for law enforcement, wildlife and habitat management, and public relations.

The emphasis over the past few years has been on staff specialists supervising from the Santa Fe office. Now authority for all facets of wildlife management is being transferred to field operations in the four areas offices.

At the Aug. 24 commission meeting it was decided to transfer only six positions instead of the ten originally proposed, and to try to obtain funding for an extra four positions from the legislature.

A Conservation Division has been newly created, combining the Habitat, Lands and Environment Division with other programs, such as endangered species, which do not involve consumptive uses of wildlife. At its October meeting the Commission will consider requesting money from the state general fund for the new division. Commissioner Koch said on Aug. 24 that general fund money would be in addition to the \$3.3 million funding the division currently has, not in place of it.

#### CHILDREN'S FISHING CLINIC

We thank all those who worked at the annual Cibola Forest children's fishing clinic on Aug. 28. AWF members who volunteered were Steve Padilla, Tony Romero, Rose and Lavelle Thompson, and Cliff and Joyce Mendel. AWF member and Cibola Forest wildlife biologist Beverly DeGruyter coordinated the event.

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## GRAZING REFORM

Major elements of the Department of Interior Range Reform proposal for BLM lands (paraphrased from a National Wildlife Federation mailing) are:

Increasing Livestock Grazing Fees: The fee would be raised over a three year period to \$4.28 per month (from \$1.86) for a cow and calf, or five sheep, on BLM lands in the western United States. (Also on National Forest lands.)

Establishing New Guidelines for Rangeland Management: The public rangelands would be managed to achieve and sustain a healthy, diverse ecosystem, and to develop specific guidelines to guide grazing decisions on the ground. Unfortunately, the proposal contains no strategy for implementing the guidelines, thereby severely weakening their effectiveness. Further, the Department fails to recognize that some lands simply do not support livestock grazing, and should not be grazed.

Giving the Public a Voice in Public Lands Grazing: A process for the public to become involved in grazing decisions on public lands would be standardized. However, it is unclear whether these decisions are discretionary, and subject to appeal. Historically, livestock grazing management decisions on public lands have been considered a private affair between the BLM and the livestock operators.

Resting the Land for Conservation or Economic Purposes: Public lands would be allowed to be placed in "non-use" for up to 10 years to meet resource conservation objectives, or operators could take "non-use" for up to three years due to financial hardship. Under the current grazing regulations, livestock operators must use the available forage under a federal grazing permit, or risk losing the grazing permit to another operator.

Eliminating Livestock Grazing Advisory Boards: The proposal would eliminate livestock grazing advisory boards and revise the district advisory councils to address ecosystem management issues, including grazing management issues.

Updating Range Improvement Agreements: The proposal would eliminate a livestock operator's ability to assert any ownership of permanent new improvements on public lands, and repeal the policy that allows private interests to assert water rights on public lands for range water developments. This change would make BLM policy consistent with the current practices on National Forests.

Making the Management Decisions Stick: Grazing decisions would go into effect 30 days after the decision is made by the authorized officer. Presently management decisions can be stopped when such a decision is under administrative appeal.

Getting Rid of Bad Operators: The proposal would block livestock operators who have outstanding violations and a grazing permit canceled from receiving a new permit to graze on public lands for three years.

Providing Incentives for Good Operators: The proposal would give operators who are in compliance with the new management guidelines for grazing on public lands the security of tenure through a 10-year grazing permit (the current permit term). Operators who fail to comply with the new management guidelines would receive three-year or five-year permits.

In addition, good operators would have the highest priority for obtaining unallocated forage on public lands. Currently, those livestock operators who are overgrazing an allotment or having other management problems are the first in line to receive additional forage allocations. This situation would be reversed.

Send comments on the above proposal by September 12 to: Michael J. Penford; Assistant Director; Land and Renewable Resources; U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management; P.O. Box 65800, Washington, D.C. 20035-9998.

Also, now is the time for you to ask our Senators, Jeff Bingaman and Pete Domenici, and Representative Steve Schiff, to support and strengthen the Department of Interior's range reform proposals.

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P. O. Box 1234

Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103

## GENERAL MEETING



**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1993**  
**7:00 P. M.**  
**BEAR CANYON SENIOR CENTER - 4645 PITT, NE**

(north from Montgomery & Eubank, right on Lagrima de Oro  
for one long block then left on Pitt for a short block to BCSC)

AWF will again convene in facilities it has utilized over the  
past several years but in different rooms (5 & 6) on the west  
side of the complex. BCSC completed extensive renovation &  
expansion recently, a project which necessitated AWF to meet  
elsewhere temporarily.

### **\*\* \*\* \* OCTOBER PROGRAM \* \*\* \*\***

**John Crenshaw**, chief of the game department's public  
affairs division will be providing the AWF membership and  
guests considerable insight and facts related to changes now  
underway or perhaps already completed in the structure of  
that agency. These are substantial moves to strengthen the  
department's ability to carry out multiple mandates as NM's  
primary wildlife management agency.

Crenshaw is privy to more of what transpires within the  
department of game/fish than just about any person therein.  
He is a knowledgeable and articulate spokesperson for that  
organization and the game commission which sets policy. He  
will be fully prepared with information he knows will be of  
real interest to his audience. Known for his wit and for his  
ability to speak extemporaneously, John will welcome your  
questions, comments and opinions. He is also in a position  
pass along to the "powers that be" any and all concerns you  
may express on this occasion.

Consequent to Mr. Crenshaw's position within the game/  
fish agency structure, his acumen for responding to matters  
on which you desire more information, his may prove to be  
among the best programs of the current year. There will be  
ample opportunity for questions both during and following  
his formal remarks.

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As this newsletter is being prepared, **Cliff** and **Joyce Mendel** are winding up (down) their annual late summer/early autumn sail in their new craft on bays along the Atlantic Coast. Consequent to their deserved vacation, **Joyce's Message from the President** does not appear herein. We are confidently hopeful that they are enjoying themselves and that their new vessel proved to be truly seaworthy. It is our understanding that this recent addition to the Mendel's stable of watercraft has yet to be christened; something of an oversight it would appear. Perhaps there is a tradition with which some of us landlubbers are not familiar. Did they dare set sail in a nameless piece of flotsam?

There are numbers of things Joyce would have mention so we'll hop to them.

- 0 -

The board of directors of the Albuquerque Wildlife Federation has a new member, **Jim Hubert**, a recent retiree from the US Fish & Wildlife Service, appointed by Prexy Joyce Mendel. Jim spent most of his professional career with that agency in Oklahoma and Texas before retiring after a stint in the regional office of USFWS here in Albuquerque. His primary activities while with the feds were in habitat management, wildlife refuges and biological concerns.

Welcome aboard, Jim Hubert!

- 0 -

The New Mexico State Fair may have established new attendance records in September, given the excellent weather which prevailed throughout the period of its lengthy run. AWF participated in "Earth Day" activities when a booth was set up and staffed by volunteers **Sybil Russell**, **Linda Slutz** and **Jim Hubert**.

The project netted several new members of AWF although that benefit may have been outweighed by the simple expediency of people once again being made aware of the federation's existence and function.

A great big "thank you" to you three.

- 0 -

**Richard Becker**, AWF vice president, together with **Javon Evanoff**, **Dale Jones** and **Sue Lloyd**, met with a community liaison person on the staff of **Representative Steve Schiff** here in Albuquerque to discuss upcoming federal legislation on wetlands. The AWF group had an opportunity to express concerns and kto request additional information.

- 0 -

A strong solicitation is being made for people willing to serve Albuquerque Wildlife Federation in any capacity (officers and/or board members) to make known their willingness to do so. No prior experience is necessary; no special expertise is required. A genuine desire to volunteer service in the interests of natural resource concerns is a must. As an officer or member of the board, you will be working with people who share your important concerns and who have much by way of satisfaction to gain by working with and assisting you.

won't you give this challenge some truly serious thought? Talk it over with others who have worn the mantle of leadership in the past. Then, by all means, let the nominating committee know of your interest in serving by contacting President Joyce. Her number is: 265-3840.

**ALBUQUERQUE WILDLIFE FEDERATION membership application**  
P.O. Box 1234, Albuquerque, NM 87103

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Family (\$25) \* \_\_\_\_\_  
name of individual to be NMWF member \_\_\_\_\_  
additional NMWF member (\$10/member) \_\_\_\_\_

Single (\$20) \* \_\_\_\_\_

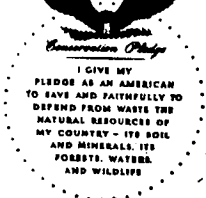
\* Includes one NM Wildlife Federation membership.

Additional NMWF memberships for family members can be added for \$10.



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OUR WILDLIFE AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
P. O. Box 1234  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103



## GENERAL MEETING

THURSDAY, November 11, 1993  
7:00 P.M.

NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF GAME AND FISH--ALBUQUERQUE OFFICE  
3841 Midway Pl. NE

**\*\*Note the change of location for this meeting**

Directions: Take Jefferson north from Montgomery or west from its exit on I-25 or south from Osuna. Turn west on Singer, then north on Office Blvd. The building is located at the junction of Office Blvd. and Midway Place.

### **\*\* \*\* \* NOVEMBER PROGRAM \* \*\* \*\***

#### **BOSQUE DEL APACHE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE**

Don and Shirley Ensminger, active birders and full-time volunteers at the Bosque del Apache, will show a videotape and talk about birds, other wildlife, and land management on the refuge. They also will discuss their insights as refuge volunteers and answer questions.

This is the Ensminger's second year at the Bosque del Apache, where Don has a particular interest in cranes. Before retiring, he oversaw rubber plantations for tire companies and worked in such places as Africa, Indonesia, Brazil, the Philippines, and Guatemala.

### CALENDAR

**AWF Board of Directors Meeting - Tuesday, November 16**  
The meeting will be held at 7 pm at the NMWF office, 3240-D Juan Tabo NE.

**Annual Meeting & Potluck - Thursday, December 9, 7 p.m.**  
\*\*\*\*\*

#### **1994 NOMINATIONS**

Richard Becker, Cliff Mendel and Sybil Russell have been appointed to the AWF nominating committee. Don't wait for them to call you. Volunteer! Or call with suggestions for officers and board members. Their numbers are: Richard: 255-7156; Cliff: 265-3840; Sybil: 821-1273. The election will be held at our Annual Meeting in December.  
\*\*\*\*\*

#### **IN SYMPATHY**

Our sympathy to C.K. Collins whose wife Merle died in August. Merle was a long-time member of AWF and shared C.K.'s avid interest in the outdoors. We will greatly miss seeing Merle at our meetings.

DEPARTMENT OF GAME & FISH  
CONSERVATION SERVICES DIVISION

The State Game Commission approved formation of a new division, Conservation Services, by the NM Department of Game & Fish (DG&F). Conservation Services encompasses Habitat, Environment, Property, Endangered Species, Share with Wildlife and Watchable Wildlife. Budget for these organizations for next fiscal year was developed with about the same level of funding as for previous years.

AWF has endorsed this DG&F reorganization. It is believed putting activities principally related to wildlife needs not associated with hunting and fishing into one division will make these responsibilities of DG&F more visible to the public. Non-consumptive activities accounted for nearly half of the \$421 M spent by New Mexicans for wildlife-related activities in 1991; these don't now contribute much to DG&F support. Perhaps this can be changed.

RECENT AWF ACTIONS

\* We notified our U.S. senators of our support for grazing reform legislation and our opposition to the filibuster by Senator Domenici.

\* The AWF president commented at a meeting of the State Game Commission in support of general fund money being used for the new Conservation Services Division.

\* While we strongly support the Sikes Act Habitat Improvement program, we've expressed concern that a particular proposed project using Sikes Act money didn't appear to benefit wildlife. We were recently been informed that, due to our concern, Sikes Act money will not be used for the project.

\* We've written letters advocating the use of prescribed burning as a forest management tool in the Manzano Mountains and urging the Bernalillo County Commission to become involved with open space acquisition by adopting an Open Space Joint Powers Agreement.

POSSIBLE WILDLIFE REINTRODUCTIONS: RESPONSES TO AWF INQUIRIES

BIGHORN SHEEP: We earlier proposed that the Sandia Ranger District work toward reintroduction of Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep in the Sandia Mountains. A recently published study by the Game and Fish Department evaluates possible bighorn habitats in New Mexico.

Of seven low-elevation areas studied, the Sandias were found to have the second lowest suitability for Rocky Mountain bighorn. The report states: "the potential of maintaining a bighorn population in the Sandia Mountains is severely limited by intense recreation use."

However Cibola Forest biologist Larry Cosper believes that with some hard work it may be possible improve the habitat sufficiently to establish a small bighorn herd that could be observed by the public. Those interested in this project will meet with him this winter to discuss what can be done. If you're interested in bighorn reintroduction and didn't indicate your interest last spring, inform an AWF officer at the general meeting or call Joyce Mendel, 265-3840.

BEAVER: Last summer we submitted a Habitat Stamp Project proposal to reintroduce beaver into Tajique Creek (in the Manzano Mountains) or into another suitable location on the Mountainair Ranger District--either after the road adjacent to Tajique Creek is relocated or in conjunction with the relocation.

The district ranger has replied that beaver reintroduction and its effects can be considered after a decision is made about the road.

ALBUQUERQUE WILDLIFE FEDERATION membership application

P. O. Box 1234, Albuquerque, NM 87103

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Family (\$25)\* \_\_\_\_\_

name of person to be NMWF member \_\_\_\_\_

additional NMWF member (\$10/member) \_\_\_\_\_

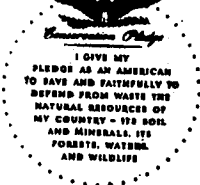
Single (\$20)\* \_\_\_\_\_

\* Includes one NM Wildlife Federation membership.

Additional NMWF memberships for family members can be added for \$10.

# Albuquerque Wildlife Federation

1914-1952 GAME PROTECTIVE ASSN. / 1952-1972 ALBUQUERQUE WILDLIFE & CONSERVATION ASSN. / 1973 ALBUQUERQUE WILDLIFE FEDERATION  
ORGANIZED BY SPORTSMEN IN 1914 TO PROTECT AND PERPETUATE  
OUR WILDLIFE AND NATURAL RESOURCES



## AWF ANNUAL MEETING AND POTLUCK

THURSDAY, December 9, 1993

6:30 p.m. (Note Time Change for this Special Meeting)

Rooms 5 & 6--Bear Canyon Senior Center--4645 Pitt NE  
(North from Montgomery & Eubank, right on Lagrima De Oro  
for one long block, then left on Pitt for a short block to BCSC)

**\*\* \*\* \* VOTING! POTLUCK! VIDEO! \*\* \*\* \***

We'll organize dishes for our holiday potluck at 6:30 and hold the annual meeting for members shortly thereafter. Bring a dish for the potluck if convenient, but it is not necessary. There always is plenty to eat.

During the annual meeting we will elect officers and board members to serve in 1994. We also will vote on a position statement regarding grazing, and possibly other position statements as well (copies available at the meeting).

Our goal is to write out our positions on various issues, with membership approval, so that everyone knows where we stand. The proposed grazing position statement, originally written by Yvonne Chauvin and Roby Wallace, was reviewed by the board of directors at three meetings and minor revisions made. Now we need to know what you think. A copy of the draft statement is on the next page.

Following the potluck, 1993 work project chairman Bill Reed will show a short video of the work projects carried out by AWF this year. Our photo album and scrapbook, maintained by Barbara Bergstrom, also will be available for you to look through.

Please try to come and to bring your families. This is a time to become better acquainted and to let your views be known.

### NOMINEES FOR 1994 OFFICERS AND BOARD

|           |                |                    |            |
|-----------|----------------|--------------------|------------|
| PRESIDENT | Richard Becker | BOARD OF DIRECTORS |            |
| VICE PRES |                | Barbara Bergstrom  | Jim Hubert |
| TREASURER |                | Cecil Haas         | Bill Reed  |
| SECRETARY | Charles Easton |                    |            |

The nominating committee still needs volunteers to fill the positions of vice president and treasurer. Nominations for officers and directors will be accepted from the floor. No fewer than four and no more than eight directors are to be elected at the annual meeting. The past president automatically becomes a member of the board.

We are very fortunate to not only have an excellent slate for the board of directors, but also strong candidates for president and secretary. Richard served as vice president this year and has been chairman of our wetlands committee for the past two years. He recently initiated dialogue between his committee and Congressman Steve Schiff's office in Albuquerque.

Chuck served as secretary this year. He not only did an excellent job of recording meeting proceedings--he also never missed a board meeting.

DRAFT COPY

POSITION PAPER:  
GRAZING ON LANDS ADMINISTERED BY  
DEPARTMENTS OF INTERIOR AND AGRICULTURE  
DECEMBER, 1993

GENERAL POSITION

The Albuquerque Wildlife Federation (AWF), devoted to the conservation of our nation's natural resources and to professional wildlife management, supports management practices which facilitate the production and conservation of wildlife and wildlife habitat. We support responsible grazing management, as defined by management which meets the above criteria. As a result of the negative impacts of much grazing management under the Department of Interior and Department of Agriculture on wildlife and habitat, we feel that grazing reform is needed on lands administered by those departments. Furthermore, we feel that dramatic improvements in grazing management are crucial to the future of wildlife, habitat, and the watersheds upon which they occur. The goal of federal rangeland management should be to maintain healthy ecosystems that support thriving communities of native plants and animals, with special attention given to the West's scarce but critical riparian areas. We believe that fulfillment of the following points is critical to reaching this goal.

FEES

1. Phase-in of higher grazing fees that will more fairly reflect the federal cost of rangeland management and be dedicated to the purpose of improved range management.
2. Establishment of an incentive program for grazing methods that enhance improvement of the ecosystem.

MONITORING

Monitor all allotments at frequencies appropriate to the recent historic trend on the allotment, and adjust management systems in accordance with the findings.

LAND MANAGEMENT

1. Reassess stocking rates annually and adjust as needed.
2. Phase out grazing on non-suitable lands.
3. Phase out grazing from lands in poor condition. If good condition is later achieved, implement new grazing plan which will, at minimum, maintain the land in good condition.
4. Establish grazing systems to achieve the desirable future condition of the area.
5. Manage grazing so as to achieve ecosystem objectives in sensitive areas (e.g. riparian and others).
6. Manage livestock to achieve recovery objectives for threatened or endangered species and rare communities.
7. Abolish grazing advisory boards and solicit public input on grazing issues as they arise.

LAND USE PERMITS AND LAND VALUES POLICY

Amend the present allotment system to develop a land use system in which areas presently known as grazing allotments become multiple use areas, in which non-livestock oriented entities can compete for the allotment permit.

THANK YOU

It's been a pleasure to serve as president of AWF for the past two years, with supportive officers and directors. Thanks to this year's vice president Richard Becker, secretary Charles Easton, treasurer Roby Wallace, and directors Barbara Bergstrom, Yvonne Chauvin, Jim Hubert, Steve Padilla, Bill Reed, Sybil Russell, and Bill Zeedyk. Thanks also to Dave Weingarten and John Davis for newsletter assistance, Beverly DeGruyter for chairing the education/Wildlife Week committee, and Cliff Mendel for mailing renewal notices.

Joyce Mendel