

MINUTES OF MEETING
SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES
January 26, 1981

The third meeting of the Natural Resources Committee was called to order by Senator Harold L. Dover, Chairman, at 1:00 P.M., on the above date in the auditorium at the Scott-Hart Building (Old Highway Building).

ROLL CALL: Upon roll call, all members were present with the exception of Senator Keating.

CONSIDERATION OF SB 123:

AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC RESOURCE LAND;
PROVIDING FOR STATE OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL
OF CERTAIN LAND WITHIN STATE BOUNDARIES;
PROVIDING FOR ADMINISTRATION BY THE BOARD
OF LAND COMMISSIONERS, ESTABLISHING A MULTIPLE-
USE POLICY FOR ADMINISTRATION OF THE RESOURCE
LAND; PROVIDING A PENALTY; AND PROVIDING AN
EFFECTIVE DATE

Chairman Dover called upon Senator Etchart, District #2, to explain SB 123. The bill will claim the BLM lands, the Forest Service Lands, and the CMR Wildlife Refuge as a new category of Montana lands to be known as "Montana Resource Lands". These lands will not be administered as our present state school trust lands are. An entirely new management plan will be developed by the State Land Board in the next two years. This management plan will then be presented to the 1983 Legislative Assembly for final approval, modification and adoption.

Chairman Dover called for proponents to SB 123.

Several proponents testified in favor of this bill and their written statements are attached. They are: Bernard Harkness, Dell, MT; Barney Dowdle, Professor of Forest Resources, University of Washington; Marlyn Orahoad, Phillips County; Darlene Hildreth, Beaverhead County Freeman Institute; Tack Van Cleve, Big Timber; Ray Beck, Montana Association of State Grazing Districts; Walt Collins, Fort Peck Game Range Association; and Jess Kilgore, President, Agricultural Preservation Association.

Harold Brown, Bozeman, 4x4 Association, feels that we would have a better chance to get our way in recreational areas if we deal with the state as opposed to the federal government.

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John Baucus, Helena representative of Montana Wool Growers Association, supports this bill as it calls for the study of the concept of the Sagebrush Rebellion, and if the study does determine that the state of Montana is capable of taking care of its own natural resources will support this bill.

Pat Chevallier, Montana Cow Bells, supports SB 123 and urges the committee to give it a do pass.

Paul Ringling, Montana Cattlemen's Association, supports this bill. Eight months ago the association started action to have public meetings around the state for discussion of this bill. The result of the meetings was that the Montana Cattlemen's Association adopt a resolution to support the Sagebrush Rebellion bill. There is a question whether, based on past history of the management of the lands of Montana, Montana will be able to manage these lands for the benefit of all the people of the state. The study will tell.

Bill Big Springs, County Commissioner, Glacier County, feels the less federal government involvement the better.

John Eliel, representing farmers and ranchers from Beaverhead County, supports this bill.

Ed Swanson, Glasgow, Montana, supports this bill because he feels that Montana can administer Montana lands better than officials in Washington, D. C.

Mons Tiegan, Montana Stockgrowers Association, Montana Public Lands Counsel, Montana Chamber of Commerce and Montana Taxpayers Association, supports this bill as he believes Montana can do better for Montanans than the federal government, who have to deal with the needs of several different states and not Montana's basic needs.

Gene Chapel, Lewistown Farm Bureau, spoke on behalf of this bill and questioned if the opponents have really read the bill and realize that it just refers to a study of whether Montana can manage the lands. It does not turn the lands over to Montana.

Cliff Edwards, Trial Attorney from Billings, is in favor of this bill as he has had dealings with the federal government where they were not familiar with the area or its problems and there solution to a drought problem was not the correct one. This bill will give the lands back to Montanans, whose knowledge of them is first hand.

There was not enough time to hear all proponents. The following supporters furnished written testimony to be included in the record and their statements are attached: Lorraine Gillies, Philipsburg; Gladys Silk, Reporter for the Glasgow Courier; Teddy Thompson, Big Timber; S. S. Maclay, Lolo; David J. Maclay, Missoula; Alice Fryslie, Montana Cattlemen's Association.

Senator Dover asked for opponents to SB 123.

Several opponents testified in favor of this bill and their written statements are attached. They are as follows: Charles A. Banderob, President, Montana Senior Citizens Association; Steven E. Slagle, Chairman, Montana 4x4 Association; Donald R. Judge, COPE Director, Montana State AFL-CIO; Doris Milner, Hamilton; Tom Ryan, Montana Senior Citizens Association; Phil Tawney, Montana Democratic Party; Willa Hall, League of Women Voters of Montana; and Lance Olsen, President, Great Falls Wildlands and Resources Association.

Rich Day, Montana Wildlife Federation, feels this bill would not be in the best interest of Montanans. Transfer to the state will cause many problems and with the loss of federal revenue the state may be forced to introduce a sales tax. The lands would be leased to the highest bidder and the sportsmen of the state would not be allowed access.

J. D. Lynch, Montana State Building and Construction Trades Counsel, pointed out to the proponents that the average Montanan citizen is not only frustrated by the federal government, but is also frustrated with the state government and county government. Feels that this type of legislation will not accomplish anything but closing off public lands.

Susan Leaphart opposes SB 123 and urges a do not pass.

Arnold Rieder, rancher and user of BLM ground for summer pasture opposes this bill. In western Montana there are thousands of small ranchers that are relying on BLM and forest service lands for supplemental pasture. The PCA is having trouble putting operational loans together for the small rancher. If this bill passes and the federal lands are sold into private ownership, the small rancher who relies on BLM will be finished.

Jack Atcheson, Butte, Montana, does not like the federal government any more than the next person and is concerned also with the multiple use grazing of the Charles Russell Game Preserve, but is more worried about the recreational industry of Montana, which is Montana's number three industry. This bill will hinder this industry greatly. Feels that Montana did not handle the gift lands from the Enabling Act

of 1889 as they should have been handled and would do the same thing with these federal lands.

Bill Cunningham, Montana Wilderness Society, feels that Montana is a recreational state and we have many wilderness resources. He is concerned that if this bill would go through the lands would eventually be sold to big corporations outside the state. He does not feel that SB 123 is the solution to what problems there may be with the federal government, but that it can be worked out without this measure.

Since all of the opponents did not have time to speak, attached is testimony from the following opposition: George N. Engler, Great Falls; Susan G. Smith, Hamilton; Gary Stuker, President, Hill County Wildlife Association; Jacqueline Locke, Ravalli County; Dorothy Raver, Stevensille; Wallace L. Crawford, Corvallis; Carl Peter Nielsen, Missoula; Peggy Munoz, Hamilton; Tonia Bloom, Ravalli County; Tom Sewell, Missoula; Noel Rosetta, Audubon Society; Donald W. Nelson, Dillon; Montana Environmental Information Center; and Stan Walthall, Sierra Club of Montana.

Chairman Dover asked for questions from the committee.

Senator Brown asked Senator Etchart if title to the lands in question would pass to the state of Montana on the date of this act.

Senator Etchart said that title cannot actually pass until action has been taken on the federal level. The first step is that the state of Montana will determine if in fact it wants to claim the federal lands.

Senator Van Valkenburg asked Senator Etchart if there has been any litigation with the federal government in the six states that have enacted similar legislation.

Senator Etchart said no, they are waiting for the right case.

Senator Van Valkenburg stated that Section 8 of SB 123 provides for imprisonment of up to 10 years of any individual attempting to exercise jurisdiction or control over resource land. This seems to indicate we are forcing the litigation issue as opposed to getting congress to act.

Senator Etchart said that the penalty clause is to show the federal bureaucrats that we mean business.

Senator Brown referred to Page 3, lines 16-19, which shows a cut off date of December 31, 1976. Does this mean that an area designated for wildlife refuge and national wilderness system after that date would come under this law and if it was a wildlife refuge in excess of 400,000 acres it would also come under this law.

Senator Etchart said that the cut off date is designed for wilderness areas that have not actually been designated by that date. The wilderness studies would be transferred to the state along with the lands.

Senator Brown stated that if this is intended to make it retroactive through 1976 then it should be so indicated in the title of the bill.

Senator Etchart said an amendment could be made to the bill.

Senator Van Valkenburg asked Mr. Dowdle if he was in favor of turning public lands over to private ownership.

Barney Dowdle said no, that is our historical rationale, free enterprize. I feel that the lands can be managed closer to home to encourage leasee to maximize productivity of the soil.

Senator Van Valkenburg asked Mr. Dowdle if he would advocate providing some mechanism whereby turning public lands over to private ownership when we are talking about commercial, public type land.

Barney Dowdle said that he would agree to a leasing agreement.

Senator Etchart gave a brief closing statement.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:00 P.M.



HAROLD L. DOVER, CHAIRMAN

ROLL CALL

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

47th LEGISLATIVE SESSION - - 1981

Date 1/26/81

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
Harold Dover, Chairman	✓		
Mark Etchart, Vice Chairman			
Thomas Keating		✓	
Roger Elliott	✓		
Larry Tveit	✓		
Jesse O'Hara	✓		
John Manley	✓		
William Hafferman	✓		
Steve Brown	✓		
Dave Manning	✓		
Patrick Ryan	✓		
Fred Van Valkenburg	✓		

Each day attach to minutes.

FACT SHEET
RELATING TO
SB 123
AT THE
NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE HEARING
ON
JANUARY 26, 1981
BY
BERNARD HARKNESS
DELL, MT.

PROCEEDINGS

Since the area known as the Western states was brought into the territory of the United States, the federal government has released very little of the lands of the West to private ownership. A combined effort by federal bureaucrats and special interest groups has resulted in the federal government dominating the economic and political history of the West by controlling the land.

The result is 70% ownership of the land mass west of the 100th meridian, ranging from 29% of Washington state to 97% of Alaska.

With federal control of 30% of Montana comes bureaucratic regulation, red tape and needless impediments to the legitimate and appropriate development of Montana's resources.

The problem is Washington control of Montana lands and water--The problem is bureaucratic denial of states rights--The problem is the inequality of Montana with other states.

The solution is simple.

Divest the federal government of public lands and place the control in the State.

We believe Senate Bill #123, Montana Land Reformation Act, is the first and one of the major steps necessary to control Montana's destiny and correct the major source of the inequality between the states. The vesting of the ownership and management of the public lands in Montana means a rebirth of the prestige and power of the State Government and a long overdue withdrawal of the massive dominance and power of the federal bureaucracies over Montana.

COMPARISON OF BLM AND STATE LAND MANAGEMENT COSTS

Many questions have been asked as to whether state governments could economically own and manage the federal lands. The attached information has been developed by the American Farm Bureau Federation to provide statistical data for use in discussing this question.

The numbers used in these calculations were taken from published agency reports or from personal interviews with an official of the agency. In all instances, the workpapers' footnotes will identify the report and page number, or, if received by interview, the name of the agency official providing the information.

To achieve uniformity and reduce misunderstanding, the following descriptions are provided:

Acreage Managed (Column #1)

This number is the acreage owned and administered by the Bureau of Land Management, surface and subsurface.

Total Revenue (Column #2)

This includes revenue from all sources. The only exception is those state land agencies which have substantial annual interest income produced by long-term capital investments. For this comparison, interest income has been deducted from the "total revenue" figure.

Expenditures (Column #3)

This is the management expenditure for the year 1978. In some instances, the state agency may be on a calendar year and BLM on a fiscal year. For this comparison, a 12-month period that overlaps as much as possible with the BLM's fiscal year was used.

Number of Staff (Column #4)

This is the total of year-round permanent employees. The agencies all report the use of part-time employees. Where the employee is not retained for a full year, he/she is not included in this column.

Time Period

The period of time used in this comparison is 1978. The BLM's published reports are for fiscal year October 1, 1977 to September 30, 1978. The state land agency numbers are for a 12-month span that overlaps as much as possible the period of October 1, 1977 through September 30, 1978.

It is anticipated that some of the comparisons on these workpapers will be criticized as improper. Some may suggest that state lands are of a better quality than BLM lands. This is not technically correct. The states, with the exception of "in lieu" selections, had no choice in the quality of land they manage. The states were given by Congress land grants of specific sections of land in each township. "In lieu" selections provided states the only opportunity to upgrade the quality of state lands they received.

Some may also criticize that state land agencies manage only for optimum economic return and BLM must provide multiple use management. This, again, is only partially correct. The state land agencies, by law, are required to manage for maximum economic return to the institution awarded the land grant. Under that mandate, it is common for a state land management agency to have five or six multiple use leases in effect during a given year on the same piece of land. The difference in higher BLM management costs and lower economic return results from the difference in "how" the lands receive intensive management. The state agencies generally have the private sector (or leaseholders) make capital improvements and provide management services for the land resources. BLM, on the other hand, makes capital investments from available funds and attempts to provide management, via its employees and agency directives.

The proposed cost comparisons on the attached workpapers have some apple-orange comparisons. However, they can be defended as very useful in demonstrating that BLM services, when compared to state land management agencies' services, are not cost-efficient. Most importantly, the comparisons should be the means of discussing whether all of BLM's ongoing services are needed or desirable and whether BLM's management philosophy is counterproductive to Congressional directives.

The following statement has appeared in many state BLM fiscal and statistical reports:

"REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES

Revenues collected by BLM from resource management programs far outweigh the expenditures. The BLM is one of the few agencies in the federal government which annually produces a profit from their operation. Most BLM employees are proud of this record and feel that we have performed a service that pays our way.

"The revenues received from public lands are divided with the states and counties and a part goes to the U.S. Treasury to pay the bills of other agencies."
(Quote from BLM Fact Book.)

WORK PAPER
COMPARISON OF BLM & STATE LAND MANAGEMENT COST

MONTANA

Zack Stevens

1978

State

State Staff

Leonard H. Johnson, ABBF STAFF-NEER DIV.

AGENCY	#1 ACREAGE MANAGED	#2 TOTAL REVENUE (INCOME)	#3 EXPENDITURES (ACTUAL)	#4 NO. OF STAFF	#5 NO. OF STAFF PER MILL ACRES	#6 INCOME PER STAFF	#7 NET INCOME OR LOSS	#8 MANAGE- MENT COST PER ACRE	#9 INCOME PER ACRE	#10 BLM ACRES COMPARED TO STATE ACRES
BLM	27,665,588 Page 8	\$19,260,195 Page 23	\$16,469,000 Page 18	571 Page	49	\$33,731	\$2,791,195	.60	.70	5.3 larger
STATE	5,224,247 Page 3	\$11,703,942 Page 5	\$1,161,794 Page (a)	55 Page (b)	11	\$212,799	\$10,542,148	.23	2.24	5.3 smaller

SOURCE OF INFORMATION

Public Lands Digest 1978-79.

BLM

STATE Montana Department of State Lands Statistical Report plus Hank Whitaker letter. (9/25/79)

(a) & (b) received by phone from Hank Whitaker.

FOOTNOTES

BLM in Montana manages 5 1/4 times larger acreage, 14 times larger budget and 10-1/3 times larger staff than the State Land Department, yet BLM only produces 1.6 times larger dollar income when compared to the State Land Department. It cost BLM 60¢ per acre managed compared to 23¢ per acre for state management. BLM collects 70¢ of income per acre compared to \$2.24 per acre managed by the state. Revenue generated per BLM employee is \$33,731 compared to \$212,799 per employee in the State Land Department.

WORKPAPER
COMPARISON OF BLM & STATE LAND MANAGEMENT COST
1978

CHART 3

Bureau of Land Management Statistics - B
State Land Management Agency Statistics - S

Prepared by AFBF - NER Division

		11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
STATE		ACREAGE MANAGED	TOTAL REVENUE (INCOME)	EXPENDITURES (ACTUAL)	NO. OF STAFF	NO. OF STAFF (PER MIL. ACRES)	INCOME PER STAFF	NET INCOME OR LOSS	MGMT. COST PER ACRE	INCOME PER ACRE
Arizona	B	12,596,058	2,887,775	8,269,825	253	20	11,414	(5,382,050)	.66	.23
	S	9,581,976	18,610,873	2,588,500	95	10	195,904	16,022,373	.27	1.94
California	B	15,607,125	38,913,980	23,484,000	734	47	53,016	15,429,980	1.50	2.49
	S	4,000,000	106,954,000	8,094,000	243	61	440,134	98,860,000	2.02	25.74
Colorado	B	7,996,260	31,431,014	17,399,000	580	73	56,874	14,032,014	2.18	4.13
	S	2,617,978	11,458,552	524,674	27	10	424,391	10,933,878	.20	4.39
Idaho	B	11,949,386	6,036,741	14,389,000	492	41	122,698	(8,352,259)	1.20	.51
	S	2,520,065	16,760,466	10,233,400	233	92	719,333	6,527,066	4.06	6.65
Montana	B	27,665,588	19,260,195	16,469,000	571	49	33,731	2,791,195	.60	.70
	S	5,224,247	11,703,942	1,161,794	55	11	212,799	10,542,148	.23	2.24
Nevada	B	49,163,442	12,693,446	10,922,200	402	8	31,576	1,771,246	.22	.26
	S	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
*Nevada does not own state grant lands and was not included in totals.										
New Mexico	B	12,959,665	126,226,624	15,292,600	326	40	387,198	110,934,024	1.18	9.74
	S	9,222,698	104,681,253	1,541,993	119	13	879,674	103,139,260	.17	11.35
Oregon/ Washington	B	16,034,694	194,808,320	44,447,199	1,091	68	178,559	150,361,121	2.77	12.15
	S	765,493	15,060,000	3,348,500	34	44	442,941	11,711,500	4.38	19.67
Washington	B	2,267,963	97,303,336	11,937,000	438	193	221,950	85,366,336	5.26	42.90
	S									
Utah	B	22,076,000	27,565,309	12,389,515	409	19	67,397	15,175,794	.56	1.25
	S	3,629,122	8,473,816	612,451	19	5	445,990	7,861,365	.17	2.34
Wyoming	B	17,793,173	161,255,000	18,208,000	570	32	282,904	143,047,000	1.02	9.06
	S	3,654,807	24,959,567	1,125,000	50	14	499,191	23,834,567	.31	6.83
Total	B	193,841,391	621,078,404	181,270,339	5,428	397	1,225,367	439,807,763		
Total	S	43,484,349	405,432,805	41,167,317	1,113	453	4,482,307	374,795,493		

GROSS INCOME TO U.S. FOREST SERVICE BY STATE AND BY SOURCES IN 1978.
 COLUMN #5 IS ESTIMATED INCOME TO STATES FOR 1979 FROM FOREST LANDS
 IF ALL U.S. FOREST SERVICE LANDS HAD BEEN IN STATE OWNERSHIP

STATE	FOREST SERVICE	TIMBER	INCOME		1978 TOTAL
	TOTAL ACRES		GRAZING	ALL OTHER	
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5
Alabama	642,820	1,165,619.	1,014.	155,987.	1,322,620.
Alaska	20,594,144	1,209,089.	10.	119,886.	1,328,985.
Arizona	11,270,325	11,851,077.	1,798,765.	742,423.	14,392,265.
Arkansas	2,469,314	5,069,318.	11,326.	1,203,031.	6,283,675.
California	20,359,362	156,131,792.	590,763.	5,439,125.	162,161,680.
Colorado	14,338,911	584,934.	1,121,393.	2,121,066.	3,827,393.
Connecticut	10				
Florida	1,083,479	2,528,481.	10,429.	641,068.	3,179,978.
Georgia	858,646	2,028,001.	2,338.	82,984.	2,113,323.
Idaho	20,410,637	27,425,063.	939,872.	528,473.	28,893,408.
Illinois	257,815		1,016.	62,726.	63,742.
Indiana	182,858	118,305.		29,736.	148,041.
Kansas	107,700				
Kentucky	662,387	8,532.	2.	172,194.	180,728.
Louisiana	597,032	7,740,892.	9,071.	348,407.	8,098,370.
Maine	51,442	17,926.		19,360.	37,286.
Michigan	2,713,675	974,059.		454,181.	1,428,240.
Minnesota	2,794,467	303,738.		276,706.	580,444.
Mississippi	1,139,689	13,384,122.	5,446.	1,702,714.	15,092,282.
Missouri	1,457,224	290,162.	9,672.	6,527,823.	6,827,657.
Montana	16,768,524	16,758,425.	818,051.	498,129.	18,074,605.
Nebraska	351,499		160,385.	18,487.	178,872.
Nevada	5,143,270	236,033.	388,463.	293,945.	918,441.
New Hampshire	683,193	259,025.		279,744.	538,769.
New Mexico	9,244,709	5,146,180.	1,108,510.	464,254.	6,718,944.
New York	13,232				
North Carolina	1,155,568	486,668.		160,931.	647,599.
North Dakota	1,105,585				
Ohio	170,421	129,736.		28,949.	158,685.
Oklahoma	291,326	826,130.	986.	37,940.	865,056.
Oregon	15,605,290	330,040,189.	623,271.	1,221,410.	331,884,870.
Pennsylvania	508,586	1,404,689.		165,801.	1,570,490.
Puerto Rico	27,846	1,624.		14,144.	15,768.
South Carolina	607,568	5,560,179.		33,680.	5,593,859.
South Dakota	1,995,077	1,524,387.	141,033.	134,012.	1,799,432.
Tennessee	621,110	252,814.		89,915.	342,729.
Texas	781,601	3,165,763.	6,341.	214,397.	3,386,506.
Utah	8,045,869	894,686.	769,745.	797,736.	2,462,167.
Vermont	266,012	62,022.	92.	74,968.	137,082.
Virginia	1,609,784	308,714.	1,510.	224,026.	534,250.
Virgin Islands	147				
Washington	9,096,709	98,860,416.	148,807.	633,717.	99,642,940.
West Virginia	963,345	148,053.	5,769.	318,619.	472,441.
Wisconsin	1,495,120	915,854.		190,032.	1,105,886.
Wyoming	9,252,329	1,547,520.	713,722.	534,395.	2,795,837.
TOTAL	187,845,657				

- NOTES: 1. Timber receipts are generally allocated to the states and counties on a 25-75 split. There are exceptions, i.e., C & C lands, Coos Bay lands.
 2. Mineral receipts are allocated to states by BLM.
 3. Grazing receipts are allocated on same authority as BLM employees.

SOURCE: Unpublished Report of the Forest Service - 1978.

ORGANIZATIONS TESTIFYING

GARFIELD-McCONE COUNTY LEGISLATIVE ASSOCIATION - Glen Childers

FORT PECK GAME RANGE - Jerry Coldwell

MONTANA TAXPAYERS' ASSOCIATION - S. Keith Anderson

STILLWATER COUNTY AGRICULTURE LEGISLATIVE ASSOCIATION)

SWEET GRASS COUNTY PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION)

PARK COUNTY LEGISLATIVE ASSOCIATION) Jess Kilgore

AGRICULTURE PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION - *Hamilton Co*)

MONTANA WOMEN IN TIMBER - Barbara Buentemeyer

MONTANA WOOL GROWERS' ASSOCIATION - *John Baer* Bob Gilbert

MONTANA FARM BUREAU FEDERATION - Bill Brown

MONTANA CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION - Paul Ringling

MONTANA 4-WHEEL DRIVE ASSOCIATION - Harold Brown - *primarily section 10000*

MONTANA COW BELLES - Mrs. Earl Lindgren - *relief for ranching*

MONTANA ASSOCIATION OF GRAZING DISTRICTS - Bill Wagner

MONTANA STOCKGROWERS ASSOCIATION - Mons Teigen - *100000 to set up study*

MONTANA PUBLIC LANDS COUNCIL - James E. Courtney

MONTANA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE - Forrest H. Boles

Watermen's opponents of Phillips & Co { Gas payers pay for 1st & 2nd time. 3rd time is back object to them

Beaverhead County, Brown & Stryker

Ed Swanson from Glasgow

Lawyer from Billings
Rep. Vick & Sanders

STATEMENT TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES
OF THE STATE OF MONTANA^{1/}

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee, my name is Barney Dowdle. I'm a Professor of Forest Resources and Adjunct Professor of Economics at the University of Washington. I was invited to appear here today because my special field of interest is publicly owned commercial forest lands; the historical rationale for their creation, and the economic and social implications of their management. These issues are before this Committee.

I emphasize commercial forest lands because the economic and political justification for public ownership of commercial forest lands, as opposed to public ownership of parks and wilderness areas, is quite different. The latter have always been considered legitimate functions of government in our economic system, although reasonable people might differ as to the optimal amount. The village "commons" which characterized the early settlements in New England are examples of public land ownership which served a public or common interest.

Public ownership of commercial forest lands, on the other hand, is a belated development in our history, dating from the late 19th century when the belief became widespread that private ownership of forest land and the free enterprise system would not work in timber production.

In my opinion, this latter belief is mistaken, and this mistaken belief is a fundamental cause of current dissension over federal ownership and man-

^{1/} Presented by Barney Dowdle, Professor of Forest Resources and Adjunct Professor of Economics, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, January 26, 1981.

agement of resources in the western states. The "Sagebrush Rebellion" is not a rebellion in the usual sense of the term, if we view it in historical perspective; rather, it is an attempt to put us back on the track of developing a free enterprise system which began with the American Revolution. The counter-revolutionaries in this historical effort were the Populists, Progressives, and early-day conservationists, among others, who led the fight to retain land in public ownership which had been acquired through purchase and treaty. Their victories, in my opinion, were the country's losses. Public ownership and management of resources are not noted for their successes throughout the world or throughout history.

again The Sagebrush Rebellion is merely another of many examples in the long history of man's struggle against absentee landlords and the stifling effects of central planning and bureaucratic control.

Kansas and Nebraska, for example, don't have a grazing land problem. Or, if they do, we don't hear much about it. The reason is that they don't have much publicly owned land. Montana, and other states in the West, do, and the focal point of these grazing problems is, of course, the public lands. It seems paradoxical that at the same time that the Soviet Union and the Peoples Republic of China are moving towards the use of market incentives to increase their productive efficiency the U. S., with the adoption of the Federal Land Management and Policy Act of 1976, is headed in the direction of the problems which they are trying to escape.

The specific question which I wish to address is: "What are the possible consequences of transferring either ownership or control of federally owned commercial forest lands to the states?" But first, I would like to explain

briefly why the belief arose that free enterprise wouldn't work in timber production, and why I think that this belief is incorrect.

Reaction to the free enterprise system in timber production arose during the 19th century because of the migratory practices of the lumber industry. As all who have had an introduction to American history know, the lumber industry depleted timber inventories in New England; then it moved to the Lake States, the South, and then the West. Parenthetically, I might note, the geographical center of timber production is again moving South; not because of market failure, but because the market is correctly signalling that the South is where timber can be grown, and wood products produced, most economically with respect to final markets.

The early migratory practices of the lumber industry gave rise to such politically inspired slogans as "rape and run" and "clear cut and get out." These slogans have become so institutionalized that they are commonplace today. More important, they still arouse considerable emotion and, therefore, frustrate efforts to implement economically and socially desirable institutional reforms. The pursuit of profit, it would seem, is not a very noble undertaking in the timber industry. Professor Paul Samuelson captured the essence of this problem when he observed that, "Everybody loves a tree and hates a businessman."

The historical events which gave rise to this situation were not that the market system didn't work in timber production; rather, timber was so plentiful that a bargain sale on surplus timber inventories was taking place. As long as timber inventories were excessive, it was to be expected that

prices would remain low and that there would be no incentive to grow trees. In a market economy which operates on the basis of profit incentives, one doesn't produce something which is cheaper to buy.

It was not until the post-World War II years that timber prices rose sufficiently to make timber growing a profitable undertaking. Since that time, the viability of the market system in the area of timber production has been amply demonstrated, especially in the South where about 95 percent of all forest land is in private ownership. Simply stated, an inventory adjustment was misconstrued as market failure and an institutional arrangement was then developed which is largely responsible for many of the problems that we face today.

Two further points are worth brief mention. The first pertains to the concept of "multiple use," which is to a large extent a red herring. It is correct to observe that publicly owned commercial forest lands produce a variety of benefits, some of which, like timber, is marketed, and some of which, like recreation, is not. The question here is whether or not the non-marketed (public goods) component of public forest land output is sufficient to justify public ownership and management. I think not.

The reason is that privately owned forest lands also produce non-marketed multiple use benefits such as hunting, fishing, camping, and favorable stream flows. Many of these benefits are provided without payments being made to private land owners. In addition, the output mix can be altered through various fiscal and regulatory measures. Public ownership is neither necessary nor sufficient to guarantee that the output mix of benefits from the nation's commercial forest lands will be optimal. Private ownership

does guarantee that the costs of production will be registered in the market place, in the income statements of private land owners and in the price of forest land. The absence of any meaningful accountability of the costs of federal forest land management--current expenditures plus the opportunity costs of alternatives which are foregone--is an important justification, in my opinion, for increased state control of federal lands, or at minimum, greater participation in the decision-making processes.

Justifications of public ownership on the basis of multiple use arguments should account for the fact that the multiple use concept followed the decision to create a system of public forest lands for the purpose of ensuring a perpetual timber supply. If the initial (market failure) rationale for publicly owned forests is untenable, that is, contrary to previously held beliefs the market system is a viable and efficient means of allocating resources to timber production, then to what extent should we permit multiple use arguments to be substituted as the new rationale for continued federal ownership? Vested interest groups will, of course, be expected to do this, but the states, which are most dependent upon the federal forest lands would still be left to bear the burdens of a system of absentee ownership.

The second point pertains to vested interest groups, and the extent to which they cloud issues and generally frustrate efforts to analyze objectively and to carry out meaningful dialogues about public timber management. Institutional arrangements which have been around as long as our national forests, for example, give rise to well-entrenched vested interests. They are readily identifiable: bureaucratic, industry, environmentalist, and academic. *and political.*

Bureaucrats obviously aren't interested in exposing agencies in which they work to externally mandated reform. Positions of power and influence may be lost, and there is danger that one might see his life's work criticized as being counterproductive.

The timber industry views issues from the standpoint of its own interests, which are by no means homogenous. Currently, the timber industry is lobbying for bigger budgets for the Forest Service such that Resources Planning Act (RPA) goals for increased timber production can be met. Industry is, as a result, asking the taxpayers to make low return investments in an institutional anachronism--the non-declining even flow timber marketing constraint which effectively precludes rational timber management. This present position of the timber industry does not seem too favorable to the achievement of the reform objectives of the Sagebrush Rebellion. This situation may, of course, change, especially if it is made clear that funds will not be forthcoming to finance uneconomical investments.

The environmental movement as a source of confusion hardly needs comment, although I do think that if they were pressed harder by legislative committees at both the national and state levels for estimates of the costs of some of the policies that they propose, then some of this confusion could be eliminated. The recent election returns suggest that some shifts in this direction are in the offing.

Academicians in the field of forest management are, in my opinion, a special problem. It is worth emphasizing that forestry schools in the U. S. first became established to produce the professionals who were needed to manage the public forests. Since these forests were established,

as I have noted, because of the belief that the market didn't work in the production of timber, most of the early foresters didn't believe in the market. This anti-market intellectual tradition still permeates most of our forestry schools, and since public agencies are an important source of research funding it can be expected to continue, at least until major policy changes are adopted by the public agencies.

This brings me back to my original question: "What are the possible consequences of transferring ownership or control of federally owned forest lands to the states?"

My short answer to this question is this would increase the possibility of achieving reforms which would permit us to have a healthier forest products industry, tax burdens could be lightened at both the state and national levels, and environmental disruption caused by timber harvesting activities could possibly be reduced. The reason that possible gains would be possible in all these areas is that the elimination of wasteful and inefficient management would release resources for the production of positive economic and environmental benefits. Throughout the world, inefficient industries are commonly the worst offenders in terms of environmental pollution. We are not likely to have an efficient forest products industry unless existing federal timber management policies are significantly changed. States could, and I think would, make these changes.

States would be much more sensitive than the federal government to the necessity of integrating public forest management with the management activities of other forest land owners. Timber marketing plans for federal agencies are typically developed without due consideration being given to transitional shifts in the harvesting activities of private forest land owners. Uncertainties

and speculative bidding have resulted, and this has had a dampening effect on investments in processing industries. This is part of the reason for the migration of the industry to the South.

The reason that tax burdens could be lightened, and this is especially important at the state level, if support is to be forthcoming for state acquisition or management of federal forest lands, is that current management practices result in considerable cross-subsidization of uneconomical activities. Timber values are thereby dissipated, and in lieu payments to local governments are, therefore, lower than they would otherwise be. I should note here that rapidly rising timber prices have swamped the increasing costs of federal timber management so that in lieu payments have generally continued to rise. County commissioners have, therefore, been reluctant to evaluate the system. This situation is likely to be short-lived, and these rapidly rising timber prices had best be viewed as the fever chart of an increasingly pathological condition.

Finally, environmental disruption could be reduced even though timber harvests were increased by locating timber harvesting according to economic criteria rather than the maximum growth criteria which are currently used. The latter criteria have a tendency to disperse logging activities much more widely throughout the forest than is consistent with minimum environmental disruption. Tradeoffs between environmental disruption and timber sales revenues would, I suspect, get considerably more attention at the state than at the federal level of management planning.

Senate Bill 123 Public Land Resource Bill

To the Senate Natural Resource Committee

From Marilyn Orahood, representing the Wilderness Opponents of
 Phillips County

Montanans need to have control of the public lands in Montana to help eliminate the problems that have been encountered when the Federal Government purposed thousands of acres for wilderness areas.

There are 94,168,320 acres in Montana. 93,175,680 acres are land. 992,640 acres are water. The Federal Government controls 27,665,588 acres or 29.6 % of Montana's land.

The food producers and the people of Montana who directly use the land to produce their products have been immeasurably burdened by the Federal Government going into the land business. The Federal Government has created too many agencies and regulations that concern the products that are produced within the state. The people of Montana need to have a say on how the land and water within her borders are going to be used. The actual users, farmers, ranchers, mineral explorers, timber industry know how to use the land and how to protect it while at the same time making it produce for future generations.

The keepers of the soil have an excellent record of protection and saving its potential for posterity.

The Federal Government and it's agencies do not have the expertise to determine what is good for Montana. An excellent example of this is the wilderness areas that have been purposed and designated as such. The Federal Government wasted millions of dollars studying all the Public Domain that was 5,000 acres or more to determine if it had the qualities of their definition of wilderness areas and wilderness values. They are still wasting

the tax payers money when they plan to carry these proposals on with protests, study groups, and court proceedings. The land users pay for the Federal Government doing something that they don't want them to do, and they pay for themselves to defend themselves against the dictates of the Federal Government.

The people of Montana can better determine through land use boards and committees made up of the people from Montana the best use of their land.

Montana has too little representation at the Federal level with only four congressmen, to let or expect the Federal Government to make land use decisions that meet our demands and concur with our way of thinking. The Federal Government and their agencies do not have the first hand knowledge about the land in Montana.

Montanans know that it takes a lot of land to support the economy. We also know we have to use it well or the returns won't be there at harvest time. In Montana, especially the livestock and farming industry, the mining and mineral exploration community and the timber industry as well as the recreationists and those people concerned with hunting are very much interested in environmental protection rather than perfection.

Here is another example of why Montanans should gain control of their land to determine its usage. The Federal Government through the Fish and Wildlife Service plan to maintain a 20,000 to 26,000 acre prairie dog town on the Charles M. Russell Refuge. While we keepers of the land are trying to maintain a high level of productivity the Federal Government is laying waste to these thousands of acres that just twenty years ago was prime hay meadows and grazing land.

Or consider the proposal put out by the FWS to fence the CMR Game range. What kind of fence will it take to keep the game on the range and not in the ranchers hay meadows and hay stacks when the old grass is so thick that the game will come off to get fresh green feed. The Federal Government is also trying to get through Congress several wilderness areas on CMR. These wilderness areas will tie up with the Bureau of Land Managements wilderness areas that have reached the final decision stage. The BLM's wilderness areas are on both the north and south side of the CMR Game Range. There will be thousands of acres taken out of production if the Federal Government gets the land put into wilderness areas. The Federal Government is calling for more and more non-productivity of the Public Domain land.

Montana has to get the right to determine the use of its lands. Montana land users have to have the right to set up their own regulations about land usage. Montanans have the expertise and know how to maintain high productivity while at the same time protecting its potential productivity. The best representation that Montana can get to determine what is good for Montana is right here in Montana and that is where it should stay to make Montana and its people the outstanding leaders in the management of their land.

WHY GOVERNMENT CONTROLLED LAND IN OUR STATES IS ILLEGAL AND UN-EQUAL TO THE STATES

Article IV: Section III: of the constitution provides for the creation of new states. The Northwest Ordinance adopted by Congress July 13, 1787, provides for all new states that enter in the union to be on an equal footing with the original states in all respects (whatever). Therefore, it is not right that the government should own land in some states and not in other states.

Article I: section VIII: paragraph 17: states that the government cannot have or own property other than the 10 square miles in Washington, D.C. other than lands for forts, naval bases, etc. needed to defend our country.

Thomas Jefferson said there were not enough chains on our Judicial form of government. He warned us to watch it closely. It could become the germ of dissillusion and gradually get all power working by gravity, moving by day and by night, gaining a little here and a little there, noiselessly stepping like a thief over jurisdiction, gobbling it up until all power should be usurped from the states. To all this Thomas Jefferson said, I am opposed because when all government shall be drawn into Washington as a center of all power, it will render helpless the power of checks provided and will become oppressive as the government of George III that we have separated ourselves from. This is what E.P.A., Osha, etc. are now doing to us.

It is apparent the size of the government is way out of control. In George Washington's time, there were 350 people to help him run the federal government. Now there are over 3,000,000 people to help run the government and doing a good job of bogging down the government. The ration is now more than 100 times greater per capita than in George Washington's time.

The government was definitely not to go into business for itself. Yet it now has over 11,000 businesses and over 700 corporations, most of them running at a loss to the taxpayers while competing with sound private enterprise.

One example of how expensive and burdensome the government is when it interferes with the state's business is in Phoenix, Arizona. The Salt River floods almost every year and wipes out six bridges, damages property and always snuffs out lives. The government each time re-builds the bridges. The only bridge that continues to take the main traffic and holds up under all the river flood waters is the Carl Hayden bridge built in the early 1900's by private enterprise. Yet Congressman Morse Udall of Arizona, instead of taking care of this shameful problem in Arizona, comes to Montana to help Congressman Pat Williams to turn over more land in Beaverhead County to the federal government, saying "We know what is best for you." This sounds like rulers law instead of peoples law. No state should want congressmen and senators from 49 other states telling them how to manage their lands.

Let's get back to a basic constitutional government. If Texas can run their great and large state without government interference so can MONTANA!!!

TESTIMONY - DARLENE HILDRETH

My name is Jack Van Dine. I am a cowboy, in favor of Senate Bill 113. I am a rancher. Our family ranch is starting its second century in Montana this year. I am also a bare rancher, and am a member of the National Cattle Ranchers' Association, representing quality ranches in Montana and in other Western states.

The need for this bill has arisen from the Interior Department's "non-responsible landlord" attitude - disregard, instead of working with, state and local governments. It forces us to ask, will Montana control the lands within its borders, or will we continue to be dictated to from ~~Washington?~~ ^{Washington?} We should also ask, are not those closest to the land best able to govern them? Aren't local people better able to decide what is or isn't good for Montana? Otherwise, we are inefficiently governed and managed - ignorance and ineptitude. It is entirely possible that if Montana doesn't take control of its lands, we will find that far-off bureaucrats and unfeeling lords will decide what Montana is or is not useful for. Personally, I think we've a better future than harboring grizzlies, prairie dogs, and backstracks! Surely, we don't want to become a **"NATIONAL"** sacrifice area."

Why should the Federal Government hold 30% of the land in Montana, forever, as provided for in the 18 Organic Act of 1874? This runs counter to the intent of our forefathers and nation's founders. I quote an 1832 statement of the U.S. Public Lands Committee: "The speedy extinction of the Federal title within state limits is necessary to the independence of the new states, to their equality with the older states, to the development of their soil, taxation, cultivation and settlement and to the proper enjoyment of their jurisdiction and sovereignty."

Why should we tolerate any longer the dictates of a bureaucracy that feels prairie dogs need a million acres of land in the West, based on the once-in-a-lifetime sighting of a black/footed ferret in Montana? Or one that seems to feel that raising of wild horses takes precedence over the raising of **domestic** livestock? Or one in which a solitary dead wolf has led to the proposal of a wolf habitat corridor, parts of three counties and scores of ostracized livestock producers? Frankly, I don't see how one can manage any species, endangered or not, where none exist!

Agriculture is suffering severely from federal regulatory overkill. Prohibitive environmental impact studies are costing taxpayers millions of dollars in direct impediment to local multiple uses of federal lands. Originally,

Environmental Impact Studies were to have cost no more than 175 million. 2000 million has been spent already, and there is still a long way to go.

Major legislation that is oppressive and expensive to agriculture has been materializing from Washington at the rate of almost 1 law every year, in recent years.

The Wilderness Act, for example, is putting the squeeze on grazing areas that have been used for almost 100 years. The Forest Service is charging more for grazing fees, and cutting down on livestock numbers by 2-30%. They disregard the fact that some ranchers count on their leases to "balance" their total operation, and changes in the leases can and do, render the ranching operation no longer viable.

It is due to our - and I mean Montanans - past good management of this land, that the Federal Government wants it now for wilderness. If we hadn't been managing it well in the past, there wouldn't be any now. But you know, there isn't much suggestion of resource management in the current wilderness acts - just mostly emotion. And because of that, not only will Montana suffer if the present situation continues, but the nation will, as well!

I support Senate Bill 123. Thank you.

Tack Van Cleave

Big Timber, Montana 59011

MONTANA ASSOCIATION OF STATE GRAZING DISTRICTS

7 Edwards, Helena, Montana 59601

443-5711

SB 123

Mr. Chairman, members of the Committee, for
the record, my name is Ray Beck
representing the Montana Association of State
Grazing Districts.

During the business session of the 1980 State
Grazing District Convention a resolution was intro-
duced and passed by the assembly to support legislation
providing for state ownership and control of federal
lands within the State of Montana.

Mr. Chairman I would like to have it shown in
the record that the Montana Association of State
Grazing Districts strongly support Senate Bill 123.

Thank you.

Ray Beck

MONTANA ASSOCIATION OF STATE GRAZING DISTRICTS

RESOLUTION NO. 1

SAGEBRUSH REBELLION

Adopted: Oct. 15, 1980

WHEREAS the Montana Association of State Grazing Districts wishes to reaffirm its stand at last year's convention regarding the sagebrush rebellion which reads:

WHEREAS the encroachment of Federal land policy decisions has become burdensome to the economic development of the western states; and

WHEREAS the Nevada Assembly in 1979 enacted legislation claiming for the State of Nevada the public lands in that state; and

WHEREAS this movement has caught the attention of the governors of several of the Western States and Legislators as well.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Montana Association of State Grazing Districts support the "Sagebrush Rebellion" effort and provide whatever leadership necessary to get our state and political community involved.

1/26/81

TO: Natural Resource Committee

FROM: Garfield-DeLoach Legislative Ass'n and Port Ped. Game Range Ass'n

Walt Collins, Representative

This testimony helps to illustrate why Montana should enact legislation to gain ownership and control over the public lands that lie within the boundaries of the State of Montana.

First the U.S. Constitution states (in Art. 1, Sec. 8, Cl. 17) that the Federal government may own land for the seat of government, not exceeding 10 square miles, and land purchased with the consent of the State Legislatures of the states in which such land is located to be used only, for the erection of forts, magazines, arsenals, dockyards, and other needful buildings.

Secondly, is the equal footing doctrine. This is the doctrine established by the U.S. Supreme Court concerning the status of states that entered the Union after the original 13. The court articulated the doctrine very clearly in a 1832 case concerning Illinois. On her admission she at once became entitled to and possessed of all her rights and sovereignty which belonged to the original states. She was admitted, and could only be admitted, on the same equal footing as the original 13. Equality of constitutional rights and power is the condition of all the states of the Union, old and new.

Third is the Trust Theory, which contends that the U.S. government merely holds its public lands in trust for eventual disposition to the states and their people, and that the provision of the 1897 Organic Act declaring a Federal policy of retention is a breach of trust. In short the Federal government has no express constitutional authority to hold public domain lands in perpetuity.

The Supreme Court interpretations indicate that there is a duty to dispose of such land.

It's true that 32 states signed disclaimer clauses as a condition of statehood, but the disclaimer clauses were extorted in such a way as to deny equal footing and the Supreme Court has clearly ruled on this subject. In a case involving Oklahoma's right to move its territorial capital after statehood, the court said that pre-admission conditions imposed on a state are of no validity if those conditions are denials of equal footing.

I believe that Montana has graduated to the adult stage and is capable of managing its lands. In comparing the returns of revenue from the State School lands and the BLM, it illustrates that Montana is more capable than the federal government in administering these lands. We don't need quite the quality and quantity of management that the federal government is giving us. It takes 40 federal employees compared to 11 state employees to administer each million acres of land.

All the states that have passed this type of legislation in the West, 20 of the legislators voted in favor of this concept. I believe as those 20 believed, that this type of legislation is needed to help provide our share of the needed energy that this nation requires for a strong and healthy economy. As you may well know, the federal government has locked up 67% of the West's resources along with denying and limiting access to our public lands. Let me assure you that the State of Montana would not only be a better manager of our public lands, but would also do a better job of coordinating with local government on crucial matters such as land use planning, public land transfers for community needs, and continuation of in-lieu of tax payments.

Your support and vote is vitally needed at this time so that the concerns of local government may be properly addressed.



AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

Route 1 - Box 401
Bozeman, Mt 59715

Mr. Chairman, and Members of the Committee

My name is Jess Kilgore, Three Forks, Montana. I am a rancher and presently the President of the Agricultural Preservation Association of Gallatin County, generally known as A. P. A.

In addition I have been authorized to speak as a proponent of S.B. 123 by the following groups:

Stillwater County Agricultural Legislative Association
Sweet Grass County Preservation Association
Park County Legislative Association

We believe in the following concepts:

That Federal ownership of huge amounts of the land of Montana and managed by an eastern bureaucracy diminishes those rights.

That ownership of those lands by the State of Montana will increase the multiple use concept relating to Agriculture, Energy Production, Forest Products Industry and Recreation and Wildlife habitat.

That the published statement in the press by the Montana Wildlife Federation and others charging that the land will be sold or despoiled are false.

That the bill specifically states that the broad multiple use concepts for all public use will be enhanced rather than diminished and specifically authorizes and instructs the Legislature to so maintain it, to charge that the rights of the Public to access and full use of the lands will be denied is to publicly claim "no confidence" in the Montana State Legislators.

That the cost of administering the lands are well within the capabilities of the State of Montana since the huge cost of a large Federal Bureaucracy will be eliminated.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading 'Jess Kilgore'. The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Jess Kilgore
President - A. P. A.

Mr. Chairman:

I'm Lorraine Gillies; my husband and I operate the family cattle ranch on Upper Rock Creek, West of Philipsburg, and our children will be the fourth generation on this ranch.

I speak in strong support of SB 123. As landowner as well as recreationist, I would like to point out that much care has been taken to see that the public lands in question, some 23 million acres in the State of Montana, can better be managed by those who have the interest of our state at heart. The Federal Government has controlled these lands and those in 10 other Western States with little or no regard for the wishes of those closest to the lands.

The multiple-use concept of this bill assures that all interests will be considered, and only an act of the legislature, following hearings in the affected counties, will allow sale of any land. This precludes "big money interests" or "land Barons" snatching up public lands. Surely we in Montana can more intelligently manage our lands than can the politicians and bureaucrats from the populous Eastern States.

The obvious intent of SB 123 is the protection of all that we Montanans hold dear--the conservation and protection of the water sheds, wildlife habitat, and the historic, scenic, recreational and natural values. The management of the forage lands for livestock as well as for game is a vital concern for the Agriculture Industry. I urge those who fear the passage of this bill will result in the so-called rape of the public lands to carefully consider the intent of the bill, which is to give back to Montana what rightfully belongs to her people.

Thank you.

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Testimony on S B 123:

Senate Bill 123 is the only avenue open to gain freedom from an oppressive federal government that parallels that of the British rule over the colonies.

Our freedom was paid for in blood by our forefathers and passed on to "we the people" of the United States to hold in sacred trust.

Thomas Jefferson said, "What country can preserve its liberties, if its rulers are not warned, from time to time, that its people preserve the spirit of resistance."

If we do not resist an all-powerful, bloated and arrogant government, we break faith, we abdicate our responsibility to the future and cut the ties to the past.

Our complaints are carbon copies of the grievances set forth in the declaration of independence. It seems incredible that we could have created our own brand of tyranny in just two centuries.

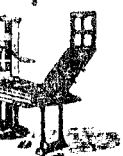
The Declaration of Independence tells us that "He (speaking of the king of Great Britain) has erected a multitude of new offices and sent hither swarms of officers to harass our people and eat out their substance."

Today, our federal government has erected a multitude of BLM and F&WS offices and sent hither swarms of officials to harass our people and eat out our substance by destroying that ever dwindling number of ranchers who create new wealth from renewable resources.

Each environmental impact statement, and there are several that involves Valley County, calls for increased personnel and/or taxpayers' dollars to implement plans based on data that is often ridiculous, erroneous or deceptive. For example, the economic impact in the Charles M. Russell Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is so flawed that it has to be done over again.

Think of the cost of the 212 basic EIS statements plus layers of others that are often done in a haphazard manner throughout the west?

We turn to the constitution for answers. We see hope. It says that new states will be created on equal footing with the 13 original states and that the federal government must have the consent of the state to acquire property within that state. But, we look further and find that Congress shall have the power to dispose of and make all needed rules and regulations respecting territory.



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States born of territories are saddled by attitudes and laws that have prevented them from ever claiming their full heritage.

Montana was acquired from France as part of the Louisiana purchase in 1803. The territory of Montana was created in 1864. The federal government picked our territorial governors, judges and other officials. For the most part, we got the bloom of the barrel, cast off bureaucrats and political hacks whom Montanans called carpetbaggers. In six years, we had three territorial governors and two acting governors. We had wallflower representation in congress; they could be seen, but not heard. They had no vote.

The people of our territory resented the colonial rule forced upon it. They resented incompetent governors bungling our affairs.

Now, wealthy national and international interest groups with representation both in and out of the Interior Department dictate policy and win court decisions that have forged the chains that keep not only us, but the U. S. Congress, in bondage.

In 1866, Montanans put together a constitution, but it never got off the ground. Historians say congress wouldn't have passed it anyway.

It seems that the federal government needed more time to confuse and suppress the people so that when statehood came, we would accept it at any price.

In due time, the Missoulian editorialized: "How long, Oh Lord, how long."

Montana drafted another constitution in 1884; Congress turned thumbs down for purely political reasons. Every bit of eastern power was used to keep us out of the political arena.

We were to undergo a total of 25 years of territorial rule before we attained statehood in 1889.

Almost a century had passed since we became a part of the United States and four generations of people had evolved an attitude that we were just a new kind of colony of second class citizens, not politically, intellectually or socially sophisticated enough to handle our own affairs. The federal government would do it for us. The die was cast.

This attitude was clearly spelled out in the enabling legislation passed by congress paving the way for Montana to become a state. On the one hand, the legislation said Montana would enter the union on an equal footing with the original states, but immediately that real hope was snatched from us when we were forced to agree and declare that we would forever disclaim all right and title to the unappropriated public lands lying within our boundaries which would remain subject to the

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disposition of the United States.

We could take it or leave it. Congress could care less. Either way, the federal government could control the land and we could become wards of that government.

So much for equal footing.

The federal government has kept a strangle hold on the 11 western states and Alaska because of its huge land holdings in these states. We know how they feel. The federal government owns 2/3 of Valley County.

After we finally had representation in congress, our congressmen had no delusions about our future.

During the Taylor Grazing Act hassle in the early 1930s, Congressman Ayers of Montana said, "The west does not need additional parasites, and particularly not at the rate of \$2,000,000 per year at the expense of the livestock man and that is the class of parasites that you cannot clear out; once they are hooked on, they are there forever."

He was speaking of the land management forces it would take to hog tie the west. He was right on.

At the same time, Congressman Carter of Wyoming said, "They want to prevent erosion to save the land for posterity. I want to say to you that if Secretary Wallace and Secretary Ickes were more interested in the erosions that are being made on the constitution, they would do more for posterity."

And he was right on.

The bureaucrats played a major role in putting together and pushing the grazing act, as they have in the layer after layer of more recent laws that affect our lives, because it was then and is now a great opportunity to expand their scope and power.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt threw his weight behind the bureaucrats, and while he was at it, he set aside the one million acres that are now the Charles M. Russell Wildlife Refuge which is moving swiftly to becoming a mecca for endangered species. We've been told straight out that its primary purpose is wildlife; its top goal is endangered species. Stockmen, hunters, recreationists, cattle and private property be damned.



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The CMR controversies have cost millions of dollars in court proceedings, trips to Washington and elsewhere and lost work days.

Some of our elected officials in Washington, D.C., and within the state are still talking about cooperation between the federal government and Montanans to solve the problems, but experience throughout our state's history clearly indicates that cooperation is mainly lip service and propaganda; participation is non-existent.

At least 1200 people in Valley County participated in the wilderness designation process pointing out many areas that, in their opinion, disqualified the Bitter Creek area as wilderness potential. It was an exercise in futility. As a last ditch stand, many appealed the wilderness designation through the only means available, the administrative law process of the interior department.

The administrative law process in any agency is designed to ward off any threats to that agency's actions, so of course the answer was no surprise.

"BLM's conclusion was reasonable. Appellants disagree. Such disagreement, however, is an insufficient basis for substituting appellants judgement for that of BLM."

This is a clear message that BLM's conclusion is the only one that counts. It is a clear indication, too, that the days of cooperation and participation have come and gone. Now, we're into the day of dictation.

Mike Aderhold of the Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks Department wrote an article in the Jan./Feb. 1981 issue of Montana Outdoors entitled "Bitter Fight Over Bitter Creek."

He said the people in VALley County just don't want wilderness, period.

There could be a grain of truth in this, given our background of playing puppets on government strings for the past 178 years in an utterly ridiculous, costly and unproductive sideshow.

Aderhold talks about our opposition that seems to defy reason.

He said, "The clues are in the local museum, in the donated journals and scrapbooks, in the faces of the people in old photos, standing near dugouts and tarpaper shacks. You get the idea looking at handmade tools and buffalo coats, and patent medicine bottles, and pictures of lean stock. The answer has something to do with stories about alkali dust, grasshoppers eating tarpaper, hunger, snow blindness, abandoned towns, homestead documents and country cemeteries where certain years dominate. It is a deep feeling. It goes down to the roots of patriotism, emotional love, religious faith and feelings for personal freedom."

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"There are a lot of heartaches and broken dreams scattered about the prairie, many hopes and spent prayers, much living and dying and sweat invested in the soil – too much to let outsiders even suggest how the land should be treated, or how it should be managed."

He hit the nail right on the head on at least two points, and maybe even a third.

First, freedom from the domination of the federal government is the very heart of the matter.

Second, a court of law did rule last fall that outsiders without expertise are not qualified to dictate how the land should be treated in the case of VALley County ranchers vs. the Interior Department in Billings. Experienced and qualified former BLM men backed the ranchers who won that round.

And third, maybe the roots of our heritage are so strong they automatically trigger a defense when that heritage is threatened.

The people who built our communities deserve nothing less than honesty for their role in history.

The image today seems to be that all cattlemen are kings; all rape the range for personal gain. The real cattle kings backed by huge amounts of foreign capital and eastern money in territory days found out that those who ravage the range for quick, big profits are doomed. The drought and hard winter of 1886 - '87 wiped out most of the speculative corporate ranches. Some 362,000 cattle died.

But the cowboys who came up the trail with the big cattle drives stayed on to acquire a few head of cattle and plant their roots in Montana territory. They knew better than anyone else what drought, hard winters and lack of feed could mean to their survival. They were the first range conservationists, the first range specialists, the first protectors of wildlife. Every generation since has built on that knowledge to prevent overgrazing and overstocking, promote better breeding and develop water. It is a matter of record that our grazing districts and stockmen's associations can be proud of.

The cowboys, sheepmen, waves of homesteaders who scattered across the prairies and merchants who formed communities prepared the foundation for a future society, a state economy.

Our museum does reflect our fierce loyalty to those pioneers because, although they are dead, the land they nurtured into production lives, the communities they built sustain us, the lifestyle they established fulfill us.



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It seems reasonable to defend and preserve that which they established.

What defies reason is cutting grazing 33 percent on CMR and expanding prairie dogs to 10,000 acres.

What defies reason is to consider reserving 59,112 acres on Bitter Creek for an occasional backpacher who seeks solitude on a one-day trip. The BLM itself evaluated the situation and decided trips would mostly likely be only for a day because Bitter Creek is either too hot in summer or too cold in winter. The chill factor can drop to a minus 55 degrees and snowbanks are often too high to negotiate. There are too many mosquitoes and not enough water.

Let's not be led to slaughter believing the Wilderness Act will keep grazing intact under its grandfather clause.

BLM Manual 6320 is the key to eliminating cattle without direct reference to the critters because it provides the basis for placing both reservoirs and multiple pasture grazing systems in the moderate visual impact level for wilderness study. Range practices listed under moderate impacts will slip away in case by case decisions because the mandate must be fulfilled, the visual pristine purity of wilderness must be achieved. When the case by case decisions have wiped out reservoirs and grazing systems, the livestock will be gone and generations yet to come will be saddled with the support of large empty playgrounds.

What defies reason is a federal government evicting ranchers from federal lands that in fact aren't all federal since the ranchers evicted bought and paid for part of it, and they hold deeds.

What defies reason is a young rancher telling about his demise with tears dropping on the podium at the CMR hearing while he holds the EIS that spells doom for several others.

What defies reason is the Mexican black duck in New Mexico, the desert tortoise in Utah, the birds of prey in Idaho, the coyotes in Wyoming, the wild horse in Nevada, the burros in Arizona, the minnow in Texas and the prairie dogs in Montana that can destroy people's lives.

What borders insanity is that our government, bloated on inflated tax dollars to the point of bankruptcy, can wipe out the very people who produce new wealth from renewable resources. We know the only new wealth injected into the collapsing veins of this economy comes from those raw materials of the land.



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This is sick government. In its incoherent delirium it has mandated that its troops move swiftly to confuse the people and render them helpless in making decisions that affect the land, both public and private.

But we, the people, have a mandate too.

It comes straight from Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, John Hancock and a host of others who said, "All experience hath shown that mankind are most disposed to suffer while evils are sufferable than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same object, evinces a design to reduce them under absolute despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such government, and to provide new guards for their future security."

That's what SB 123 is all about -- throwing off territorial tyranny and accepting the responsibility for full statehood to provide new guards for our future security.

We would do well to remember what President Ronald Reagan said in his inaugural address: "The federal government did not create the states, the states created the federal government."

*Shirley Ann
Hartman*



Dear Members of the Senate Natural Resource Committee:

I would like to have all your votes in favor of S. B. 113.

We have an outfitting business at Big Timber, Montana. We have also had a Forest permit for sheep since 1928.

The last 10 years have become very hard to get any help or satisfaction from people who are in charge of our Federal public lands.

I feel having to deal with people closer to home would be more satisfactory.

The people who now run the public lands from Federal Government level are getting less responsive to our problems, therefore state control of our Federal lands would be much better for Montana and her citizens.

Thank you.

Teddy Thompson

S. S. MACLAY
LOLO, MONTANA
59847

Jan 26, 1981

To Senator over
Legislature Helena.

Sir, I wish to register my support of
Senate Bill 123 dealing with the
The transfer of Federal Government
owned land to the State of Montana.
I am particularly interested
in the limitation of and elimination
of wilderness areas. In my opinion
the wilderness concept is faulty and
dangerous to our economic structure.
It can result in the eventual
sterilization and removal of
economic use and development of
these resources. I fear we can
afford upon a state and national
basis.

There is one danger that must be
sawarded against the building of a
great bureaucracy that may and could be-
come a political menace, as it has and
has seen such things happen in the past.
Sincerely
S. S. MacLay

Chairman
Natural Resources Committee
Room 405 Capitol Bldg
Helena, Montana.

Jan 25, 1981
828 Ronald W.
Miserola Mont

Dear Senator Dover and Committee members:

My concern is about S.B. 123 the subject of
your committee Monday Jan 26.

I favor this bill. It should pass.

No knowledgeable person could assume that,
with its passage, Federal land would automatically
fall to State ownership or control.

It is certainly worth the effort to call
attention of all concerned to the inept, wasteful
costly handling of Federal lands at present. By
this legislative process Montana would join the
several other States in pointing out the likelihood
that the effort just might succeed. Under such
possibility we would see considerable change in
the attitude of administrators of Federal lands.

Sincerely yours,

David J MacLay

ALICE
FRYSLIE

NAME: Alice Fryslie DATE: 1/23/81

ADDRESS: Bellevue

PHONE: 425 4395

REPRESENTING WHOM? Montana Women's Fund

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: Living

DO YOU: SUPPORT? ☒ AMEND? ☐ OPPOSE? ☐

COMMENTS: see attached

...
THE SAGEBRUSH REBELLION! WHAT IS IT? WHO CARES? WHO SHOULD CARE?

SAGEBRUSH REBELLION IS THE NAME GIVEN BY THE NEWS MEDIA TO THE MOVEMENT BY THE WESTERN STATES TO RECLAIM AS THEIR OWN, MUCH OF THE FEDERALLY CONTROLLED LAND WITHIN THEIR BORDERS. ONE THIRD OF THE NATION'S LAND IS OWNED, MANAGED, AND CONTROLLED BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT. ASIDE FROM MILITARY RESERVATIONS AND A FEW PARKS, MANY OF THEM EXCEEDINGLY SMALL, THE OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF THAT LAND IS IN THE ELEVEN WESTERN STATES AND ALASKA. AS EXAMPLE: 96% OF ALASKA IS FEDERAL LAND, YOU HAVE ALL READ WHAT HAPPENED IN ALASKA, THEY ARE EVEN CONSIDERING CECESSION FROM THE UNION AS THE ONLY COURSE OF ACTION NOW. NEVADA AVERAGES 86.7% FEDERAL LAND WITHIN THEIR BORDERS. IT WAS NEVADA'S DEAN RHOADS WHO INTRODUCED A BILL TO THE NEVADA LEGISLATURE WHICH SET UP A VEHICLE TO CHALLENGE FEDERAL OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL OF PUBLIC LANDS WITHIN THE STATE. THE BILL IS BASED ON TWO LEGAL ARGUMENTS: THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION GIVES THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT THE RIGHT TO OWN LAND -- "WITH THE CONSENT OF THE STATE LEGISLATURE, IT MAY HOLD LAND FOR THE ERECTION OF FORTS, MAGAZINES, ARSENALS, DOCK YARDS, AND OTHER NEEDFUL BUILDINGS". ASSEMBLYMAN RHOADS STATES THAT HE THINKS THE CONSENT SHOULD EXTEND TO COVER PARKS AND REFUGES AND PERHAPS, EVEN WILDERNESS AREAS. "BUT ONLY WITH THE CONSENT OF THE STATE LEGISLATURE," IS THE KEY THAT WE PICKED UP ON IN HIS COMMENTS. THOSE WHO LIVE IN A REGION TEND TO BE MOST SENSITIVE TO IT. WHEN AN AREA IS GOVERNED, MANAGED, AND CONTROLLED BY THOSE IN REMOTE LOCATIONS, THE CONSEQUENCES MAY HAVE A NEGATIVE IMPACT ON THE VALUES AND ASPIRATIONS OF LOCAL RESIDENTS. MCA PRESIDENT, PAUL RINGLING, MILES CITY, STATED "IT IS BECOMING APPARENT THAT "COHN'S LAW IS HAVING AN EFFECT ON THE SAGEBRUSH REBELLION", "FOR THOSE WHO DO NOT KNOW WHAT COHN'S LAW IS; IT IS THE MORE TIME YOU SPEND REPORTING ON WHAT YOU ARE DOING, THE LESS TIME YOU HAVE TO DO ANYTHING. STABILITY IS ACHIEVED WHEN YOU SPEND ALL YOUR TIME DOING NOTHING BUT REPORTING ON THE NOTHING YOU ARE DOING." SO IT SEEMS WITH MUCH OF THE FEDERAL BUREAUCRACY, PARTICULARLY IN MANAGEMENT OF OUR PUBLIC LANDS. THE GROWTH OF THE BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT IS STAGGERING, NOT TO MENTION THE PARALLEL GROWTH OF THE FOREST SERVICE. RINGLING ALSO COMMENTED THAT HE COULD NOT UNDERSTAND WHY THESE BUREAUS AND DEPARTMENTS THAT HEAD-QUARTER IN WASHINGTON AND TAKE DIRECTIONS FROM THE SHORES OF THE POTOMAC, THINK THEY ARE MORE KNOWLEDGEABLE THAN THE PEOPLE THAT LIVE IN MONTANA ON THE LAND AND KNOW THE LAND. FROM THE BEGINNING, WHEN THE FUR TRAPPERS WENT FORTH INTO THE WILDERNESS, UNTIL TODAY,

AS RANCHERS FIGHT FOR THE GRASSLAND THEY REGARD AS THEIRS, THE WEST HAS HARBORED AMONG ITS PEOPLE A DEEP BITTERNESS TOWARD EASTERNERS. IT WAS ALWAYS THE FINANCIAL KINGPINS IN NEW YORK AND THEIR POLITICAL CRONIES IN WASHINGTON WHO WERE MANIPULATING THE MARKETS AND STRIKING THE DEALS THAT KEPT THE TOILING LANDSMAN UNDER THUMB. THE WHEAT, TIMBER, THE COPPER HEADED EAST, THE EMPTY PROMISES AND SHODDY TRADE GOODS WEST. SINCE ANDREW JACKSON HEADED FOR THE POTOMAC-WESTERN LEADERS HAVE FOUGHT TO LOOSEN THOSE STRANGLING HANDS AND KICK ASIDE THOSE FETTERING TRACES. THEY ARE STILL KICKING, THOUGH THE LAST 50 YEARS PEOPLE WEST OF THE MISSISSIPPI HAVE INCREASINGLY FOUND THEIR OWN WAY. ODDLY ENOUGH, IT WAS THE GREAT DEPRESSION THAT BEGAN TO BRING THE EAST AND WEST TOGETHER. CAUGHT IN A UNIVERSAL ECONOMIC COLLAPSE BOTH ENDED UP LOOKING TO UNCLE SAM FOR WAYS TO ALLEVIATE THE DISASTER. THE GIANT BUILDING PROJECTS OF THAT TIME, THE MANY FARM PROGRAMS UNDERWRITTEN BY THE GOVERNMENT AND HYDROELECTRIC PROJECTS ON THE COLORADO AND COLUMBIA MADE POSSIBLE THE INCREDIBLE URBAN EXPANSION THAT HAS CONTINUED EVER SINCE, MOSTLY ON THE WEST COAST, HOWEVER DID NOT NECESSARILY MEAN A LESSENING OF EASTERN DOMINATION. THE CONTROL MERELY SHIFTED FROM NEW YORK TO WASHINGTON D.C., FROM THE MARKETPLACE TO THE BUREACRACY. THE DECISION MAKING HAS BEEN STUCK THERE EVER SINCE.

THE MONTANA CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION HAS HELD, TOGETHER WITH CO-SPONSORS MCCONE GARFIELD LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE AND THE MONTANA N.F.O., INFORMATIONAL MEETINGS AROUND THE STATE OF MONTANA TO FIND OUT HOW THE "GRASS ROOTS" FOLKS FEEL ABOUT THE MANAGEMENT OF THE PUBLIC LANDS IN THEIR AREAS. CONSIDERING THE SAGEBRUSH REBELLION A NATIONAL "HOT ISSUE" COULD BE CONSIDERED AN UNDERSTATEMENT AFTER HEARING SOME OF THE HEATED ARGUMENTS BOTH PRO AND CON ON THE TOPIC. IT WAS POINTED OUT AT THE MILES CITY MEETING BY PARTIES ON BOTH SIDES OF THE ISSUE, THAT THE REBELLION IS IN MANY WAYS A BOILING OVER AT THE STUBBORN BLINDNESS OF THE MANY FEDERAL AGENCIES AND OFFICIALS IMPLANTED IN THE AREA. IT MAY BE RALLIED AROUND A CALL FOR THE RETURN OF FEDERAL LANDS TO THE PEOPLE, OR STATES, BUT AS MUCH AS ANYTHING IT IS ANOTHER CRY IN A SERIES OF MANY THAT THE EAST AND ITS BUREAUCRATIC ARMS MUST REAWAKEN TO THE CONCERNS OF AN EXASPERATED, AND INCREASINGLY IMPORTANT, WEST. THE MEETINGS HAVE BEEN STRUCTURED TO GAIN THE INPUT OF ALL LAND USERS AND FROM ALL SECTORS TO INCLUDE: RANCHERS, LEGISLATORS, ENVIROMENTALISTS, SPORTSMEN, ACADEMICS, FARMERS AND BUSINESS/ENERGY USERS. WITHIN ALL THESE SECTORS, THERE ARE STILL THOSE WHO DO NOT THINK

THEY NOR THEIR INTERESTS IN PUBLIC LANDS ARE AFFECTED. NOTHING COULD BE FURTHER FROM THE TRUTH. ALL PEOPLE ARE AFFECTED, THOSE WHO EAT THE PRODUCTS OF THE LAND SUCH AS BEEF, LAMB, GRAINS AND VEGETABLES ARE AFFECTED, THOSE WHO FISH THE STREAMS ON THE BOUNTIFUL LAND ARE AFFECTED, THOSE WHO HUNT AND THOSE WHO PRODUCE THE FOOD AND FIBER TO FEED THE HUNGRY PEOPLE OF THE WORLD. EVEN THE URBANITE WHO STANDS TO LOSE ACCESS TO THE LANDS BY THE CLASSIFIED CONTROLS BEING PLACED ON THESE LANDS BY THE OVERWHELMING BUREAUCRATIC POSTULATIONS. THE MONTANA CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION HAS BEEN COMMENDED FOR INITIATING THIS INVOLVEMENT IN THE STATE OF MONTANA. IT WAS SAID THAT IT IS ESPECIALLY GRATIFYING TO NOTE THE CREATION OF AN UNUSUAL COMMITTEE TO TAKE A GOOD HARD OBJECTIVE LOOK AT THE CONCEPT OF THE SAGEBRUSH REBELLION AS IT CONCERNS MONTANA AND IT IS LAUDABLE THAT IT IS AN AGRICULTURAL ORGANIZATION (an industry not exactly expert at speaking with one voice) THAT FORMED THE COALITION TO ADDRESS THIS SUBJECT. THE RESULTANT MEETINGS HELD AROUND THE STATE HAVE EXPLORED SUCH AREAS AS THE HISTORY OF FEDERAL LAND OWNERSHIP IN THE WEST, THE CONSEQUENCES OF TAKING CONTROL AWAY FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, THE PROBABLE EFFECT SUCH A CHANGE WOULD HAVE ON MONTANA AND A CAREFUL AIRING OF ALL SIDES OF THE DEBATE (hopefully long on information and short on emotion).

SOME INTERESTING CONCEPTS HAVE BEEN BROUGHT FORTH FROM THESE SESSIONS: SPORTSMEN HAVE EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT ACCESS IF THE LAND IS MANAGED BY THE STATES: HOWEVER IT CAN BE POINTED OUT THAT OUR FISH WILDLIFE AND PARKS DIVISION MANAGES ALL THE STATE LANDS THAT THESE SAME SPORTSMEN ENJOY TODAY; OTHERS HAVE EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT THE LANDS WOULD BE SOLD TO PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS; THAT CERTAINLY IS NOT THE INTENT OF THE MONTANA CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION AND I DOUBT THAT THOSE WHO ARE PLANNING TO INTRODUCE LEGISLATION AT THE MONTANA LEGISLATIVE SESSION OF 1981 , WOULD BE NAIVE ENOUGH TO ASSUME PASSAGE IF THERE WERE ADVOCACY OF SELLING PUBLIC LANDS TO INDIVIDUALS.

THE MONTANA CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION SUPPORTS THE CONCEPT OF STATE MANAGEMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS BECAUSE THEY FEEL THE STATE CAN OPERATE ON A MORE COST EFFICIENT LEVEL AND DO A BETTER JOB BY BEING CLOSER TO THE LAND BEING MANAGED. THIS ORGANIZATION ALSO ENDORSES THE CONCEPT OF A GOVERNOR APPOINTED COUNCIL MADE UP BY USERS FROM ALL INTEREST AREAS TO REVIEW PROPOSALS AND BUDGETS, GUIDELINES AND OPERATIONS AND ACTIVELY BE ENGAGED IN

MANAGEMENT POLICY DECISIONS. TO GIVE YOU AN IDEA OF COST EFFECTIVENESS AS HAS BEEN GIVEN AT SOME OF THE MCA MEETINGS; THE GALLATIN FOREST SUPERVISOR, RETIRED, HAD A PREPARED ANALYSIS FOR JUST THE FOREST SERVICE LANDS IN MONTANA:

Cost to the N.F. to administer lands in Montana \$89,200,000

If the State took over management, he ADDS the loss of;

+ 25% fund	\$8,300,000
+ payments in lieu of taxes	\$7,300,000
+ 50% mineral revenue	\$6,500,000
+ Forest highway funds	\$5,100,000
	<u>\$27,200,000</u>

My Question is that if he adds these "losses" back to the 89,200,000 then the cost to the Forest Service is \$116,400,00 instead of 89,200,000?

EVEN IF IT COST THE STATE THE SAME AS THE FOREST SERVICE TO MANAGE THE LANDS AT THE FIGURE STATED, ONE WOULD HAVE TO ASSUME THAT THE LOSS OF THE ABOVE REVENUES WOULD BE MADE UP IN FEDERAL REFUND OR THE STATE WOULD GAIN THE ASSESSMENT RATHER THAN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SO IT WOULD BE A STANDOFF, HOWEVER, ADDITIONALLY IT WOULD APPEAR THAT THE STATE WOULD ALSO RETAIN THE USER FEES THEY GET TODAY IN THE APPROXIMATE AMOUNT OF \$31,200,000, AND THEREFORE, THE COST EFFECTIVENESS OF STATE MANAGEMENT WOULD BE \$58,000,000

THE MONTANA FARM BUREAU FEDERATION DID AN ANALYSIS ON COMPARISON OF BLM AND STATE LAND MANAGEMENT THAT IS JUST AS INTERESTING AS THAT OF THE FOREST SERVICE JUST OUTLINED. IN THE INTEREST OF TIME, I WON'T GO INTO IT NOW, HOWEVER, I'M SURE THAT IF YOU WRITE OR CALL THE FARM BUREAU OFFICE IN BOZEMAN, YOU WILL BE ABLE TO GET A COPY OF THEIR WORK PAPERS. THEIR ANALYSIS COVERS MANY OF THE WESTERN STATES AND IT IS INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT THE BLM MANAGES 5 1/4 times larger acreage, 14 times larger budget and 10 1/3 times larger staff than the State Lands Department, yet BLM only produces 1.6 times larger dollar income when compared to the State Lands Department. It costs BLM 60¢ per acre managed compared to 23¢ for State management. BLM collects 70¢ of income per acre compared to \$2.24 per acre managed by the State. I HAVE A FEW SHEETS OF THESE COMPARISONS WITH ME AND YOU ARE WELCOME TO LOOK THEM OVER OR MAKE COPIES IF YOU WISH.

L 5.

WHERE ARE WE TODAY? THE MONTANA CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION, THE GARFIELD MCCONE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE, THE PUBLIC LANDS COUNCIL AND OTHER GROUPS HAVE COME TOGETHER AND HELD A MEETING AND DECIDED TO ALLOW THE PUBLIC LANDS COUNCIL TO COORDINATE FORMULIZATION OF A COALITION FOR SUPPORT OF A CONCEPT OF STATES RIGHTS-"SAGEBRUSH REBELLION" - IN THE INTERESTS OF ALL THE LANDOWNERS AND LAND USERS IN THE STATE OF MONTANA. A CHALLENGE IS BEING EXPRESSED TO ALL OF YOU HERE TO BECOME INFORMED ON THE PUBLIC LANDS IN YOUR AREA, HOW THEY ARE BEING MANAGED AND HOW YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE THEM MANAGED: MAKE YOUR OWN DECISION AND LET US KNOW HOW YOU SEE THIS ISSUE OF THE 'GREAT LAND CONTROL'.

Thank you for the opportunity to talk to you here and ONCE AGAIN - IT'S YOUR LAND AND MY LAND-LET' S TAKE CARE OF IT!

/////

WORK PAPER COMPARISON OF BLM & STATE LAND MANAGEMENT COST

Zack Stevens

1978

MONTANA

State

State Staff

Leonard H. Johnson, ABLF STAFF-NEER DIV.

AGENCY	#1 ACREAGE MANAGED	#2 TOTAL REVENUE (INCOME)	#3 EXPENDITURES (ACTUAL)	#4 NO. OF STAFF	#5 NO. OF STAFF PER MILL ACRES	#6 INCOME PER STAFF	#7 NET INCOME OR LOSS	#8 MANAGE- MENT COST PER ACRE	#9 INCOME PER ACRE	#10 BLM ACRES COMPARED TO STATE ACRES
BLM	27,665,588 Page 8	\$19,260,195 Page 23	\$16,469,000 Page 18	571 Page	49	\$33,731	\$2,791,195	.60	.70	5.3 larger
STATE	5,224,247 Page 3	\$11,703,942 Page 5	\$1,161,794 Page (a)	55 Page (b)	11	\$212,799	\$10,542,148	.23	2.24	5.3 smaller

SOURCE OF INFORMATION

BLM Public Lands Digest 1978-79.

STATE Montana Department of State Lands Statistical Report plus Hank Whitaker letter. (9/25/79)

(a) & (b) received by phone from Hank Whitaker.

FOOTNOTES

BLM in Montana manages $5\frac{1}{4}$ times larger acreage, 14 times larger budget and 10-1/3 times larger staff than the State Land Department, yet BLM only produces 1.6 times larger dollar income when compared to the State Land Department. It cost BLM 60¢ per acre managed compared to 23¢ per acre for state management. BLM collects 70¢ of income per acre compared to \$2.24 per acre managed by the state. Revenue generated per BLM employee is \$33,731 compared to \$212,799 per employee in the State Land Department.

WORK PAPER COMPARISON OF BLM & STATE LAND MANAGEMENT COST

UTAH

1978

Tom Bingham

State

State Staff

Leonard H. Johnson, ABF STAFF-NER DIV.

AGENCY	#1 ACREAGE MANAGED	#2 TOTAL REVENUE (INCOME)	#3 EXPENDITURES (ACTUAL)	#4 NO. OF STAFF	#5 NO. OF STAFF PER MIL. ACRES	#6 INCOME PER STAFF	#7 NET INCOME OR LOSS	#8 MANAGE- MENT COST PER ACRE	#9 INCOME PER ACRE	#10 BLM ACRES COMPARED TO STATE ACRES
BLM	22,076,000 Page 13	\$27,565,309 Page 16	\$12,389,515 Page 19	409 Page 4	19	\$67,397	\$15,175,794	.56	\$1.25	4.8 Larger
STATE	3,629,122 Page 18	\$ 8,473,816 Page 27	\$612,451 Page 28	19 Page	5	\$445,990	\$ 7,861,365	.17	\$2.34	4.8 Smaller

SOURCE OF INFORMATION

BLM BLM Facts and Figures for Utah 1978

STATE Annual Report Division of State Lands

FOOTNOTES

This research indicates that BLM in Utah has 5 times larger acreage, 28 times larger budget and 21-1/2 times larger staff and produces 3.25 times larger dollar income when compared to the State Land Department. It indicates that BLM generates \$67,397 of income per employee compared to \$445,990 per state employee, that it cost BLM 56¢ per acre compared to 17¢ per acre for the state and that BLM's management produces \$1.25 of income per acre compared to \$2.34 per acre under state management.

BLM receipts allocated to states and estimated gross receipts to state if BLM lands were in state ownership.

STATE	BLM RECEIPTS PAID TO STATES			ESTIMATED INCOME IF ALL BLM LAND RECEIPTS WENT TO STATES		
	1975	1976	1977	1975	1976	1977
Arizona	\$ 375,783	\$ 613,282	\$ 954,459	\$ 1,209,996	\$ 1,882,355	2,523,840
California	7,013,865	9,707,711	10,628,964	19,688,190	20,925,414	23,840,727
Colorado	34,545,226	15,982,063	15,377,549	92,485,655	32,885,524	31,431,014
Idaho	953,946	1,686,522	2,332,460	3,826,701	6,369,442	6,036,741
Kansas	236,666	457,534	569,788	631,090	915,068	1,139,576
Montana	5,181,233	7,416,751	7,959,177	13,943,281	15,510,619	17,353,048
Nebraska	37,876	40,129	39,431	100,322	80,258	78,862
Nevada	1,068,436	3,310,406	4,967,504	5,468,987	8,977,675	12,288,966
New Mexico	28,683,521	52,673,343	60,179,948	77,711,945	108,196,364	122,059,128
North Dakota	765,535	983,176	724,433	2,036,569	1,966,352	1,448,866
Oklahoma	332,764	843,003	3,586,805	887,290	1,686,006	7,173,610
Oregon	60,771,172	108,012,819	88,833,435	88,525,956	136,830,117	127,839,389
South Dakota	333,385	395,723	420,265	851,377	801,842	849,270
Utah	5,855,693	8,800,610	12,039,546	16,525,461	18,727,083	25,006,320
Washington	39,609	67,100	68,157	482,189	423,080	447,573
Wyoming	38,192,089	59,587,494	69,763,078	102,372,622	120,673,406	141,028,147

SOURCE: Published and unpublished BLM "PUBLIC LAND STATISTICS"

WORKPAPER
COMPARISON OF BLM & STATE LAND MANAGEMENT COST
1978

Bureau of Land Management Statistics

Prepared by AFBF - NER Division

STATE	#1 ACREAGE MANAGED	#2 TOTAL REVENUE (INCOME)	#3 EXPENDITURES (BUDGET '78)	#4 NO. OF STAFF (PERMANENT)	#5 NO. OF STAFF (PER MIL. ACRES)	#6 INCOME PER STAFF	#7 NET INCOME OR LOSS	#8 MGMT. COST PER ACRE	#9 INCOME PER ACRE
Arizona	12,596,058	2,887,775	8,269,825	253	20	11,414	(5,382,050)	.66	.23
California	15,607,125	38,913,980	23,484,000	734	47	53,016	15,429,980	1.50	2.49
Colorado	7,996,260	31,431,014	17,399,000	580	73	56,874	14,032,014	2.18	4.13
Idaho	11,949,386	6,036,741	14,389,000	492	41	122,698	(8,352,259)	1.20	.51
Montana	27,665,588	19,260,195	16,469,000	571	49	33,731	2,791,195	.60	.70
Nevada	49,163,442	12,693,446	10,922,200	402	8	31,576	1,771,246	.22	.26
New Mexico	12,959,665	126,226,624	15,292,600	326	40	387,198	110,934,024	1.18	9.74
Oregon/ Washington	16,034,694	194,808,320	44,447,199	1,091	68	178,559	150,361,121	2.77	12.15
Utah	22,076,000	27,565,309	12,389,515	409	19	67,397	15,175,794	.56	1.25
Wyoming	17,793,173	161,255,000	18,208,000	570	32	282,904	143,047,000	1.02	9.06
Total	193,841,391	621,078,404	181,270,339	5,428	397	1,225,367	439,807,065	11.89	40.52
Average	19,384,139	62,107,840	18,127,034	543	40	122,537	43,980,707	1.19	4.05

COMPARISON OF BLM & STATE LAND MANAGEMENT COST

IDAHO

1978

John Hatch

State

State Staff

Leonard H. Johnson, ABBF STAFF-NER DIV.

AGENCY	#1 ACREAGE MANAGED	#2 TOTAL REVENUE (INCOME)	#3 EXPENDITURES (ACTUAL)	#4 NO. OF STAFF	#5 NO. OF STAFF PER MIL. ACRES	#6 INCOME PER STAFF	#7 NET INCOME OR LOSS	#8 MANAGE- MENT COST PER ACRE	#9 INCOME PER ACRE	#10 BLM ACRES COMPARED TO STATE ACRES
BLM	11,949,386 Page 4	\$6,036,741 ^(a) Page	\$14,389,000 Page 13	492 Page 9	41.1	\$122,698	(\$8,352,259)	1.20	.51	4.74 Larger
STATE	2,520,065 Page 47	\$16,760,466 Page 46	\$10,233,400 Page 45	233 Page 11	92.4	\$719,333	\$6,527,066	4.06	6.65	4.74 Smaller

SOURCE OF INFORMATION

(a)

BLM BLM Facts - Idaho 1978. (Total revenue is not published - phone interview)

STATE State of Idaho - Department of Lands 4th Annual Report

FOOTNOTES

BLM in Idaho manages 4.74 times larger acreage, 1.4 times larger budget and 2.1 times larger staff than the State Land Department yet BLM produces 2.78 times less annual dollar income. It cost BLM \$1.20 per acre managed compared to \$4.06 per acre for state management. BLM collects 51¢ of income per acre compared to \$6.65 of income per acre under state management. Revenue generated per BLM employee is \$122,698 compared to \$719,333 per staff in the State Land Department.

CHART #8

GROSS INCOME TO U.S. FOREST SERVICE BY STATE AND BY SOURCES IN 1978.
 COLUMN #5 IS ESTIMATED INCOME TO STATES FOR 1979 FROM FOREST LANDS
 IF ALL U.S. FOREST SERVICE LANDS HAD BEEN IN STATE OWNERSHIP

STATE	FOREST SERVICE TOTAL ACRES #1	TIMBER #2	INCOME		1978 TOTAL #5
			GRAZING #3	ALL OTHER #4	
Alabama	642,820	1,165,619.	1,014.	155,987.	1,322,620.
Alaska	20,594,144	1,209,089.	10.	119,886.	1,328,985.
Arizona	11,270,325	11,851,077.	1,798,765.	742,423.	14,392,265.
Arkansas	2,469,314	5,069,318.	11,326.	1,203,031.	6,283,675.
California	20,359,362	156,131,792.	590,763.	5,439,125.	162,161,680.
Colorado	14,388,911	584,934.	1,121,393.	2,121,066.	3,827,393.
Connecticut	10				
Florida	1,083,479	2,528,481.	10,429.	641,068.	3,179,978.
Georgia	858,646	2,028,001.	2,338.	82,984.	2,113,323.
Idaho	20,410,637	27,425,063.	939,872.	528,473.	28,893,408.
Illinois	257,815		1,016.	62,726.	63,742.
Indiana	182,858	118,305.		29,736.	148,041.
Kansas	107,700				
Kentucky	662,387	8,532.	2.	172,194.	180,728.
Louisiana	597,032	7,740,892.	9,071.	348,407.	8,098,370.
Maine	51,442	17,926.		19,360.	37,286.
Michigan	2,713,675	974,059.		454,181.	1,428,240.
Minnesota	2,794,467	303,738.		276,706.	580,444.
Mississippi	1,139,689	13,384,122.	5,446.	1,702,714.	15,092,282.
Missouri	1,457,224	290,162.	9,672.	6,527,823.	6,827,657.
Montana	16,758,524	16,758,425.	818,051.	498,129.	18,074,605.
Nebraska	351,499		160,385.	18,487.	178,872.
Nevada	5,143,270	236,033.	388,463.	293,945.	918,441.
New Hampshire	683,193	259,025.		279,744.	538,769.
New Mexico	9,244,709	5,146,180.	1,108,510.	464,254.	6,718,944.
New York	13,232				
North Carolina	1,155,568	486,668.		160,931.	647,599.
North Dakota	1,105,585				
Ohio	170,421	129,736.		28,949.	158,685.
Oklahoma	291,326	826,130.	986.	37,940.	865,056.
Oregon	15,605,290	330,040,189.	623,271.	1,221,410.	331,884,870.
Pennsylvania	508,586	1,404,689.		165,801.	1,570,490.
Puerto Rico	27,846	1,624.		14,144.	15,768.
South Carolina	607,568	5,560,179.		33,680.	5,593,859.
South Dakota	1,995,077	1,524,387.	141,033.	134,012.	1,799,432.
Tennessee	621,110	252,814.		89,915.	342,729.
Texas	781,601	3,165,763.	6,341.	214,397.	3,386,506.
Utah	8,045,869	894,686.	769,745.	797,736.	2,462,167.
Vermont	266,012	62,022.	92.	74,968.	137,082.
Virginia	1,609,784	308,714.	1,510.	224,026.	534,250.
Virgin Islands	147				
Washington	9,096,709	98,860,416.	148,807.	633,717.	99,642,940.
West Virginia	963,345	148,053.	5,769.	318,619.	472,441.
Wisconsin	1,495,120	915,854.		190,032.	1,105,886.
Wyoming	9,252,329	1,547,520.	713,722.	534,395.	2,795,637.
TOTAL	187,845,657				

- NOTES: 1. Timber receipts are generally allocated to the states and counties on a 25-75 split. There are exceptions, i.e., O & C lands, Coos Bay lands.
 2. Mineral receipts are allocated to states by BLM.
 3. Grazing receipts are allocated on same authority as BLM employees.

SOURCE: Unpublished Report of the Forest Service - 1978.

WORKPAPER
COMPARISON OF BLM & STATE LAND MANAGEMENT COST
1978

Prepared by AFBF - NER Division									
State Land Management Agency Statistics									
STATE	#1 ACREAGE MANAGED	#2 TOTAL REVENUE (INCOME)	#3 EXPENDITURES (ACTUAL)	#4 NO. OF STAFF	#5 NO. OF STAFF (PER MIL. ACRES)	#6 INCOME PER STAFF	#7 NET INCOME OR LOSS	#8 MGMT. COST PER ACRE	#9 INCOME PER ACRE
Arizona	9,581,976	18,610,873	2,588,500	95	10	195,904	16,022,373	.27	1.94
California	4,000,000	106,954,000	8,094,000	243	61	440,134	98,860,000	2.02	26.74
Colorado	2,617,978	11,458,552	524,674	27	10	424,391	10,933,878	.20	4.39
Idaho	2,520,065	16,760,466	10,233,400	233	92	719,333	6,527,066	4.06	6.65
Montana	5,224,247	11,703,942	1,161,794	55	11	212,799	10,542,148	.23	2.24
*Nevada	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
New Mexico	9,222,698	104,681,253	1,541,993	119	13	879,674	103,139,260	.17	11.35
Oregon	765,493	15,060,000	3,348,500	34	44	442,941	11,711,500	4.38	19.67
Utah	3,629,122	8,473,816	612,451	19	5	445,990	7,861,365	.17	2.34
Washington	2,267,963	97,303,336	11,937,000	438	193	221,950	85,366,336	5.26	42.90
Wyoming	3,654,807	24,959,567	1,125,000	50	14	499,191	23,834,567	.31	6.83
Total	43,484,349	405,432,805	41,167,312	1,113	453	4,482,307	374,795,493	17.07	125.05
Average	4,348,435	40,543,281	4,116,731	111	45	448,231	37,479,549	1.71	12.51

*Nevada does not own state grant lands and was not included in totals.

ALICE
FRYSLIE

NAME: Alice Fryslie DATE: 1/30/81

ADDRESS: Helena

PHONE: 402 4575

REPRESENTING WHOM? Montana Women's Fund

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: St. 402

DO YOU: SUPPORT? X AMEND? _____ OPPOSE? _____

COMMENTS: see attached

THE SAGEBRUSH REBELLION! WHAT IS IT? WHO CARES? WHO SHOULD CARE?

SAGEBRUSH REBELLION IS THE NAME GIVEN BY THE NEWS MEDIA TO THE MOVEMENT BY THE WESTERN STATES TO RECLAIM AS THEIR OWN, MUCH OF THE FEDERALLY CONTROLLED LAND WITHIN THEIR BORDERS. ONE THIRD OF THE NATION'S LAND IS OWNED, MANAGED, AND CONTROLLED BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT. ASIDE FROM MILITARY RESERVATIONS AND A FEW PARKS, MANY OF THEM EXCEEDINGLY SMALL, THE OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF THAT LAND IS IN THE ELEVEN WESTERN STATES AND ALASKA. AS EXAMPLE: 96% OF ALASKA IS FEDERAL LAND, YOU HAVE ALL READ WHAT HAPPENED IN ALASKA, THEY ARE EVEN CONSIDERING CESSION FROM THE UNION AS THE ONLY COURSE OF ACTION NOW. NEVADA AVERAGES 86.7% FEDERAL LAND WITHIN THEIR BORDERS. IT WAS NEVADA'S DEAN RHOADS WHO INTRODUCED A BILL TO THE NEVADA LEGISLATURE WHICH SET UP A VEHICLE TO CHALLENGE FEDERAL OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL OF PUBLIC LANDS WITHIN THE STATE. THE BILL IS BASED ON TWO LEGAL ARGUMENTS: THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION GIVES THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT THE RIGHT TO OWN LAND --"WITH THE CONSENT OF THE STATE LEGISLATURE, IT MAY HOLD LAND FOR THE ERECTION OF FORTS, MAGAZINES, ARSENALS, DOCK YARDS, AND OTHER NEEDFUL BUILDINGS". ASSEMBLYMAN RHOADS STATES THAT HE THINKS THE CONSENT SHOULD EXTEND TO COVER PARKS AND REFUGES AND PERHAPS, EVEN WILDERNESS AREAS."BUT ONLY WITH THE CONSENT OF THE STATE LEGISLATURE", IS THE KEY THAT WE PICKED UP ON IN HIS COMMENTS. THOSE WHO LIVE IN A REGION TEND TO BE MOST SENSITIVE TO IT. WHEN AN AREA IS GOVERNED, MANAGED, AND CONTROLLED BY THOSE IN REMOTE LOCATIONS, THE CONSEQUENCES MAY HAVE A NEGATIVE IMPACT ON THE VALUES AND ASPIRATIONS OF LOCAL RESIDENTS. MCA PRESIDENT, PAUL RINGLING, MILES CITY, STATED "IT IS BECOMING APPARENT THAT "COHN'S LAW IS HAVING AN EFFECT ON THE SAGEBRUSH REBELLION", "FOR THOSE WHO DO NOT KNOW WHAT COHN'S LAW IS; IT IS THE MORE TIME YOU SPEND REPORTING ON WHAT YOU ARE DOING, THE LESS TIME YOU HAVE TO DO ANYTHING. STABILITY IS ACHIEVED WHEN YOU SPEND ALL YOUR TIME DOING NOTHING BUT REPORTING ON THE NOTHING YOU ARE DOING." SO IT SEEMS WITH MUCH OF THE FEDERAL BUREAUCRACY, PARTICULARLY IN MANAGEMENT OF OUR PUBLIC LANDS. THE GROWTH OF THE BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT IS STAGGERING, NOT TO MENTION THE PARALLEL GROWTH OF THE FOREST SERVICE. RINGLING ALSO COMMENTED THAT HE COULD NOT UNDERSTAND WHY THESE BUREAUS AND DEPARTMENTS THAT HEAD-QUARTER IN WASHINGTON AND TAKE DIRECTIONS FROM THE SHORES OF THE POTOMAC, THINK THEY ARE MORE KNOWLEDGEABLE THAN THE PEOPLE THAT LIVE IN MONTANA ON THE LAND AND KNOW THE LAND, FROM THE BEGINNING, WHEN THE FUR TRAPPERS WENT FORTH INTO THE WILDERNESS, UNTIL TODAY,

42.
AS RANCHERS FIGHT FOR THE GRASSLAND THEY REGARD AS THEIRS, THE WEST HAS HARBORED AMONG ITS PEOPLE A DEEP BITTERNESS TOWARD EASTERNERS. IT WAS ALWAYS THE FINANCIAL KINGPINS IN NEW YORK AND THEIR POLITICAL CRONIES IN WASHINGTON WHO WERE MANIPULATING THE MARKETS AND STRIKING THE DEALS THAT KEPT THE TOILING LANDSMAN UNDER THUMB. THE WHEAT, TIMBER, THE COPPER HEADED EAST, THE EMPTY PROMISES AND SHODDY TRADE GOODS WEST. SINCE ANDREW JACKSON HEADED FOR THE POTOMAC-WESTERN LEADERS HAVE FOUGHT TO LOOSEN THOSE STRANGLING HANDS AND KICK ASIDE THOSE FETTERING TRACES. THEY ARE STILL KICKING, THOUGH THE LAST 50 YEARS PEOPLE WEST OF THE MISSISSIPPI HAVE INCREASINGLY FOUND THEIR OWN WAY. ODDLY ENOUGH, IT WAS THE GREAT DEPRESSION THAT BEGAN TO BRING THE EAST AND WEST TOGETHER. CAUGHT IN A UNIVERSAL ECONOMIC COLLAPSE BOTH ENDED UP LOOKING TO UNCLE SAM FOR WAYS TO ALLEVIATE THE DISASTER. THE GIANT BUILDING PROJECTS OF THAT TIME, THE MANY FARM PROGRAMS UNDERWRITTEN BY THE GOVERNMENT AND HYDROELECTRIC PROJECTS ON THE COLORADO AND COLUMBIA MADE POSSIBLE THE INCREDIBLE URBAN EXPANSION THAT HAS CONTINUED EVER SINCE, MOSTLY ON THE WEST COAST, HOWEVER DID NOT NECESSARILY MEAN A LESSENING OF EASTERN DOMINATION. THE CONTROL MERELY SHIFTED FROM NEW YORK TO WASHINGTON D.C., FROM THE MARKETPLACE TO THE BUREACRACY. THE DECISION MAKING HAS BEEN STUCK THERE EVER SINCE.

THE MONTANA CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION HAS HELD, TOGETHER WITH CO-SPONSORS MCCONE GARFIELD LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE AND THE MONTANA N.F.O., INFORMATIONAL MEETINGS AROUND THE STATE OF MONTANA TO FIND OUT HOW THE "GRASS ROOTS" FOLKS FEEL ABOUT THE MANAGEMENT OF THE PUBLIC LANDS IN THEIR AREAS. CONSIDERING THE SAGEBRUSH REBELLION A NATIONAL "HOT ISSUE" COULD BE CONSIDERED AN UNDERSTATEMENT AFTER HEARING SOME OF THE HEATED ARGUMENTS BOTH PRO AND CON ON THE TOPIC. IT WAS POINTED OUT AT THE MILES CITY MEETING BY PARTIES ON BOTH SIDES OF THE ISSUE, THAT THE REBELLION IS IN MANY WAYS A BOILING OVER AT THE STUBBORN BLINDNESS OF THE MANY FEDERAL AGENCIES AND OFFICIALS IMPLANTED IN THE AREA. IT MAY BE RALLIED AROUND A CALL FOR THE RETURN OF FEDERAL LANDS TO THE PEOPLE, OR STATES, BUT AS MUCH AS ANYTHING IT IS ANOTHER CRY IN A SERIES OF MANY THAT THE EAST AND ITS BUREAUCRATIC ARMS MUST REAWAKEN TO THE CONCERNS OF AN EXASPERATED, AND INCREASINGLY IMPORTANT, WEST. THE MEETINGS HAVE BEEN STRUCTURED TO GAIN THE INPUT OF ALL LAND USERS AND FROM ALL SECTORS TO INCLUDE: RANCHERS, LEGISLATORS, ENVIROMENTALISTS, SPORTSMEN, ACADEMICS, FARMERS AND BUSINESS/ENERGY USERS. WITHIN ALL THESE SECTORS, THERE ARE STILL THOSE WHO DO NOT THINK

THEY NOR THEIR INTERESTS IN PUBLIC LANDS ARE AFFECTED. NOTHING COULD BE FURTHER FROM THE TRUTH. ALL PEOPLE ARE AFFECTED, THOSE WHO EAT THE PRODUCTS OF THE LAND SUCH AS BEEF, LAMB, GRAINS AND VEGETABLES ARE AFFECTED, THOSE WHO FISH THE STREAMS ON THE BOUNTIFUL LAND ARE AFFECTED, THOSE WHO HUNT AND THOSE WHO PRODUCE THE FOOD AND FIBER TO FEED THE HUNGRY PEOPLE OF THE WORLD. EVEN THE URBANITE WHO STANDS TO LOSE ACCESS TO THE LANDS BY THE CLASSIFIED CONTROLS BEING PLACED ON THESE LANDS BY THE OVERWHELMING BUREAUCRATIC POSTULATIONS. THE MONTANA CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION HAS BEEN COMMENDED FOR INITIATING THIS INVOLVEMENT IN THE STATE OF MONTANA. IT WAS SAID THAT IT IS ESPECIALLY GRATIFYING TO NOTE THE CREATION OF AN UNUSUAL COMMITTEE TO TAKE A GOOD HARD OBJECTIVE LOOK AT THE CONCEPT OF THE SAGEBRUSH REBELLION AS IT CONCERNS MONTANA AND IT IS LAUDABLE THAT IT IS AN AGRICULTURAL ORGANIZATION (an industry not exactly expert at speaking with one voice) THAT FORMED THE COALITION TO ADDRESS THIS SUBJECT. THE RESULTANT MEETINGS HELD AROUND THE STATE HAVE EXPLORED SUCH AREAS AS THE HISTORY OF FEDERAL LAND OWNERSHIP IN THE WEST, THE CONSEQUENCES OF TAKING CONTROL AWAY FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, THE PROBABLE EFFECT SUCH A CHANGE WOULD HAVE ON MONTANA AND A CAREFUL AIRING OF ALL SIDES OF THE DEBATE (hopefully long on information and short on emotion).

SOME INTERESTING CONCEPTS HAVE BEEN BROUGHT FORTH FROM THESE SESSIONS: SPORTSMEN HAVE EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT ACCESS IF THE LAND IS MANAGED BY THE STATES: HOWEVER IT CAN BE POINTED OUT THAT OUR FISH WILDLIFE AND PARKS DIVISION MANAGES ALL THE STATE LANDS THAT THESE SAME SPORTSMEN ENJOY TODAY; OTHERS HAVE EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT THE LANDS WOULD BE SOLD TO PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS; THAT CERTAINLY IS NOT THE INTENT OF THE MONTANA CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION AND I DOUBT THAT THOSE WHO ARE PLANNING TO INTRODUCE LEGISLATION AT THE MONTANA LEGISLATIVE SESSION OF 1981 , WOULD BE NAIVE ENOUGH TO ASSUME PASSAGE IF THERE WERE ADVOCACY OF SELLING PUBLIC LANDS TO INDIVIDUALS.

THE MONTANA CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION SUPPORTS THE CONCEPT OF STATE MANAGEMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS BECAUSE THEY FEEL THE STATE CAN OPERATE ON A MORE COST EFFICIENT LEVEL AND DO A BETTER JOB BY BEING CLOSER TO THE LAND BEING MANAGED. THIS ORGANIZATION ALSO ENDORSES THE CONCEPT OF A GOVERNOR APPOINTED COUNCIL MADE UP BY USERS FROM ALL INTEREST AREAS TO REVIEW PROPOSALS AND BUDGETS, GUIDELINES AND OPERATIONS AND ACTIVELY BE ENGAGED IN

MANAGEMENT POLICY DECISIONS. TO GIVE YOU AN IDEA OF COST EFFECTIVENESS AS HAS BEEN GIVEN AT SOME OF THE MCA MEETINGS; THE GALLATIN FOREST SUPERVISOR, RETIRED, HAD A PREPARED ANALYSIS FOR JUST THE FOREST SERVICE LANDS IN MONTANA:

Cost to the N.F. to administer lands in Montana \$89,200,000

If the State took over management, he ADDS the loss of;

+ 25% fund	\$8,300,000
+ payments in lieu of taxes	\$7,300,000
+ 50% mineral revenue	\$6,500,000
+ Forest highway funds	\$5,100,000
	<u>\$27,200,000</u>

My Question is that if he adds these "losses" back to the 89,200,000 then the cost to the Forest Service is \$116,400,00 instead of 89,200,000?

EVEN IF IT COST THE STATE THE SAME AS THE FOREST SERVICE TO MANAGE THE LANDS AT THE FIGURE STATED, ONE WOULD HAVE TO ASSUME THAT THE LOSS OF THE ABOVE REVENUES WOULD BE MADE UP IN FEDERAL REFUND OR THE STATE WOULD GAIN THE ASSESSMENT RATHER THAN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SO IT WOULD BE A STANDOFF, HOWEVER, ADDITIONALLY IT WOULD APPEAR THAT THE STATE WOULD ALSO RETAIN THE USER FEES THEY GET TODAY IN THE APPROXIMATE AMOUNT OF \$31,200,000, AND THEREFORE, THE COST EFFECTIVENESS OF STATE MANAGEMENT WOULD BE \$58,000,000

THE MONTANA FARM BUREAU FEDERATION DID AN ANALYSIS ON COMPARISON OF BLM AND STATE LAND MANAGEMENT THAT IS JUST AS INTERESTING AS THAT OF THE FOREST SERVICE JUST OUTLINED. IN THE INTEREST OF TIME, I WON'T GO INTO IT NOW, HOWEVER, I'M SURE THAT IF YOU WRITE OR CALL THE FARM BUREAU OFFICE IN BOZEMAN, YOU WILL BE ABLE TO GET A COPY OF THEIR WORK PAPERS. THEIR ANALYSIS COVERS MANY OF THE WESTERN STATES AND IT IS INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT THE BLM MANAGES 5 1/4 times larger acreage, 14 times larger budget and 10 1/3 times larger staff than the State Lands Department, yet BLM only produces 1.6 times larger dollar income when compared to the State Lands Department. It costs BLM 60¢ per acre managed compared to 23¢ for State management. BLM collects 70¢ of income per acre compared to \$2.24 per acre managed by the State. I HAVE A FEW SHEETS OF THESE COMPARISONS WITH ME AND YOU ARE WELCOME TO LOOK THEM OVER OR MAKE COPIES IF YOU WISH.

L 5.

WHERE ARE WE TODAY? THE MONTANA CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION, THE GARFIELD MCCONE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE, THE PUBLIC LANDS COUNCIL AND OTHER GROUPS HAVE COME TOGETHER AND HELD A MEETING AND DECIDED TO ALLOW THE PUBLIC LANDS COUNCIL TO COORDINATE FORMULIZATION OF A COALITION FOR SUPPORT OF A CONCEPT OF STATES RIGHTS-"SAGEBRUSH REBELLION" - IN THE INTERESTS OF ALL THE LANDOWNERS AND LAND USERS IN THE STATE OF MONTANA. A CHALLENGE IS BEING EXPRESSED TO ALL OF YOU HERE TO BECOME INFORMED ON THE PUBLIC LANDS IN YOUR AREA, HOW THEY ARE BEING MANAGED AND HOW YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE THEM MANAGED: MAKE YOUR OWN DECISION AND LET US KNOW HOW YOU SEE THIS ISSUE OF THE 'GREAT LAND CONTROL'.

Thank you for the opportunity to talk to you here and ONCE AGAIN - IT'S YOUR LAND AND MY LAND-LET' S TAKE CARE OF IT!

/////

WORK PAPER COMPARISON OF BLM & STATE LAND MANAGEMENT COST

MONTANA

1978

Zack Stevens

State

State Staff

Leonard H. Johnson, AFBF STAFF-NER DIV.

AGENCY	#1 ACREAGE MANAGED	#2 TOTAL REVENUE (INCOME)	#3 EXPENDITURES (ACTUAL)	#4 NO. OF STAFF	#5 NO. OF STAFF PER MIL. ACRES	#6 INCOME PER STAFF	#7 NET INCOME OR LOSS	#8 MANAGE- MENT COST PER ACRE	#9 INCOME PER ACRE	#10 BLM ACRES COMPARED TO STATE ACRES
BLM	27,665,588 Page 8	\$19,260,195 Page 23	\$16,469,000 Page 18	571 Page	49	\$33,731	\$2,791,195	.60	.70	5.3 larger
STATE	5,224,247 Page 3	\$11,703,942 Page 5	\$1,161,794 Page (a)	55 Page (b)	11	\$212,799	\$10,542,148	.23	2.24	5.3 smaller

SOURCE OF INFORMATION

Public Lands Digest 1978-79.

BLM

STATE Montana Department of State Lands Statistical Report plus Hank Whitaker letter. (9/25/79)

(a) & (b) received by phone from Hank Whitaker.

FOOTNOTES

BLM in Montana manages 5 1/4 times larger acreage, 14 times larger budget and 10-1/3 times larger staff than the State Land Department, yet BLM only produces 1.6 times larger dollar income when compared to the State Land Department. It cost BLM 60¢ per acre managed compared to 23¢ per acre for state management. BLM collects 70¢ of income per acre compared to \$2.24 per acre managed by the state. Revenue generated per BLM employee is \$33,731 compared to \$212,799 per employee in the State Land Department.

WORK PAPER COMPARISON OF BLM & STATE LAND MANAGEMENT COST

UTAH

1978

Tom Bingham

State

State Staff

Leonard H. Johnson, ABBF STAFF-NER DIV.

AGENCY	#1 ACREAGE MANAGED	#2 TOTAL REVENUE (INCOME)	#3 EXPENDITURES (ACTUAL)	#4 NO. OF STAFF	#5 NO. OF STAFF PER MILL. ACRES	#6 INCOME PER STAFF	#7 NET INCOME OR LOSS	#8 MANAGE- MENT COST PER ACRE	#9 INCOME PER ACRE	#10 BLM ACRES COMPARED TO STATE ACRES
BLM	22,076,000 Page 13	\$27,565,309 Page 16	\$12,389,515 Page 19	409 Page 4	19	\$67,397	\$15,175,794	.56	\$1.25	4.8 Larger
STATE	3,629,122 Page 18	\$ 8,473,816 Page 27	\$612,451 Page 28	19 Page	5	\$445,990	\$ 7,861,365	.17	\$2.34	4.8 Smaller

SOURCE OF INFORMATION

BLM BLM Facts and Figures for Utah 1978

STATE Annual Report Division of State Lands

FOOTNOTES

This research indicates that BLM in Utah has 5 times larger acreage, 28 times larger budget and 21-1/2 times larger staff and produces 3.25 times larger dollar income when compared to the State Land Department. It indicates that BLM generates \$67,397 of income per employee compared to \$445,990 per state employee, that it cost BLM 56¢ per acre compared to 17¢ per acre for the state and that BLM's management produces \$1.25 of income per acre compared to \$2.34 per acre under state management.

BLM receipts allocated to states and estimated gross receipts to state if BLM lands were in state ownership.

STATE	BLM RECEIPTS PAID TO STATES			ESTIMATED INCOME IF ALL BLM LAND RECEIPTS WENT TO STATES		
	1975	1976	1977	1975	1976	1977
Arizona	\$ 375,783	\$ 613,282	\$ 954,459	\$ 1,209,996	\$ 1,882,355	2,523,840
California	7,013,865	9,707,711	10,628,964	19,688,190	20,925,414	23,840,727
Colorado	34,545,226	15,982,063	15,377,549	92,485,655	32,885,524	31,431,014
Idaho	953,946	1,686,522	2,332,460	3,828,701	6,369,442	6,036,741
Kansas	236,666	457,534	569,788	631,090	915,068	1,139,576
Montana	5,181,233	7,416,751	7,959,177	13,943,281	15,510,619	17,353,048
Nebraska	37,876	40,129	39,431	100,322	80,258	78,862
Nevada	1,068,436	3,310,406	4,967,504	5,468,987	8,977,675	12,288,966
New Mexico	28,683,521	52,673,343	60,179,948	77,711,945	108,196,364	122,059,128
North Dakota	765,535	983,176	724,433	2,036,569	1,966,352	1,448,866
Oklahoma	332,764	843,003	3,586,805	887,290	1,686,006	7,173,610
Oregon	60,771,172	108,012,819	88,836,435	88,525,956	136,830,117	127,839,389
South Dakota	333,385	395,723	420,265	851,377	801,842	849,270
Utah	5,855,693	8,800,610	12,039,546	16,525,461	18,727,083	25,006,320
Washington	39,609	67,100	68,157	482,189	423,080	447,573
Wyoming	38,192,089	59,587,494	69,763,078	102,372,622	120,673,406	141,028,147

SOURCE: Published and unpublished BLM "PUBLIC LAND STATISTICS"

WORKPAPER
COMPARISON OF BLM & STATE LAND MANAGEMENT COST
1978

Bureau of Land Management Statistics

Prepared by AFBF - NER Division

STATE	#1 ACREAGE MANAGED	#2 TOTAL REVENUE (INCOME)	#3 EXPENDITURES (BUDGET '78)	#4 NO. OF STAFF (PERMANENT)	#5 NO. OF STAFF (PER MIL. ACRES)	#6 INCOME PER STAFF	#7 NET INCOME OR LOSS	#8 MGMT. COST PER ACRE	#9 INCOME PER ACRE
Arizona	12,596,058	2,887,775	8,269,825	253	20	11,414	(5,382,050)	.66	.23
California	15,607,125	38,913,980	23,484,000	734	47	53,016	15,429,980	1.50	2.49
Colorado	7,996,260	31,431,014	17,399,000	580	73	56,874	14,032,014	2.18	4.13
Idaho	11,949,386	6,036,741	14,389,000	492	41	122,698	(8,352,259)	1.20	.51
Montana	27,665,588	19,260,195	16,469,000	571	49	33,731	2,791,195	.60	.70
Nevada	49,163,442	12,693,446	10,922,200	402	8	31,576	1,771,246	.22	.26
New Mexico	12,959,665	126,226,624	15,292,600	326	40	387,198	110,934,024	1.18	9.74
Oregon/ Washington	16,034,694	194,808,320	44,447,199	1,091	68	178,559	150,361,121	2.77	12.15
Utah	22,076,000	27,565,309	12,389,515	409	19	67,397	15,175,794	.56	1.25
Wyoming	17,793,173	161,255,000	18,208,000	570	32	282,904	143,047,000	1.02	9.06
Total	193,841,391	621,078,404	181,270,339	5,428	397	1,225,367	439,807,065	11.89	40.52
Average	19,384,139	62,107,840	18,127,034	543	40	122,537	43,980,707	1.19	4.05

WORK PAPER COMPARISON OF BLM & STATE LAND MANAGEMENT COST

1978

John Hatch

IDAHO

State

State Staff

Leonard H. Johnson, AFBF STAFF-NER DIV.

AGENCY	#1 ACREAGE MANAGED	#2 TOTAL REVENUE (INCOME)	#3 EXPENDITURES (ACTUAL)	#4 NO. OF STAFF	#5 NO. OF STAFF PER MIL. ACRES	#6 INCOME PER STAFF	#7 NET INCOME OR LOSS	#8 MANAGE- MENT COST PER ACRE	#9 INCOME PER ACRE	#10 BLM ACRES COMPARED TO STATE ACRES
BLM	11,949,386 Page 4	\$6,036,741 ^(a) Page	\$14,389,000 Page 13	492 Page 9	41.1	\$122,698	(\$8,352,259)	1.20	.51	4.74 Larger
STATE	2,520,065 Page 47	\$16,760,466 Page 46	\$10,233,400 Page 45	233 Page 11	92.4	\$719,333	\$6,527,066	4.06	6.65	4.74 Smaller

SOURCE OF INFORMATION

(a)

BLM BLM Facts - Idaho 1978. (Total revenue is not published - phone interview)

STATE State of Idaho - Department of Lands 4th Annual Report

FOOTNOTES

BLM in Idaho manages 4.74 times larger acreage, 1.4 times larger budget and 2.1 times larger staff than the State Land Department yet BLM produces 2.78 times less annual dollar income. It cost BLM \$1.20 per acre managed compared to \$4.06 per acre for state management. BLM collects 51¢ of income per acre compared to \$6.65 of income per acre under state management. Revenue generated per BLM employee is \$122,698 compared to \$719,333 per staff in the State Land Department.

CHART #8

GROSS INCOME TO U.S. FOREST SERVICE BY STATE AND BY SOURCES IN 1978.
 COLUMN #5 IS ESTIMATED INCOME TO STATES FOR 1979 FROM FOREST LANDS
 IF ALL U.S. FOREST SERVICE LANDS HAD BEEN IN STATE OWNERSHIP

STATE	FOREST SERVICE TOTAL ACRES #1	TIMBER #2	INCOME		1978 TOTAL #5
			GRAZING #3	ALL OTHER #4	
Alabama	642,820	1,165,619.	1,014.	155,987.	1,322,620.
Alaska	20,594,144	1,209,089.	10.	119,886.	1,328,985.
Arizona	11,270,325	11,351,077.	1,798,765.	742,423.	14,392,265.
Arkansas	2,469,314	5,069,318.	11,326.	1,203,031.	6,283,675.
California	20,359,362	156,131,792.	590,763.	5,439,125.	162,161,680.
Colorado	14,338,911	584,934.	1,121,393.	2,121,066.	3,827,393.
Connecticut	10				
Florida	1,083,479	2,528,481.	10,429.	641,068.	3,179,978.
Georgia	858,646	2,028,001.	2,338.	82,984.	2,113,323.
Idaho	20,410,637	27,425,063.	939,872.	528,473.	28,893,408.
Illinois	257,815		1,016.	62,726.	63,742.
Indiana	182,858	118,305.		29,736.	148,041.
Kansas	107,700				
Kentucky	662,387	8,532.	2.	172,194.	180,728.
Louisiana	597,032	7,740,892.	9,071.	348,407.	8,098,370.
Maine	51,442	17,926.		19,360.	37,286.
Michigan	2,713,675	974,059.		454,181.	1,428,240.
Minnesota	2,794,467	303,738.		276,706.	580,444.
Mississippi	1,139,689	13,384,122.	5,446.	1,702,714.	15,092,282.
Missouri	1,457,224	290,162.	9,672.	6,527,823.	6,827,657.
Montana	16,768,524	16,758,425.	818,051.	498,129.	18,074,605.
Nebraska	351,499		160,385.	18,487.	178,872.
Nevada	5,143,270	236,033.	388,463.	293,945.	918,441.
New Hampshire	683,193	259,025.		279,744.	538,769.
New Mexico	9,244,709	5,146,180.	1,108,510.	464,254.	6,718,944.
New York	13,232				
North Carolina	1,155,568	486,668.		160,931.	647,599.
North Dakota	1,105,585				
Ohio	170,421	129,736.		28,949.	158,685.
Oklahoma	291,326	826,130.	986.	37,940.	865,056.
Oregon	15,605,290	330,040,189.	623,271.	1,221,410.	331,884,870.
Pennsylvania	508,586	1,404,689.		165,801.	1,570,490.
Puerto Rico	27,846	1,624.		14,144.	15,768.
South Carolina	607,568	5,560,179.		33,680.	5,593,859.
South Dakota	1,995,077	1,524,387.	141,033.	134,012.	1,799,432.
Tennessee	621,110	252,814.		89,015.	342,729.
Texas	781,601	3,165,768.	6,341.	214,397.	3,386,506.
Utah	8,045,869	894,686.	769,745.	797,736.	2,462,167.
Vermont	266,012	62,022.	92.	74,968.	137,082.
Virginia	1,609,784	308,714.	1,510.	224,026.	534,250.
Virgin Islands	147				
Washington	9,096,709	98,860,416.	148,807.	633,717.	99,642,940.
West Virginia	963,345	148,053.	5,769.	318,619.	472,441.
Wisconsin	1,495,120	915,854.		190,032.	1,105,886.
Wyoming	9,252,329	1,547,520.	713,722.	534,395.	2,795,637.
TOTAL	187,845,657				

- NOTES: 1. Timber receipts are generally allocated to the states and counties on a 25-75 split. There are exceptions, i.e., C & C lands, Coos Bay lands.
 2. Mineral receipts are allocated to states by BLM.
 3. Grazing receipts are allocated on same authority as BLM employees.

SOURCE: Unpublished Report of the Forest Service - 1978.

WORKPAPER
COMPARISON OF BLM & STATE LAND MANAGEMENT COST
1978

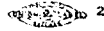
Prepared by AFBF - NER Division									
State Land Management Agency Statistics									
STATE	#1 ACREAGE MANAGED	#2 TOTAL REVENUE (INCOME)	#3 EXPENDITURES (ACTUAL)	#4 NO. OF STAFF	#5 NO. OF STAFF (PER MIL. ACRES)	#6 INCOME PER STAFF	#7 NET INCOME OR LOSS	#8 MGMT. COST PER ACRE	#9 INCOME PER ACRE
Arizona	9,581,976	18,610,873	2,588,500	95	10	195,904	16,022,373	.27	1.94
California	4,000,000	106,954,000	8,094,000	243	61	440,134	98,860,000	2.02	26.74
Colorado	2,617,978	11,458,552	524,674	27	10	424,391	10,933,878	.20	4.39
Idaho	2,520,065	16,760,466	10,233,400	233	92	719,333	6,527,066	4.06	6.65
Montana	5,224,247	11,703,942	1,161,794	55	11	212,799	10,542,148	.23	2.24
*Nevada	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
New Mexico	9,222,698	104,681,253	1,541,993	119	13	879,674	103,139,260	.17	11.35
Oregon	765,493	15,060,000	3,348,500	34	44	442,941	11,711,500	4.38	19.67
Utah	3,629,122	8,473,816	612,451	19	5	445,990	7,861,365	.17	2.34
Washington	2,267,963	97,303,336	11,937,000	438	193	221,950	85,366,336	5.26	42.90
Wyoming	3,654,807	24,959,567	1,125,000	50	14	499,191	23,834,567	.31	6.83
Total	43,484,349	405,432,805	41,167,312	1,113	453	4,482,307	374,795,493	17.07	125.05
Average	4,348,435	40,543,281	4,116,731	111	45	448,231	37,479,549	1.71	12.51

*Nevada does not own state grant lands and was not included in totals.

Montana Senior Citizens Assn., Inc.

WITH AFFILIATED CHAPTERS THROUGHOUT THE STATE

P.O. BOX 423 - HELENA, MONTANA 59601



406) 443-5341

January 25, 1981

MR. CHAIRMAN, and MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

For the record, I am Chas. A. Banderob of Ballantine, Montana. *A Farmer, Run Cattle, Rode on The Last Big Roundup of Cattle ON Free Range.*
I am President of the Montana Senior Citizens Association. *Also Pres. HUNTLEY Prof. F.U. Local & Western Action.*

If we are going to REBEL, let's Rebel on behalf of people - not SAGEBRUSH. All of we Senior Citizens find that we cannot take our land with us when we go beyond the rainbow. We also find that in all too many cases we cannot sell it to small operators or to young people, as they do not have the buying power. It is virtually only the big operators or money lenders who can buy it. We are fast becoming a Nation of landless people. People without land are a wandering people. A Nation of wandering people is a faltering nation. *you can see the hand writing on the wall BY THE SUBWAY IN NYC*

The Pentagon tribe say the West is expendable. They had proposed man's greatest blunder, a vast series of Mobile Missels - the MX - for a very large area of Nevada and Utah. That would fix the Sagebrush. The projected ten year cost of it is \$80 to \$100 Billion of the taxpayers money for an obsolete concept. The people there are objecting strongly. So now they are planning to place them elsewhere. *(Several 250 mile Race Tracks)*

I have a Map here that shows them all over Montana, in such places as Billings, Bozeman and Helena, as well as others. I also have an article from the Montana Farmer-Stockman that says the MX should go to Sea. To gather a Billion dollars together, you have to gather \$278,300 together every hour, day and night, for a year - to get One Billion. That will buy a lot of Sagebrush! And several of the major Oil Companies, Energy Conglomerates, and Military Hardware Manufacturers are making 2-3 and more Billion dollars net each year. They are the ones who will buy the Sagebrush, along with most of the industry and natural resources. Most States have plundered their State lands. Montana is one of a few (3 I believe) who have kept their State School lands intact.

I can recall a period of years following another Military operation when the Counties had to take over so much land for back taxes that the FEDERAL Government had to come in and buy the land from the Counties to bail them out, Not the STATE, but the Federal Government. I recall another period not so long ago when the Indians lands on the reservations was being sold under supervised sale for as little as \$1.00 to \$5.00 per acre, and we had to call on Congress - not the States - to place a ten year moratorium on the Sale of Indian land. This same land today has thousands of dollars worth of coal, oil and gas under ~~it~~ *Much as it Per Acre.*

YES, the Public Domain should be kept intact for all of the people under the supervision of the Federal Government. If the large cattle operators do not like the terms of their leases they should step aside and let the smaller cattlemen, with less than 100 head, have it.

Some day you, too, will not be able to take your land, minerals or money with you. So let us Rebel on behalf of the people - NOT SAGEBRUSH!

Thank you,

Chas. A. Banderob.

Chas. A. Banderob, President
Montana Senior Citizens Ass'n.

Agricultural products ~~are~~ are the only creation of new wealth. Field, Forest and Sea.

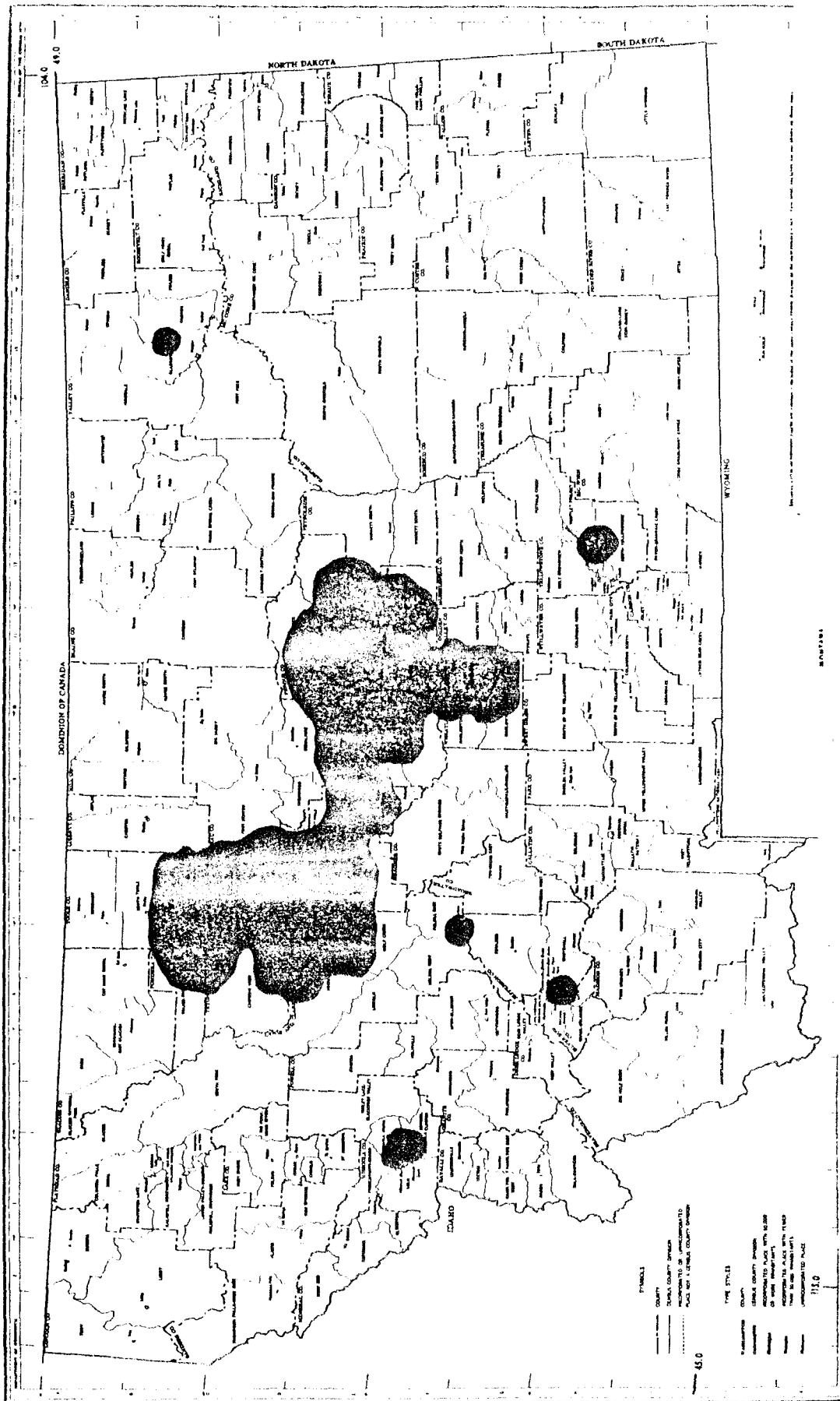
In 1978 the total net profits extracted out of the American economy, was just exactuly equal to the total worth of agriculture's production. \$108. Billion.

Net profits do not employ one single person during the time they are gathered.

Then they go out and buy up our industries and natural resources, and people.

MONTANA

COUNTY, SUBDIVISION, CENSUS COUNTY DIVISIONS AND PLACES



COUNTY
 CENSUS COUNTY DIVISION
 INCORPORATED PLACE WITH 50,000
 OF MORE POPULATION
 INCORPORATED PLACE WITH 10,000
 OF MORE POPULATION
 INCORPORATED PLACE

JAN. 15, 1981

MONTANA

Farmer-Stockman **EDITORIALS**

The West "Expendable"?

BELIEVE IT OR NOT, the U.S. Air Force has taken an official position that local impact resulting from the MX Linear Grid (MX) may "appear severe" only to people living in areas of the proposed sites. "but when viewed from a national perspective, the impacts are not that great."

In other words, it appears to be saying, the rest of the country need not concern itself with the personal dangers and economic hardships which may be inflicted on people in "a little developed area" — it is all for a good cause.

Well, some of those "isolated" folk (in Nevada and Utah) question that bureaucratic decision which would not only place a great deal of strain on already limited water reserves and local taxing districts, but would actually render them expendable bull's-eyes for enemy missiles as well. And for once, farmers, urbanites, politicians and environmentalists are working together, doggedly determined to halt "the largest public works project ever," which many believe to be technologically outdated already.

Even some military strategists are concerned about land-based defense systems such as the MX, contending that they only invite destruction of the very land and people that they are designed to protect. Paradoxically, the U.S. Navy was testing what many believe to be a better defense system about 20 years ago. Called HYDRA, it is a system for launching missiles from any body of water deep enough to float one. The missiles are waterproofed, buoyant versions of those currently in use, and can be carried by either surface ships or submerged submarines. Launched by simply dropping them into the water, the missiles attain a vertical floating position prior to firing. Reportedly, performance is enhanced by the water's buoyancy assist.

Because any number of missiles could be launched simultaneously from both concealed and cruising ships, they could provide a nuclear deterrent that would be truly mobile. And because they could be theoretically deployed on some 55 million square miles of ocean, an enemy would have a frustratingly more difficult job in attempting to keep tabs on them than would be the case with MX. More important, the potential for sparing U.S. cities — and lives — would be greatly increased with a system that would force an aggressor to aim more of his missiles at oceanic targets.

President Reagan already has told the Air Force to seek alternatives to MX; but unfortunately, what is being considered is merely an MX adaptation, with nearly all of the same problems.

Perhaps for security and fiscal reasons (one estimate pegs its cost at \$15 billion less than MX), HYDRA deserves another look. After all, it has an indisputable record of successful launchings, including placement of scientific payloads into orbit.

Those who live in the Southwest and points downwind just might sleep a little easier, too. — *E.W. Ramsey*

New Study Finds Small Farms Hurt by Many Federal Policies

By Dan Morgan
Washington Post Staff Writer

A \$1 million, two-year study of American agriculture by the Carter administration has concluded that dozens of longstanding government policies aimed at helping farmers actually have hastened the trend toward bigger and fewer farms and jeopardized the future of family ownership.

The study, produced by a task force at the Department of Agriculture, was described by officials as the most extensive study of U.S. farming since World War II. It recommends the "modification" of current policies on taxation, farm credit, commodity price supports, federally supported agricultural research, trade and conservation. The report is openly critical of subsidies for producing gasoline from grain and other organic materials — a program supported by the Carter administration — on grounds that such a plan "has great potential for distorting the efficient use of scarce resources and adding to households' food budgets."

At the same time, the report calls for an end to most federal subsidies and income support for the largest farmers — the 2.4 percent with sales over \$20,000 a year who account for 39.4 percent of U.S. food production. It also urges a sweeping reexamination of tax provisions and farm credit procedures that have encouraged land speculation, expansion of landholdings, and the bidding up of land prices by outside investors who can take advantage of capital gains provisions and tax shelters in farming.

Instead of these traditional supports and preferences, a new set of policies

is needed to help the 53.2 percent of the farmers whose sales are between \$5,000 and \$200,000 a year, the report said. This group produces 56.6 percent of the nation's food, but its interests differ markedly from those of the large farmers, the study found.

Agriculture Secretary Bob Bergland, who says he has not yet found a new job, said at a news conference yesterday that he would like to work toward getting the recommendations carried out after he leaves office next Tuesday.

"If we don't change our programs, we're going to see small and medium farmers go out of business. People might say, 'So what? Well, the question should be debated whether 1,000 larger ones, up to about \$40,000 a year in annual sales. This is because outside jobs have become a major source of income for farm families. Thus, the availability of jobs, not a shortfall of farm income, is the most serious economic problem for small farmers."

Farms get more efficient as they increase in size and their sales of farm products grow. But the efficiency gains level off once farms reach an average \$160,000 in sales. Therefore, the study argues, there is no benefit to consumers or taxpayers from government subsidies encouraging still further growth.

There may have been too much rather than too little credit available to agriculture in the last few years. Therefore, the loans made by the government's farm credit system "might have contributed to inefficient resource allocation, inflation in land values, and further concentration of production and landownership."

The major reason for the medium

These concerns are based on exhaustive research that included taking

testimony from hundreds of farmers around the country.

In addition to confirming the notion that fewer and fewer wealthy farmers produce more and more of the nation's food, the Agriculture Department study produced some findings that surprised some farm experts. For example:

- About one third of all farmland is owned by landlords, many of them absentees, who rent it to farmers. In this case, the benefits of rising land prices and tax concessions go to individuals outside the farming sector.

- Contrary to widespread opinion, the income of families living on the tiniest farms is about the same as the income of families living on much larger ones, up to about \$40,000 a year in annual sales. This is because outside jobs have become a major source of income for farm families. Thus, the availability of jobs, not a shortfall of farm income, is the most serious economic problem for small farmers.

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The major reason for the medium

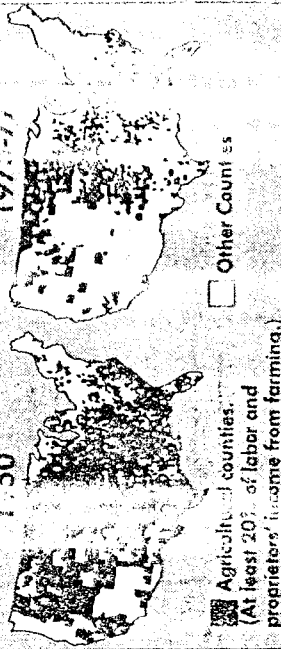
Farm Size & Food Production			
	Number	% of all farmers	% of farm sales
RURAL FARM RESIDENCES (sales under \$5,000)	1,186,000	44.4	2.0
SMALL FARMS (sales \$5,000—\$40,000)	898,000	33.6	6
MEDIUM FARMS (\$40,000—\$200,000)	524,000	19.6	2
LARGE FARMS (over \$200,000)	64,000	2.4	1.0
SUPER FARMS (over \$10 million)	370	.02	7.9

□ Sector seen as vulnerable by USDA study

Agricultural Counties

1:50

197-7



(At least 20% of labor and proprietors' income from farming.)

The Washington Post

real estate prices, which increasingly puts farmland out of the reach of younger operators.

This trend is being driven by domestic inflation as well as by global developments. From the stability and relatively low prices of the 1950s and 1960s, U.S. farming has moved to extreme instability and higher farm incomes that larger, better financed operators are best able to exploit.

In 1950, exports accounted for less than one acre out of five planted. Today that is up to one out of seven.

consumed abroad — equivalent to the contribution made to world energy supplies by the oil of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

Bergland said yesterday that America's efforts to supply the foreign demand have contributed to escalating land prices and to soil erosion. "The fact is we don't have a carefully thought through trade policy," he said. "The question is whether it makes sense to raise corn when the soil is being eroded."



MONTANA 4X4 ASSOCIATION, INC.

January 26, 1981

Senator Harold Dover, Chairman
Senate Natural Resources Committee

Mr. Chairman, Members of the Committee, my name is Steven E. Slagle, and I'm appearing before you today as chairman of the Land and Legislation Committee of the Montana 4X4 Association. I am appearing today in opposition to Senate Bill 123.

The Montana 4X4 Association promotes the responsible use of four-wheel drive vehicles emphasizing respect for the land and family-oriented recreation. Our membership consists of persons from virtually all walks of life who enjoy hunting, fishing and numerous other outdoor activities with a special love for backcountry exploration by four-wheel drive vehicles.

I would like to summarize the opinions expressed by our membership through their executive officers and delegates at our quarterly meeting held January 17, 1981, regarding any proposed "Sagebrush Rebellion" legislation. The members of the Montana 4X4 Association are extremely displeased with certain aspects of the Federal Government's management of public lands. Specifically, we are concerned about the restriction of access to a limited group of public land users, interference in legally permissible oil, gas, and mineral exploration and leasing on certain lands, and classification as wilderness with closure to motorized recreational use of lands that do not meet the required minimum criteria for wilderness designation as stated in Section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act of 1964.

The members of the Montana 4X4 Association feel that an extremely strong protest to these land management policies needs to be made. However, our members do not feel that state acquisition of Federal lands is in the best interests of Montana and Montanans, nor is it the proper solution to the problem.

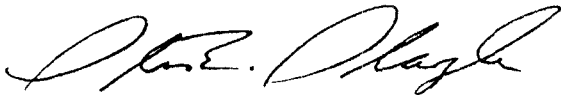
Three basic fears to state ownership of these lands have been expressed by the membership. First, we do not feel that our problems of access to these lands would be improved, but quite possibly intensified. Second, the state bureaucracy is ill equipped to manage the lands and the costs of establishing such a bureaucracy combined with the subsequent costs of managing these lands will result in increased taxation. Thirdly, if the state proved to be unable to adequately manage these lands, they would most probably become subject to public auction. Private lands will result in even less access than we now have to these lands.

The consensus of the membership of the Montana 4X4 Association is that the problems of Federal management of public lands should be an ongoing dialogue, with hope that we can modify some of their policies. However, we sincerely hope that Montana will not adopt legislation such as Senate Bill 123, or Resolutions attempting to encourage similar state acquisition of Federal public lands.

Mr. Chairman, Members of the Committee, We appreciate the opportunity to appear before you today and to voice our opinions of the management of public lands. We respectfully request that you give Senate Bill 123 a DO NOT PASS Recommendation and leave our public lands in the hands of the public.

Thank You,

Respectfully Submitted

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven E. Slagle". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping "S" at the beginning and a long, horizontal flourish at the end.

Steven E. Slagle, Chairman
Land and Legislation Committee
Montana 4X4 Association, Inc.



JAMES W. MURRY
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Box 1176, Helena, Montana

ZIP CODE 59601
406 442-1708

Room 100 Steamboat Block
616 Helena Ave

TESTIMONY OF DONALD R. JUDGE, COPE DIRECTOR, MONTANA STATE AFL-CIO, ON
SENATE BILL 123, HEARINGS OF THE SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE,
JANUARY 26, 1981

I am representing the Montana State AFL-CIO. Our organization opposes the sagebrush rebellion and this bill.

Last summer, the convention of the Montana State Building and Construction Trades Council passed a resolution condemning the attempt to take away public lands from federal government control. The Building Trades submitted that resolution to the convention of the Montana State AFL-CIO, which passed it overwhelmingly.

I am submitting a copy of that resolution to each member of this committee. However, I would like to summarize it for your consideration.

Workers in Montana believe in the basic rights for themselves and their children to enjoy the recreational opportunities available to them in this state. They recognize the fact that public management of the public's lands is costly, however, workers also realize that these lands belong to them, as members of the public, and they do not wish to relinquish their rights of ownership.

Workers in Montana question the state's ability to take over management of federal lands on a cost-effective basis. They are concerned about the probability that these lands will become subject to public sale and, therefore, no longer be public lands. Their concern is for the accessibility of themselves and their families, both now and in the future, to Montana's outstanding recreational facilities for hunting, fishing, and other outdoor activities.

The Montana State Building and Construction Trades Council, through this resolution, joined by all other affiliates of the Montana State AFL-CIO, oppose

(over)

any form of the so-called "sagebrush rebellion" and urge you to give Senate Bill 123 a "do not pass" recommendation.

RESOLUTION #72

WHEREAS, land in Montana is currently divided among private ownership, state ownership, and federal ownership; and

WHEREAS, publicly owned lands are to be managed for the benefit of the public; and

WHEREAS, publicly owned lands are a priceless heritage for us to enjoy in this and future generations; and

WHEREAS, the use of publicly owned lands by working people is important to maintain; and

WHEREAS, the hunting and fishing and recreational uses of public lands in appropriate areas brings about many beneficial economic results; and

WHEREAS, there is currently a move to take lands out of public ownership, whether it be federal or state; and

WHEREAS, any such moves threaten the ability of the public to enjoy the use of such lands; and

WHEREAS, the eventual owners of lands will be those most likely to be able to afford them; and

WHEREAS, the eventual owners of lands would be those who would like to profit most for themselves and not the public; and

WHEREAS, the eventual owners of lands would be the large, wealthy corporations; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that we are opposed to any move to transfer the ownership of lands from their present owners; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we work to expose the so called "sagebrush rebellion" as a land grab scheme for the wealthy; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we forward a copy of this resolution to the AFL-CIO for their adoption and concurrence.

SUBMITTED BY THE MONTANA STATE BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL ANNUAL CONVENTION

24TH ANNUAL MONTANA STATE AFL-CIO CONVENTION VOTED CONCURRENCE

Senator Dover, Members of the Committee, Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am Doris Milner from Hamilton, Mt. and I am testifying on behalf of myself and the thousand members of the Montana Wilderness Association headquartered in Helena.

The Association's position on the proposed change of ownership and management of some of the public lands in Montana stems from basic objectives of the organization among which are:

- (1) To enlist public support in a Montana program for classification and preservation of an adequate system of wilderness areas to serve the educational, recreational, scenic, scientific, conservation, and historical needs of the people, now and in the future.

S123 recommends inroads into this system in Section 2.(d). The Great Bear wilderness, the Rattlesnake Wilderness, Helcome Creek, and the Charlie Russell National Wildlife Refuge would be wiped out.

- (2) To encourage a land ethic that calls for areas where forms of life other than man can work out their destinies with a minimum of human interference.

S 123 Again Sec. 2 (d) threatens the land base for natural communities. Development has a way of interfering with natural communities. Second, State lands are to be managed, under law, for the highest monetary return. This would underline the basic direction from the state for development, not preservation.

- (3) To establish a balanced outdoor recreation program on public land including both wilderness and nonwilderness.

Recreation is an ~~acknowledged~~ and accepted use of our federal public lands. It is one of the "multiple uses" directed for National Forests. The economics of recreation on our federal lands indicates that recreation is an expense, a large one, that the Federal Government picks up. To continue such programs, ^{on state land,} that the public enjoys today, would lay an intolerable burden on the people of Montana. A case in point: Ravalli County has some 1,112,026 acres of federal land - some 73% of the total land area. For the fiscal year 1980, ^{not Forest} revenues totaled \$1,009,300 while the operating budget was \$4,474,200. In case of transfer of ownership, who will pick up the tab? If State money is not available would the next step not be putting it on the block?

Many of us remember back in 1964 when the Congress ordered the fourth public land study. The fourth since 1879. After nearly 6 years the public Land Law Review Commission delivered a report to the President. While the Commission was working on its report its work was ^{being} carefully followed by several user groups—grazing, mining, timber—and conservationists. The Natural Resources Council of America set up in 1967 its own commission to keep tabs on conservation issues involved in the review. At a meeting in 1968 the Council presented a statement to the Commission. Some of its points are most pertinent to this present movement:

Our public lands are a contrast of continental extremes and natural wealth. They are a cross section of America. Despite differences in their location and primary uses, the millions of acres of public lands have a common bond, a mutuality of purpose. They are owned by, administered for, and available to all of the people. Their administrative rationale is the public good, whether the lands are devoted mainly to scenic inspiration and recreational refreshment, national defense and security, or the production and extraction of resources. Directly and indirectly, their benefits and their values flow to all of the people.

Public lands are of inestimable value. They comprise national forests and parks, grazing districts, wildlife refuges and game ranges. They protect watersheds and produce water. They supply forage for live stock and oil and minerals. They provide reserves for preservation of natural and scenic wonders. They furnish sites for camping and hunting and other recreation. Their continued and improved production of human benefits is the primary goal of all conservation-minded citizens.

This is an urgent and timely goal because we no longer have new lands to pioneer. There are no new forests, no new streams and natural lakes, no new places to turn to when misused land becomes unproductive. We must make do with what we have, to use it more fully and with less waste. A rapidly expanding population and an innovative industrial technology are making vast demands against public and private land alike. Only the public lands, for the most part, are susceptible to uniform resources management and protection programs that can be relied on to produce continuing real and intangible benefits for so many of our people.

The Montana Wilderness Association heartily endorses the above words and equally heartily rejects any efforts to remove from federal jurisdiction our public lands.

SL23 seems almost frivolous. No substance, ^{and} no mandate from a broad public. Rather, it seems to be an attempt to intimidate our public land managers. MWA recommends that instead of ground sluicing the public's birthright, the Legislature set in motion ^a review process of existing regulations that burden the public in its use of the resources and seek dialogue and cooperation with the public land managers.

To Senator Dover and members of the Committee on Natural Resources

I am Tom Ryan of the Montana Senior Citizens Association. I am a retired Montana educator. I have taught many hundreds of Montana's people at the secondary level and consider myself very fortunate to have covered much of Montana as a graduate assistant to Walter Prescott Webb. Webb is still held in high regard as America's first and foremost authority on the vast empire we call "the Great Plains."

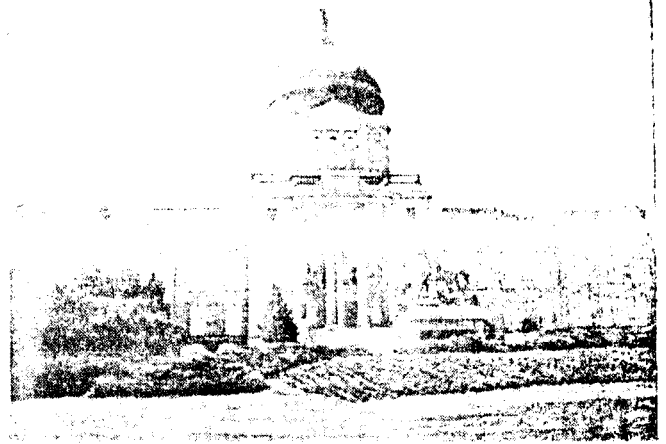
I wish to speak to you about two states where state government could not withstand the pressures of private and often selfish interests.

Both Texas and New Mexico at one time were noted for their widespread artesian wells. As the agricultural and the industrial demands for water and timber increased, almost simultaneously the watersheds were stripped of growing trees. As a result, deep wells were drilled. In many cases, these wells could no longer supply usable water and could not meet the demands of those who raise crops and livestock. The cattlemen and sheepmen are finding it difficult to find ways to maintain sufficient streamflow and storage to satisfy their needs.

Federal maintenance and restoration of watersheds is, in my opinion, sufficient reason to retain federal ownership. Through soil conservation, reclamation, selective harvesting and reforestation, we can continue to provide lumber, paper, pastures, hydropower, irrigation and recreation for the good of all Americans.

Montana Democratic Party

"hard at work for
good government"



POLICY COMMITTEE

Issue Brief No. 6

THE SAGEBRUSH REBELLION

The Policy Committee was created by the Montana Democratic Party's Executive Board in November of 1979 to assist in the developing of ideas and the gathering of information on the critical issues facing Montana in the 80's.

This Issue Brief was prepared by the Policy Committee and is not necessarily an official party statement. It is, however, consistent with past party positions. This is a background and informational paper meant to provide a greater understanding of this issue for Democratic candidates and members of the Montana Democratic Party.

THE SAGEBRUSH REBELLION: THE WRONG APPROACH

What Is The Sagebrush Rebellion?

Simply stated, the so-called sagebrush rebellion claims to be a move to turn vast acres of the public domain over to state and private ownership. The focus of this effort is aimed primarily at the 174 million acres of public land administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and secondarily at the Forest Service (USFS) and smaller land managing agencies of the federal government.

The rebellion emerged from the passage of statute #633(1979) in the 1979 Nevada Legislature. This law appropriated all of the 48 million acres of BLM-administered public domain in Nevada for the state of Nevada. The purpose of this statute was to force the federal government into court so it could be sued for control of the lands.

Sen. Orrin Hatch (R-Utah) has introduced S. 1680 in the U.S. Senate, which, if passed, would turn over all of the nation's public domain and National Forests to the states in which they are located. A similar bill, H.R. 7837, has been introduced in the U.S. House by Rep. Jim Santini (D-Nevada). The rebellion has also taken the form of legal challenges by the Denver-based Mountain States Legal Foundation, a law firm specializing in natural resource issues and representing pro-development and speculative interests. The director, James Watt, is President Reagan's nominee for Secretary of Interior. The main focus, however, remains the relinquishing of public control of the public's land. In Montana the rebellion has taken the form of S. 123, introduced by Sen. Mark Etchart (R-Glasgow).

In a recent article, Dr. Bernard Shanks of Utah State University described the move by saying that "behind the principled rhetoric of the sagebrush rebellion lies a simple goal--the liquidation of the west's mineral and energy resources... the intent is to plunder the west."

Along with the intent of "plundering the west" there is a less dramatic but far more disastrous long-term goal. Behind the rhetoric of states' rights, backers of the sagebrush rebellion are seeking to weaken federal land management policies and enforcement of federal land management laws. Federal land management policies and laws were developed to protect the long-term productivity of the public domain for the multiple of uses of the public. They were necessarily passed to protect public lands from future misuse and exploitation that had already occurred for centuries.

The sagebrush rebellion is an attempt to remove public control of our public lands with the expressed interest of removing federal land laws and management. The intent behind this attempt may be sincere or motivated by greed, but the effort is to make public land more accessible to private control.

What Is The Public Domain, Where Did It Come From?

The public domain is all land owned by the people of the United States and administered by the federal government. After the American Revolution, the lands from the Appalachian Mountains west to the Mississippi River were claimed by seven

of the 13 original states. However, because this land was "wrestled from the common enemy by the blood and treasury of all of the thirteen states," it was considered the common property of all the states (Journal of Congress, VI, October 10, 1780: 146). After much controversy and debate, the seven states ceded their claims for the western lands to the new government with the understanding that they would be settled, formed into states and admitted into the Union.

The remaining land within the present day borders of the United States was acquired either by blood or purchase. In 1803, Thomas Jefferson helped the United States acquire the Louisiana Purchase that added 827,987 square miles to the public domain. Florida was ceded to the United States from Spain in 1819 after several negotiations and an armed intervention in western Florida by American troops.

Table I: Origins of the Public Domain

Date of Acquisition		Millions Acres	% of Total U.S. Land Area
1781-1802	Cession by Original States	237	10.2
1803	Louisiana Purchase	560	24.2
1819	Florida Purchase	46	2.0
1846	Oregon Compromise	183	7.9
1848	Mexican Treaty	339	14.6
1850	Purchase from Texas	79	3.4
1853	Gadsden Purchase	19	0.8
1867	Purchase of Alaska	375	16.2
	TOTAL	1,838	79.3

source: Bureau of Land Management, 1980.

The United States attempted to purchase the Texas territory several times without success. Texas was finally annexed in 1845 after their war of independence with Mexico. Five years later the public bought an additional 123,270 square miles of land around the present day border of the state of Texas. In 1846, the Oregon Territory was ceded to the United States in a treaty with Great Britain. The United States also went to war with Mexico in 1846. At the close of the war the present day southwestern boundary of the United States was established with the exception of the area known as the Gadsden Purchase. This 29,000 square mile area was later purchased from Mexico for \$10,000,000. Alaska was purchased from Russia in 1867 for the sum of \$7,200,000. The Hawaiian Islands were annexed through a treaty.

The total amount of land added to the public domain amounted to 2,503,330 square miles or at its peak, 2.1 billion acres, nearly 80 percent of the land area in the United States. From this total 34.6 million acres were subtracted for private claims. The western states of Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Washington and Wyoming were formed out of these lands.

Today the federal government administers about 765 million acres of public land. Over 312 million acres are managed by the National Park Service, the Forest Service, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Fish and Wildlife Service, the Bureau

of Reclamation, Department of Defense, Department of State, Department of Energy, the Tennessee Valley Authority and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. The remaining 453 million acres of national resource lands are administered by the Bureau of Land Management and comprise the public domain. Approximately 300 million acres of public land are in Alaska.

Almost two-thirds of the land in Nevada, half of Utah and nearly half of New Mexico and Wyoming are under public ownership. Significant portions of California, Idaho, Arizona, Oregon, Colorado and Montana are also federally controlled. Of the original 1.8 billion acres of public domain, 1.1 billion has been appropriated. The sagebrush rebellion is aimed at these unappropriated public lands.

How Has the Public's Land been Managed?

The history of federal land policies was based on the view that, at least until the 1900's, land was viewed as wilderness that ought to be free to the person who subdued it. The amount of land allowed to each person was hotly debated, but it was agreed that land was a just reward for the person who redeemed it from its wild state. Land had been essentially free because it was abundant--no one could imagine limits on the amount of land. If it became depleted of timber, minerals or soil, it was easy to move on to a new area. During this time there were no real policies directing the management of the public domain, only a series of expedient actions that, when gathered together, could be called public land policy. This was based on the premise that settlement was desirable above all other considerations.

In 1879 the Public Lands Commission was established to assess the condition of the public domain and improve land dispositions. Twelve years later the Forest Reserve Act of 1891 withdrew lands from settlement and exploitation. These withdrawals formed the basis of the Forest Reserves which were established in 1897. In 1901 the reserves were transferred to the Department of Agriculture and designated as National Forests. In 1910, the Pickett Act authorized withdrawals for irrigation, reclamation and power sites. Minerals not managed under the Mining Law of 1872 were managed under a leasing system established in the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920. These included oil and gas, coal and other minerals. In 1934 the Taylor Grazing Act was passed with the intent of ending the indiscriminate settlement and use of the remaining unappropriated lands, except for Alaska, with the intent of classifying, developing, improving and conserving public lands.

With the onset of the 1900's people began to realize that there were in fact limits to the amount of land available as well as on the carrying capacity of specific lands. Men such as Theodore Roosevelt, Gifford Pinchott, John Wesley Powell, W.J. McGee, F.H. Newell, and B.E. Barrow advanced the concept that public land should be used for the greatest benefit for the greatest number over the longest time. The purpose of this effort was to impress upon the people the importance of the conservation of natural resources which, without exception, had been used without regard to the limits of their supply. It was from this basis that 234 million acres of land was withdrawn from the public domain. The 1900's signaled the end of the era of "laissez faire" philosophy that dominated the approach of the government and the public to the public domain. New policies based on the concept of "scientific management" and multiple use and sustained yield of public lands became the foundation for present day land management. National policy, until the turn of the century, had been centered on the disposal of the public domain. As understanding of the

limits of land, resources and, in many cases, their nonrenewability grew, disposition was replaced by scientific management and conservation. Table II, below, shows how much of the public domain was given away or sold.

Table II: Disposition of the Original Public Domain-1781 to 1977

to Private Interests	Million Acres
Confirmed as Private Land Claims	34
Granted to Veterans as Military Bounties	61
Granted or Sold to Homesteaders	287
Sold under the Timber and Stone Act	14
Sold under the Timber Culture Act	11
Sold under the Desert Land Act	10
Granted to Railroad Corporations	94
Disposed of in other ways *	302
TOTAL	813
to States for:	
Support of Common Schools	78
Reclamation of Swamp Lands	65
Construction of Railroads	37
Support of Other Institutions and Schools	21
Canals and Rivers	6
Construction of Wagon Roads	3
Alaska Statehood Act **	104
other purposes	14
TOTAL	328
TOTAL DISPOSITION	1,041
ORIGINAL PUBLIC DOMAIN	1,837
AREA REMAINING IN PUBLIC OWNERSHIP	796

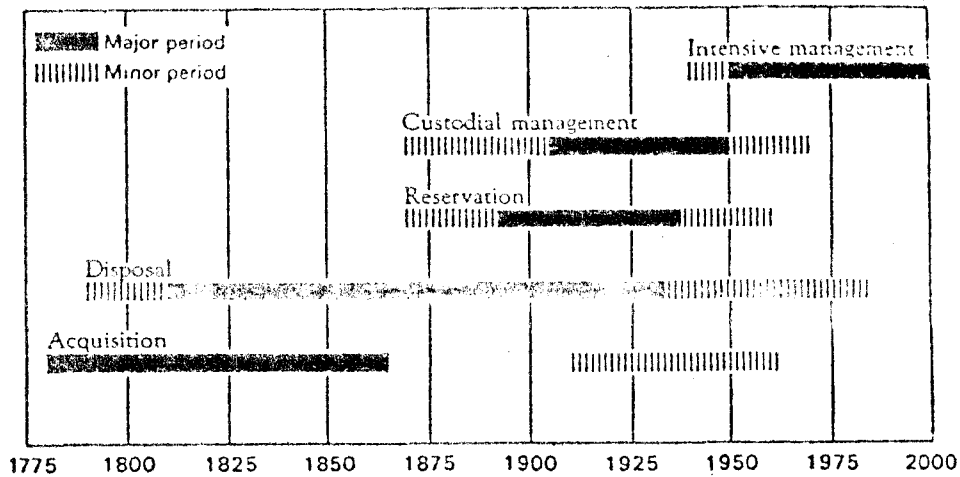
*chiefly by public, private and pre-emptive sales, and through mineral entries, scrip locations and sales of lots and sites.

**of this total, 36 million acres were conveyed by 9/30/77.

source: Bureau of Land Management, Public Land Statistics, 1977.

The Grazing Service and General Land Office were combined in 1946 to form the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The passage of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) in 1976 gave the BLM a legal mandate as a land managing agency instead of a land disposal agency. The formalization of BLM's multiple use and sustained yield mandate is another source of contention of the proponents of the sagebrush rebellion.

Table IV: Changes in Management of Public Land Acquisitions



source: Bureau of Land Management, Public Land Statistics, 1977.

Arguments For and Against the Sagebrush Rebellion

Dean Rhodes, proponent and author of the original Nevada sagebrush rebellion bill, claims that "the people resent Washington, D.C. comin' out here with a packet of regulations tellin' us what we can do." Rhodes called the federal government that "perfidious absentee landlord on the Potomac." He claims "all we are asking is for equal justice." He contends that because the majority of remaining public land is in the West that "the West is a colony of the Washington bureaucracy." According to Sen. Orrin Hatch (R-Utah), those bureaucrats "are minions of the cult of toadstool worshippers," referring to those people concerned with conserving and managing public lands under the principles of multiple use and sustained yield. Sen. Paul Laxalt (R-Nevada), a key member of the Reagan campaign in 1980, claims that "all we are asking is control over our own destiny." Rhodes claims the West "is being run by little old ladies from Connecticut, for the most part, who want to ride herd on the west from their trusty rocking chairs."

In essence, proponents are claiming that the states and private industry could do a better job managing the public domain than the federal government. They contend that our public land should be relinquished because:

- * the states would manage in the best interest of the land users,
- * western states do not have "equal footing" with other states,
- * easterners are telling westerners how to manage their land,
- * there is too much federal regulation, and
- * the policy of disposing of the public domain has been changed to multiple use management.

The point of whether or not Montana could do a better job in managing the public domain is restricted by both institutional and political barriers. Most western states' constitutions require that state lands be managed for the greatest economic return. Most public lands turned over to the state would either have to be sold or leased for single uses that would return the greatest dollar amount to state government. Similarly, the state of Montana does not currently have large sums of money available to appropriate for the management of public lands. Even if funds were

available, the current mood of the citizens and legislature to cut back government spending would limit appropriations needed for such a massive program. The effect would be that the lands would not be managed, managed poorly or sold to private interests. It is doubtful that agricultural interests could bid against energy and mineral interests for much of the public domain in Montana. Political barriers would come in the form of pressure groups. Heavy pressure would be placed on public officials to sell off parcels of the most valuable and productive lands. As Montanans saw in the 1979 Legislature, pressure groups will continue to try to weaken or dismantle the state's land management laws. The exploitation of Montana's resources on a scale similar to that of the last century would result from the absence or weakening of such laws. It could be hard to defend against attacks from out-of-state multinational interests.

Given the personnel and adequate funding of state land managing agencies, the states probably could manage the public domain. They would eventually go through a process of trying to balance competing uses and end up with a system the same as the present management policies of the federal government. The economic, political and institutional barriers mentioned above would limit the ability of the states to manage public lands. In Idaho, for example, the state constitution mandates that state lands must be managed for their highest economic return to the state school fund--sound familiar? In reality lands could be sold or leased for timber, minerals or grazing when in fact the best use may be watershed or wildlife management. Similarly, it may be in the immediate interest of the private owner to abuse an area through overgrazing, for example, which would diminish that land's long-term productivity. Such management practices would mean that the local user is the de facto owner of the land, and not the American people. It must be remembered that all the people of this country, living and yet to be born, are the owners of the public domain, not any one interest group or person or agency. Not only could single-use replace multiple-use, but the public would, as on state lands in Montana, be excluded from use of the land for recreational activities such as hunting, fishing, hiking and snowmobiling.

Sagebrush rebels claim that because the public owns large tracts of land in western states, that those states do not have "equal footing" with other states in the Union. The doctrine of "equal footing" was created by the Supreme Court and not established in the U. S. Constitution nor the Articles of Confederation. "Equal footing" was a concept intended to assure that when new states entered the Union, they did so with the same rights and were equal in political power. Political issues, and not economic or land use issues, were the intent of this doctrine. If this argument is explored more fully and, for example, Connecticut is compared to Montana (even excluding the public domain), Connecticut is at a much greater disadvantage in both the land area and natural resource base. On the other hand, Connecticut has a much larger population and a greater industrial and manufacturing base. Who has the "unequal footing"?

Proponents are trying to use the claim of inequality to negate the land-holding function of the federal government after an area becomes a state. When a territory becomes a state, the people of the state are allowed to claim lands from the public domain in addition to lands that are given to the states for special purposes such as public schools. Furthermore, if the state needs additional land, there are specific

mechanisms through which more public land could be transferred to the state. Remember, the state never owned the public domain, therefore public lands can never be returned to the state; they can only be given or sold by the all the people of the Union. When a state enters the Union, as Montana did in 1889, it agrees to drop any further claim to the public domain. For example, the Enabling Act of 1889, which established the state of Montana and was ratified by both the state legislature and the Congress, stated:

That the people inhabiting said proposed states do agree and declare that they forever disclaim all right and title to the unappropriated public lands lying within the boundaries thereof...

The public domain was acquired through the resources of all the people, either through their blood or their taxes. It therefore belongs to all the people, not to any one state or group of people who reside in that state and use the public domain. Laying claim to the public domain at this time clearly violates the contract between the state and the American people that admitted the state to the Union.

The sagebrush rebellion is not an East versus West conflict but rather a regional version of a continuing confrontation between conflicting values and uses of a limited amount of public land. Similarly, it is only a states' rights issue because of an apparent conflict with the federal government. These same conflicts would exist regardless of whether it was state or federally administered land. If it becomes private land it would become a totally different issue. The federal government is clearly not violating the rights of states in its management of public lands.

The contention of too much federal regulation is a common complaint when people feel forced to change patterns of behavior. Federal laws governing land management are the result of 200 years of misuse and abuse of public lands. The sagebrush rebellion is an expression of frustration by local users with the role of the federal government in the day-to-day lives of public land users. Included in this is frustration with national energy policies, pollution control laws, defense policy and the MX missile, and government regulations. Frank Gregg, director of the Butte District of the BLM, quite succinctly summed up the argument of too much government regulation:

... it's accurate and important to emphasize that that at its root the rebellion is an understandable reaction by certain public land users, most pervasively the public land grazing industry, to the BLM's steady progress in implementing the balanced multiple-use management program called for by the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1979.

The Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) incorporates in its policy provisions that: 1) the public domain be retained in federal ownership, 2) some lands should and can be managed to protect environmental or cultural values, 3) the public should receive fair market value for use of those lands, 4) procedures must be established to dispose of or acquire land when it would be in the national interest and 5) local and state governments be compensated for burdens incurred from the federal governments immunity to taxation of public land.

How Would the Sagebrush Rebellion Affect Montana?

There are roughly 27 million acres of public land in Montana managed primarily by the Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Park Service. From a land base of 93.2 million acres, 66 percent is in private ownership, 6 percent is administered by the State of Montana and 28 percent is public domain. It must be reiterated that the public domain was never part of the state lands.

The cost of managing public lands in Montana and other states is shared jointly by all Americans. If Montana appropriates the public domain and other public lands, it will have to assume those costs. Will Montana also give the American public fair return for its land? In addition to Montana not having to bear the full costs of managing the public lands located within our boundaries, the state and counties receive a significant portion of the income from those lands. In addition to direct payments, the state and counties receive indirect benefits from the payment of salaries and management programs that bring economic activity to local areas.

The Bureau of Land Management generated \$737 million in receipts on the national level in fiscal year 1980. Forty percent of that, or \$324 million, was returned to the states through direct payment programs. Another 34 percent or \$253 million was returned through the Reclamation Fund and other nationwide programs. The states were given another \$83 million in lieu of tax payments (federal government cannot be taxed). Only 22 percent of the \$737 million was deposited in the U. S. Treasury. It is important to point out that while the BLM made \$737 million in 1980, it expended \$917 million in management programs, resulting in a net loss. The programs were for the public benefit in contrast to programs that would primarily exploit public resources for private economic gain. In any bill to give public land to state or private interests, the future management policies of those lands must be carefully scrutinized.

The Bureau of Land Management manages slightly more than 8 million acres of surface and 27 million acres of subsurface mineral estates on the public lands in Montana. In fiscal year 1979 the BLM earned \$22.8 million in receipts in Montana. Eighty five percent or \$19.3 million was given to the state through direct payments. Additionally, the Bureau paid more than \$10.8 million in salaries in 15 Montana communities.

The Forest Service manages 16.7 million acres of public land within Montana's borders in ten National Forests located throughout the state. The total management expenditures for the Forest Service in fiscal year 1979 were \$89.2 million, of which \$53.5 million were for salaries. The total receipts from resource use were \$31.2 million. The Forest Service returned \$22.1 million to the counties in which the National Forests are located in direct payments through four programs.

Mike Anderhold observed in the Nov./Dec. issue of Montana Outdoors that:

It's one thing to take [public land] and another to control the very real problems of overgrazing, motor vehicle abuse, water pollution, and archaeological vandalism. Where would the state get the millions of dollars necessary to enforce multiple use programs? Do the grazers really want state grazing fees [BLM fees are \$2.40/Animal Unit Month, Forest Service \$2.31/AUM and private fees range from \$8.00 to \$18.00/AUM in contrast to state fees which are \$3.85/AUM.

Table V: How Much the Montana Taxpayer Would Have to Spend to Manage the Public Domain if Appropriated by the State.

<u>NATIONAL FORESTS</u>	
Costs to Administer National Forest Lands	\$89,200,000.
Payments to State and Counties	22,100,000.
Forest Highway Funds	<u>5,100,000.</u>
Total Federal Funds	\$116,200,000.
Less Receipts from Resource Use	31,200,000.
NET COST (deficit)	\$ 85,200,000.
 <u>BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT</u>	
Administrative (program) Costs	\$14,276,000.
Payments to State	8,555,000.
Payments to Counties	<u>10,795,000.</u>
Total Federal Funds	\$33,626,000.
Less Receipts from Resource Uses	22,814,000.
NET COST (deficit)	\$10,812,000.

Source: Public Lands Institute, Denver, Colorado, February, 1980.

Montana administers roughly 5.1 million acres of land through the Department of State Lands (DSL). Half of the staff of 70 employees are involved directly in land management programs. In fiscal year 1980, the DSL receipts were \$ 44 million. The primary source of receipts was: direct payments from the federal government, oil and gas leasing, interest on investments, penalties on drilling leases, forfeiture of reclamation bonds and private and federal project grants.

If Montana took over control of the public domain, it would have to take over the management costs as well. To maintain the current level of resource planning and management would cost the state approximately \$96 million annually. In contrast, the proposed 1981 budget of the Montana Department of State Lands is only \$ 1.1 million. This represents 41 percent of the 1980 general fund of the State of Montana. If the state opted not to maintain the present levels of management, several communities would lose their economic base and primary employers. But, more importantly, the public would lose its resources.

Who Is Behind The Sagebrush Rebellion?

The Sagebrush Rebellion began with the passage of the Nevada bill which appropriated 49 million acres of the public domain located within the borders of that state. Five states--Arizona, New Mexico, Utah, Washington and Wyoming--have since

passed similar bills. California and Colorado have authorized formal studies to assess whether or not it would be beneficial for them to pass similar bills. Up until now the strategy has been on the state and court level, but with the November 1980 election results, the focus has changed to the national level and focused on the Congress.

But who are the "sagebrush rebels" and where do they get support? LASER, the League of States Equal Rights, is the apparent "national" organization behind the move. Finding out who LASER's constituency and funders are is another matter. John Harmer, the group's leader, flatly refuses to tell who are his group's financial backers. John Nice of "High Country News" wrote in a December 2, 1980 article:

Despite Harmer's tight lips, hints about LASER's constituency lie on the name tags at the \$145 admission conference (held last summer in Salt Lake City): Conoco, Citizens for Mining, Club 20, National Inholders Association, Wyoming Farm Bureau, U.S. Borax, Stewart Capital Corporation, International Snowmobilers Association, Louisiana Pacific and others.

Mining, timber, grazing and other single use groups as well as individuals hoping for personal gain off the public domain are the main movers behind the sagebrush rebellion. It depends on what the major resources are that are found on the public domain in a particular state. In Oregon it is timber interests, in Wyoming it is mining and grazing, in Montana it is grazing because FLPMA and actions by the BLM threaten the long standing control of grazing interests. The following list of supporters of a Nevada-style bill in Montana was provide by the Montana Cattlemen's Association:

WETA, MT Stockgrowers Associaton, MT Woolgrowers Assoc., MT Cattlemen's Assoc., MT Stockmen's Assoc., Women Involved in Farm Economics, MT Farm Bureau, National Farmers Organization and the McCone-Garfield County Legislative Group.

The Western Environmental Trade Association (WETA) is dominated by multinational resource corporations and prodevelopment labor groups which could have a lot to gain if private interests acquired control of the resources on the public domain. Some of the more well-known members of WETA include:

Amax, Amer. Timber, ARCO, Brown Cattle Co., Colonial Inn, ConAgra, Aubyn Curtiss, Decker Coal, Western Energy, Diehl Assoc., Garfield-McCone County Leg. Assoc., Robinson Lumber Co., Johns Manville, John Manley, MT Cattleman's Assoc., MT Chamber of Commerce, Sieben Ranch, Swandal Properties, Townsend Lumber, Western Forest Industries Assoc., Lazy 69 Cattle Co., Anaconda Co., George Roskie, ASARCO and more.

It is interesting to note that these are the same groups that have continuously resisted efforts to manage public resource use on a multiple use-sustained yield approach based on the carrying capacity of the resource. They are generally the same groups that lead another unsuccessful attempt to claim control of the public land in the 1940's. Prior to the passage of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act in 1976, these same groups had an almost carte blanche control over the public domain. Since FLPMA the federal agencies have been trying to reassert their control as mandated in the Act. The sagebrush rebellion is an attempt by these groups to gain control of the land for their own interests.

The effort to appropriate the public domain in Montana is being lead by Sens. Mark Etchart (R-Glasgow) and John Manley (R-Drummond). Manley left the Democratic Party after the election to join with the Republican majority in the legislature. Sen. Etchart has already had the Legislative Council draft a bill to seize the BLM, Forest Service and Fish and Wildlife Service lands.

It is interesting to note that the Etchart family has 156,684 acres of BLM, state and private grazing leases in addition to 36,127 acres of grazing leases on the Charles M. Russell (CMR) Game Refuge. What is the intent of the sagebrush rebels?

Another strong supporter of the Sagebrush Rebellion in Montana is John Baden, formerly from Utah State University and now director of the Center for Political Economy and Natural Resource Policy, a privately funded group located at Montana State University. The center's purpose is to analyze public policy and resource problems in a market context where decisions are reached based on the highest economic value. Market economics are used as the basis for resource decisions. Controversy exists as to whether the market works in such a way that would also protect long-term ecological values as well as maximize short-term profits for users. Funding to the tune of half a million dollars has been raised for the center from such right wing conservative foundations as:

The Heritage Foundation (supported by contributions from business and resource multinationals), the Liberty Fund, Scaife Family Trust, Samuel Nobel Foundation, the Earhart Foundation, the Murdock Trust of Vancouver, Washington and Amax Corp.

Support also is coming from the Montana Republican Party, whose 1980 Party Platform contains the following resolution:

Be it resolved that the Republican Party supports the concept of the "Sagebrush Rebellion." The legislature is therefore charged with the responsibility to prepare legislation to request the federal government to relinquish certain lands to the state government.

Although the Republican National Committee in convention during the summer of 1980 refused to adopt a resolution supporting or opposing the concept, newly-elected President Ronald Reagan told a group of Utah supporters during the campaign to "count me in as a sagebrush rebel." He also added "I happen to be one who cheers and supports the sagebrush rebellion."

Similarly, James Watt, Reagan's new Secretary of Interior, said (12/24/80) "I am part of the sagebrush rebellion." "Some of the lands do need to be transferred." Mr. Watt was the director and chief council of the Mountain States Legal Foundation, a group bankrolled by conservative beer brewer Adolf Coors, Amax Corp., Asarco, Boise Cascade, Consolidated Coal, Stauffer Chemical, Scaife Trust and other big corporate names (High Country News, Dec. 26, 1980). Will there be a conflict of interest between Mr. Watts' former corporate clients, his support for the sagebrush rebellion and the oath he will swear to uphold and enforce the laws of the land such as FLPMA? Most of Ronald Reagan's advice on whom to appoint and the policy directions of his transition team and administration are coming from a special series of papers commissioned from the Heritage Foundation and the Hoover Institute, both institutions with strong ties to Badens' Center for Political Economy and Natural Resource Policy.

What is the Public's Opinion?

The so-called sagebrush rebellion, according to a recent poll by the Behavior Research Center of Arizona, is opposed by over two-thirds of the people living in the western states. Although other areas were not polled, it is suspected that the opposition is greater. The poll found that those westerners who favored the rebellion also favored the seizure of National Parks and Monuments, Wilderness Areas, Wildlife Refuges and Military and Indian Reservations as well as the BLM and Forest Service lands.

The poll showed that 60 percent opposed the idea of seizing public lands. Interestingly, 67 percent of the Republicans opposed the rebellion which compared to 63 percent of those who called themselves political moderates or conservatives.

Nevada was the only state that had a majority supporting the rebellion, where only 56 percent favored and 44 percent opposed. The majority of residents in other states were overwhelming opposed to the transfer of public land to state or private ownership.

Montanans also have strong concerns over the sagebrush rebellion. A poll commissioned by Gov. Ted Schwinden last summer found 54 percent did not believe federal lands should go to the state. Forty percent favored the concept and 6 percent were undecided.

Montanans' opposition to turning federal lands over to private interests was even stronger. Seventy two percent were opposed to this proposal while only 25 percent supported private ownership of federal lands.

What is the Democratic Party's Position on the Sagebrush Rebellion?

The Montana Democratic Party, in convention at Kalispell in August 1980, passed a plank to oppose the sagebrush rebellion. The platform statement reads:

While we recognize the legitimacy of complaints of the users of public lands toward the arrogance and insensitivity of the federal bureaucracy, we believe that the removal of lands from public ownership would harm legitimate family farmers and ranchers and other users while benefiting only large, wealthy corporations.

The Democratic Party has always tried to represent and be representative of the people of our state rather than looking out for private or vested interests. The party's platform was formulated through a long process of public involvement that reflects the commitment of the party to the people. While the people of Montana feel that there are some problems with the way our public lands are managed in Montana, we do not feel that the heritage and treasure of the public domain should be handed over to the state or private owner. The party feels that the public domain is just that, land that belongs to all the people of Montana and the nation. It belongs to this generation and our children's generations for all to use and enjoy. It is not the state's to claim and cannot be returned to state ownership because it never belonged to the state.

Conclusion

The sagebrush rebellion boils down to a gigantic land grab and play on the legitimate concerns of many westerners. It is the intent of the sagebrush rebellion to either gain ownership of the resources and the public domain or render unenforceable federal land management laws to give a carte blanche to exploitive interests to grab the nation's public resources.

The sagebrush rebels have made no mention of reimbursing the public for all the the money they have paid into the acquisition and management of their lands. More importantly, the public lands are not the states' to claim--they have never belonged to states or to private interests. That minority of land that was once in private ownership was repurchased by the federal government.

The sagebrush rebellion is another step in the history of several attempts of exploitive interests to take over the public domain. To quote an editorial in the Great Falls Tribune (7/10/80):

Turning ownership of federal lands to the states -
and ultimately to private hands - is an idea whose
time should never come.

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT....

Montana's Democratic Party is working hard to represent your interests in government. If you agree with the party's position on the Sagebrush Rebellion, you ought to join the party and help make its voice stronger.

Yes, I want to help Montana's Democratic Party

- ☐ As a sustaining member (\$12 a year, \$21 preferred)
- ☐ As a Century Club member (\$100 a year)
- ☐ Other _____
- ☐ Check here if you would like to make your contribution automatic through Demo-matic, a bank draft of \$_____ drawn monthly, quarterly or annually. (Please underline your choice.)

NAME _____

(Please Print)

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE NUMBER _____ STATE HOUSE DISTRICT _____

SPONSOR _____ OCCUPATION _____

(Information required by the Federal Election Commission)

MONTANA DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE, P. O. BOX 622, HELENA, MT 59601

League of Women Voters of Montana

Testimony for SB 123

Jan 26, 1981



I am Willa Hall, representing the League of Women Voters of Montana. With a long history of concern for the wise management of our public land resources in the public interest, the League cannot remain silent on this 'Sagebrush Rebellion' issue. We must oppose SB 123 Why?

1st, we do not agree that these Federal lands legally belong to Montana.

2nd, How will Montana's small population provide for adequate funding to properly manage these 23 million acres? In 1979, user fees on Forest Service land brought in only \$40 million, while the expense for these lands was \$130 million, leaving a loss of \$90 million. In addition, the Forest Service paid about \$30 million to the State and counties within the state, in lieu of taxes etc. The rest of the nation has traditionally helped to support these lands that rightfully belong to all U.S. citizens.

3rd, how will we keep these public lands from being sold? The bill contains no protection from the sale of this land and most certainly each legislative session you will be pressured to sell some, and by whom? Large corporate or special interests? The small farmer surely will not be able to compete with these groups. The League does not want to see the loss of public use on public land. One of the greatest benefits of living in Montana is recreational access to public lands. Montanans will agree that hunting, fishing and hiking access to federal lands here is better than access, say to state school lands. We are not only concerned about the possible loss of these public lands, but also about the management of the land. Will the State or private interests protect the air and watershed, as well as the land quality? While we agree the Federal Government has been remiss in some cases in their management responsibilities, the mechanism is there and improvements can be made.

Finally, the League does not agree with this bill's statement that federal control of public federal lands in Montana "works a severe, continuous and debilitating hardship on the people of Montana." On the contrary, the facts are that those who have grazing leases on federal land in Montana are currently being subsidized by the federal government, subsidized by the support of taxpayers of other states as well as Montanans. According to the BLM'S August, 1980 draft EIS on management of the Charles M. Russell National Wildlife Refuge, grazing permittees pay \$1.89 per AUM on the refuge. Private rates are at least \$8.40 per AUM and around Lewistown, Montana rates range from \$10 to \$12 per AUM.

In closing, The League's land use position states that we recognize that land is a finite resource, not just a commodity, and we believe that land ownership, public or private implies responsibilities of stewardship. We do not believe SB 123 will promote that stewardship. There are no provisions in the bill that would guarantee better or more efficient management of Federal lands in Montana.

We urge a 'do not pass' for this bill.



Forest Service Facts

Jan. 1981 - Willa Hall

Figures taken from Forest Service files in Helena, Montana from John Sherrard, U.S. Forest Service.

These figures cover the year of 1979

Forest Service land in Montana: 16,750,534 (excluding wilderness)
Wilderness acquired after Dec. 31, 1976: 1, 852, 130
leaves a total acreage of: 14, 898, 100

add to that the about 8,300,000 BLM land (this is estimate from forest service)

Total possible Federal Land that is being considered by SB 123 : about 23 million

Total user fees collected by Forest Service in '79 was:	\$40,293,000
Total expenditures:	\$131,054,985
Total loss:	\$90,761,985

In addition the Forest Service paid the state directly or to counties within the state, nearly \$30 million.

25% payment to Counties: (of the \$40 million)	\$9,460,390
Highways	2,400,000
Mineral Leases	7,689,585
Payments in lieu of taxes	10,794,869

Of that \$40 + collected \$38,829,666 was from Timber
the expenditure of timber 67,909,703
Firefighting cost \$11,057,476

If you have additional questions you may want to check directly with the Forest Service in the Federal Building in Helena or call the Director, John Ledgewood

Senator Dover, Chairman
Natural Resources Committee
Montana State Legislature

Great Falls, Montana
26 January, 1981

Dear Senator Dover and Committee Members;

This statement is on behalf of the Great Falls Wildlands and Resources Ass'n.* It is in opposition to SB123, an Act entitled " An Act Relating To Public Resource Land; Providing For State Ownership and Control etc.--"

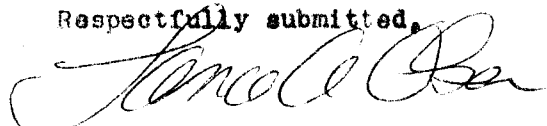
Our organization is strongly opposed to a change of ownership or control of the lands cited in the Bill. These lands have become well established in our western culture as public lands. Indeed, all land in Montana was acquired by the United States as a part of the Louisiana Purchase. At that time there was not a taxpayer west of the Mississippi River. To say that only Montanans should determine the management of that land is an extremely narrow view. The Congress has reaffirmed in recent years that it is national policy to retain in federal ownership the lands administered by the BLM and the U.S. Forest Service, through passage of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act, and the National Forest Management Act.

There are other specific reasons we oppose transfer to the State.

- 1 - The State cannot afford to administer them for multiple use. The tax burden would be far too great.
- 2- There would be great pressure to manage for maximum income. The pattern is already established on State lands administered by the Land Board. This could lead to pressure to sell the lands.
- 3 - Hunting, fishing, and recreational access as we know it today would be severely threatened by pressure to maximize income and development.
- 4 - It is obvious the Bill is designed to benefit a very narrow, special interest segment of our State. This can only damage the credibility of the State with the rest of the nation as it seeks support for the Coal Tax and other State's Rights matters.

There are other objections too numerous to mention but the members of the Great Falls Wildlands and Resources Ass'n feel it is far better to retain the public lands in federal ownership than to buy a "Pig in a Poke". It is urged that the committee give the Bill an early burial.

Respectfully submitted,



Lance Olsen, President
Great Falls Wildlands and Resources Ass'n
2501 12th Ave. South
Great Falls, MT. 59405

* The membership is comprised of a wide range of professional and resource interests. It is concerned with how the public's land and resources are managed.

Senator Dover, Chairman
Natural Resources Committee
Montana State Legislature

Great Falls, Mt.
26 January, 1981

Dear Senator Dover and Committee Members,

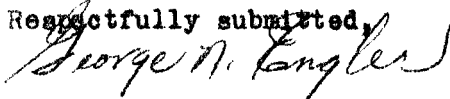
I am George Engler of Great Falls. I am retired from the U. S. Forest Service after over thirty years of natural resource administration and management. I continue active in Forest and Range Resource consulting. I speak on behalf of myself in opposition to Senate Bill 123.

The reasons are several:

1. It is obviously special interest legislation designed to strengthen the voice of industry and facilitate the economic exploitation of the public land. This is contrary to public policy reaffirmed by the Congress in passing the National Forest Management Act and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act.
2. Although SB 123 expresses the intent to continue multiple use management this would apparently be left up to the management plan developed by the State Land Board. This does not inspire confidence as the objective of the Land Board is to maximize income. It is my view that multiple use, wildlife and recreational values would be sacrificed in order to increase economic return.
3. If in fact the State did adopt the policy of continuing public ownership and multiple use management, then I ask how would it be financed? I submit the State simply could not afford to shoulder the financial burden. The increase in cost to the taxpayer would be devastating. This in turn would militate against continuing a multiple use policy. The Board would be pressured to maximize income and perhaps selling the land to relieve the financial burden. All of my apprehensions then would be valid. Perhaps it is significant that a financial impact study has not been made, or at least is not public.
4. I am also concerned that adverse social or cultural change would result. The agriculture sector of Montana has long been, and still is, comprised of family ranches. Those small family ranches presently dependent on national forest and BLM administered land simply could not compete in an open market for grazing leases or land purchase. Instead of strengthening the family operation we would hasten its demise.
5. Senator Manley, one of the Bill's sponsors, has said publicly the State could do a better job of timber sale administration than the U.S. Forest Service. That is not my observation. Quality of timber sale administration is directly related to the funds available to do the work. The State legislature has not demonstrated the will to accomplish good timberland management. It has not provided adequate funds or the legal tools. I would remind the committee that the legislature refused to pass a very basic Forest Practices Act in 1975 after an interim committee headed by Rep. Burt Hurwitz had worked long and hard to develop an acceptable Bill with industry and landowners.

In summary I urge the defeat of SB 123. Montana simply cannot afford to shoulder the burden of financing the complex management of public resource lands.

Respectfully submitted,



George N. Engler, Great Falls, MT.

Susan G. Smith
708 Adirondac
Hamilton, Mt. 59840

January 26, 1981

I am against Senate bill 123. Like others, I find the bill's plan for managing and paying for the upkeep of National Forests, BLM lands, and Wildlife Refuges too vague. But more importantly, these lands belong to every U. S. citizen, not just the people of Montana.

Though it's true that Montana has a greater percentage of its land in public ownership than, say, New Jersey, the majority of the people in the East wish they were as fortunate as Montanans. The fact is that most of the land in the East was used up, cut over, and sold before anyone thought of setting some aside. People in the East have to travel hundreds of miles to enjoy the public lands we in Montana have out our back door. They have paid with their tax dollars for a greater part of the upkeep of these lands. They should continue to have equal say in the uses of these lands.

Like the supporters of the bill, I, too, have been unhappy with the way the federal government manages public lands, but I don't believe the state will do a better job. I am afraid that part of the motivation of the supporters of this bill is to be able to increase logging, grazing, mining, and other development of these lands. I too believe that we need timber, cattle, and minerals, but we also need wildlife, beauty, and solitude. All these needs must be kept in balance. I fear that state management will mean more application of the idea that unless an animal, or a tree, or land is bringing in dollars and cents, it is of no value.

Many supporters of this bill feel there is too much wilderness and want the state to create more "balance". In the lower 48 states, 99% of all land is non-wilderness and only 1% wilderness. If every roadless area left in the U. S. were made a wilderness, we still would have only 3% wilderness. Seen in scale to developed lands, wilderness areas are a few small fragments of land left of what wild America was like.

Susan G. Smith
708 Adirondac
Hamilton, Mt. 59840



Hill County Wildlife Association

Haure, Montana

June 16, 1977



Every Sportaman
A Member

Every Member
A Sportaman

Dear Committee members ;

My name is Gary Stuken, I am President of the Hill County Wildlife Assoc. We believe that this bill is not in the best interest of the Montana Public or the nations public. In the long run I believe this bill will also be detrimental to the farming and ranching community who have sponsored it. I believe that you have sponsored a piece of legislation, that you believe will relieve the pressures imposed upon you by the loss of the Taylor Grazing Act which allowed you primary uses and relatively few bureaucratic encombrances, may eventually remove from your use these lands altogether. The costs of operating the structure which is necessary to effectively manage this land is not within the realm of the tax structure of this State. The necessity to increase fees and or dispose of land for funding will eventually remove it from public use and also the majority will be purchased not by users but by outside interests who can benefit for economic reasons and not be saddled with the regulations that apply on public land. I believe that they are the force behind this movement, using your problems to further their cause, they can afford to set back and wait for what will eventually occur if this bill passes. You who are the blood and backbone of Montana can do their work for the them. I would request that you reassess your position and idea of this bill and set down with the other people who use these lands and devise a united proposal for the use of these lands which we in Montana can all support. We sportsmen have nothing to gain by this bill. We stand to lose our right of access which is the basis for every public use of these lands. As sportsmen and as tax paying citizens we cannot support you either

Jan. 26, 1980

To: The Senate Natural Resources Committee
Re: SB123

Distinguished Senators;

I oppose SB 123. Even though the concept of the State of Montana controlling all lands within its boundaries is a lofty one, the reality of such a move would be disastrous for the state taxpayers, sportsmen, wildlife and our unique environment.

Managing and maintaining a mountain range covered with timber is a costly operation, as can be seen by the US Forest Service's \$95 million deficit from management of 25 million acres of Montana forests. When that cost is shouldered by 200+ million Americans, it is a small price to pay. When those same costs are levied from less than 100,000 Montana taxpayers, the per capita costs become astronomical! In a year when taxpayers are clamoring for relief--this bill would show squandering fiscal irresponsibility.

SB123 would seriously cripple Ravalli County operations. Last fiscal year (79-80), over half the money used to finance necessary county services came in the form of Payment in Lieu of Taxes from the 1,112,026 acres of US Forest Service land within Ravalli County. That local deficit plus the additional taxes to be levied by the State Department of Revenue to cover the state's cost of operations would make the cost of living in the Bitterroot prohibitive.

Whenever the question of access arises, proponents and opponents speak of two different critters under one heading. Senator Etchart is speaking of accessibility for his cattle, and the majority of the citizens of our great state are speaking of accessibility for people.

It is true that lands now owned by the state can be used for recreation, however, when the state is forced to sell or lease some or all the lands covered under SB 123, the "NO TRESPASSING" sign business will be a lucrative one. If you think it is difficult to have your views heard or acted upon in Washington D.C., wait until you try to present your case to the board of directors of an international corporation in Tokyo or Kuwait!

There may be a few Montanans who will be able to afford a few sections of this land, but how many can afford an entire mountain range? Once the land reaches private hands, the public good will no longer be a consideration because it's expensive, only profits on quarterly stockholder reports will count. The land will retain its value only as long as there are trees, minerals or water available. After large tracts of land have been leased by cattle owners, there won't be enough natural forage for wildlife to get through a winter and they will be forced to encroach upon domestic forage.

In Europe and in the Eastern half of America, the ratio of available public land per capita is very low. Private hunting preserves, condominiums on mountain lake shores, muddy rivers and stagnant air sheds prevail in those areas. Our public lands are a large part of what makes Montana Montana. There are plenty of former wilderness areas and wildlife refuges in the Louisiana Purchase that have been developed by greedy individuals for those of you who would like to live there.

Whenever the outcome of a governmental action (such as SB123) favors a small, elite minority and overrules the majority, it smacks of an aristocracy, not the representative democracy you and I treasure! So for the good of all present and future Montanans I urge you to oppose SB 123.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jacqueline Locke

Ravalli County Taxpayer

January 26, 1981

Although I oppose Senate Bill 123 in its entirety, I will only address myself to the recreation aspect. Recreation is an important and valid part of human life. The federal government has recognized this and has created areas where recreation can take place. Each year a great deal of money is spent on these recreation areas, with very little actual dollar return from user's fees. Last year the Forest Service spent \$352,000 for recreation with only \$5,000 returned in user's fees, according to an article in the Ravalli Republic. This is a deficit of \$347,000, which if spread among the entire population of the United States amounts to only 15/100 (fifteen one-hundredths) of one cent. However if this deficit were spread among the population of Montana it would amount to more than 50¢ per person each year. From the list of supporters of this bill, and the tone of their supportive statements, it seems eminently clear that Montana taxes would not be raised to cover recreation costs, nor would unprofitable uses of public lands be allowed to continue. Instead such lands would be sold, nevermore to be used by the public for recreation. The State of Montana does not have greater wisdom than the federal government in this matter, nor does it have the resources to provide the same amount of recreation the federal government can provide. In my estimation Senate Bill 123 would deprive the people of a great deal of recreational area, and it should be voted down.

Dorothy J. Raver

Dorothy Raver

Stevensville, Mont.

Mrs Wallace L. Crawford
1420 North East Willow Creek Road
Corvallis, Montana 59828

406-961-3236

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

My name is Marjorie Crawford, and I live near Corvallis, in Ravalli County. I am here today to express my concern about Senate Bill 123 calling for state control and ownership of federal lands. These are the questions I would like to ask:

1. Will county governments continue to receive payment in lieu of taxes for these lands? In Ravalli County, for the fiscal year 1979-80, the county received \$863, 507 in payment in lieu of taxes on the federal lands in the county as compared to \$747, 401 on private land.
2. Can the state afford to manage the lands when the federal government is managing the same lands at a deficit?
3. Will the public, under state control, be guaranteed access onto the lands or will large numbers of acres be leased with limited or no access?
4. Under what conditions will public lands be sold to private enterprise? Who will be responsible for initiating the public hearings?
5. Will the state increase personal property taxes in order to have enough money to manage the lands? enact a sales tax?

I feel that the bill as herewith proposed has too many loopholes, and that it could work a hardship on Montana citizens. It is also possible that it could open up Montana lands to large corporations and foreign interests.

It is my hope that our representatives from Ravalli County will vote against this bill.

Statement on Senate Bill 123, Montana Land Reformation Act
January 25, 1981
Carl Peter Nielsen
215 N. Grove
Missoula MT 59801

I am opposed to Senate Bill 123 and to Montana's involvement in the so-called "Sagebrush Rebellion". I believe this bill is an insidious insult to the taxpayers of Montana and users of all public lands.

I object strongly to the notion of this state losing \$96 million per year that the BLM and Forest Service pump into Montana in excess of leasing fees. This federal subsidy amounts to an equivalent of one-third of Montana's annual budget, and it would take a 40% increase in individual income taxes to make it up.

Proponents of this bill have bragged about its strong provisions for retaining this land in State ownership. Why then does a provision appear in Section 5 for selling these lands to private interests? And how could the state hold onto these lands and effectively manage them without rapid plundering, selling them off or forcing a huge tax burden on the State's residents?

This State has no laws or management frameworks for endangered species, wilderness or wild and scenic rivers. How can we expect the State to adequately protect our valuable wildlands when agencies like the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks are already short on funding and manpower? As a wilderness guide I feel more than a little threatened when a bill like this comes along proposing to declassify four recently established wilderness areas and a renowned wildlife refuge.

I'm concerned about the loss of jobs this bill would cause, especially those Forest Service jobs in my home town, Missoula.

I get a little irate when I see this kind of blatant conflict of interest demonstrated by Senator Etchert. Why has he singled out the C.M. Russell Wildlife Refuge in this bill? He claims that the Fish and Wildlife Service has misplaced its priorities in management of the refuge. "They have 20,000 acres of prairie dogs planned. They're putting the priority on a bunch of ^{absolutely} worthless prairie dogs rather than on cattle." It seems that Mr. Etchert would rather have this area known as the C.M. Russell National Cattle Ranch! Imagine the Fish and Wildlife Service putting priority on domestic livestock rather than the wildlife for which the refuge was established! Is this public interest?

While I'm here I'd like to say a few words about some myths these revolutionary sagebrush rebels have been throwing around.

They say that we, the residents of Montana, would have a lot closer contact with and influence over our landlords if the State were to have jurisdiction over these lands. But we already have each of the involved agencies based right here in the State. BLM has District Offices in Butte, Miles City, Dillon and many other cities. Missoula has the offices for the whole Northern Region of the Forest Service, and individual forests are based in cities all around the State. The Fish and Wildlife Service has its regional office in Billings. How much closer can we get? These federal agencies are more decentralized and responsive to local interests than any of Washington's federal bureaucracies. I'll go along with you when you say that they have made some errors in judgement and management in the past. But the people who work for State agencies have all the same training, went to the same schools and live in the same towns. I wouldn't be so quick to assume they would be

page three

immune to the same misjudgements the BLM and Forest Service have made. If anything, they would be responsible for bigger management decisions on a shoestring budget which would inevitably lead to even more problems than we've seen in the past.

This Sagebrush Rebellion is often spoken of in romantic terms, as a grass-roots movement of local citizens and civic leaders. But who is really behind the rebellion with their money? LASER spent \$160,000 on a two-day conference last year in Salt Lake City. Where did a handful of ranchers and civic leaders come up with \$160,000 to spend in two days? They are careful not to disclose their sources, but we all know about the interests big oil and mining companies have in this land grab.

Even the rebellion's proponents, including Secretary of Interior James Watt, admit that this massive land transfer is not legally possible. It seems as though they are using this movement as a giant soapbox, calling great attention to themselves and indirectly putting overwhelming pressure on agencies like the BLM to speed up their leasing of federal lands for energy production and mining.

This sagebrush rebellion doesn't have a prayer of effecting a land transfer, but they think they can use it to run slipshod over our State's wildlands, plunder our natural resources and leave us with one helluva big Anaconda when they're done--left with precious little wildlife, wilderness, jobs and a busted economy. Is this in the public interest?

According to Washington Senator Henry Jackson, former chairman of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, some 85-90% of the oil and gas leases on federal lands never even receive an application to drill. Most of those that do are drilled in the closing months of the lease. Who is holding out on who? Issuing more leases will not lead to an increase in this country's energy

I'd say this Sagebrush Rebellion is a totally ill-founded sham, and the State of Montana has no business getting involved with it. The benefits would go to a handful of big business vested interests, and the costs would be born by the people of Montana and all western States. With such little chance of the land transfer's passage S 123 is a waste of this legislature's time and an insult to Montana taxpayers.

Let the Sagebrush Rebellion take their soapbox elsewhere!

I don't want any part of these political shenanigans and land grabs!

To: Senate Natural Resources Committee
From: Peggy Murray, Hamilton, MT.

Senate Bill 123 would set in motion the dismantling of federal ^{"recreational"} public lands in Montana. I am a concerned citizen from Ravalli County and naturally I am worried about the effect of this bill upon our local government and our economy. But I'd also like to speak for other concerned citizens who because they live in other States cannot be here today. The public land in Montana is as important to their future as it is to ours.

The Forest Service and the B.L.M. have completed or are just completing long-term, exhaustive studies for future use and management of this land — at considerable taxpayer expense. Decisions reached have not completely satisfied any of the many interest groups who have hoped for more — more mining, logging, hunting, backpacking, grazing, fishing, oil and gas exploration. However, I see federal land as a long term investment for America. We simply can't blow

it all at once in the 1980's. There are long, hard years ahead.

Practically, I would like to ask if the state can afford the responsibility of the takeover of public land. Can the state return to the counties what the federal government now does? Paralle County received \$67,507 in payment in lieu of taxes on the federal land in the county compared to \$47,400 in property taxes on private land. ^{about 1/3 of the land is only} When revenues do not meet the expenditure of administering this land will future legislators decide to sell land to keep up the state's payment to the counties? When fire-fighting and subsequent reforestation expenses are greater than revenues will more land have to be sold?

I can only urge that you kill this bill.

TO: Senate Committee on Natural Resources

FROM: Tonia Bloom, Ravalli County

I would like to express my strong opposition to SB 123. I believe that the enactment of this legislation would not be to the benefit of the State of Montana, or to the County of Ravalli, where I live, or to the United States as a whole.

The federal public lands in Montana are not now managed to make a profit. Nor is there any way that they could be so managed and still fulfill their current varied purposes----as places for recreation, as wildlife habitat, as watershed, as grazing land, as sustained yield timber reserves and as reserves for other natural resources. The taxpayers of the entire country now contribute to the support of these lands to assure their preservation for these purposes.

If we of the State of Montana were to take over these lands we would surely find ourselves unable to support them with our much smaller tax base. In an effort to deal with the financial burden we would have to either reduce the scope of our management program (fire, road building, reforestation?), charge for what is now free or very cheap (hiking, snowmobiling, hunting, fishing, firewood?), or sell the land. The last solution would ensure the disappearance of many of our reserves of natural resources, would restrict recreational access----and,, in the end, might still leave the state with a good deal of hard to sell and expensive to manage land.

As a resident of Ravalli County I have an added concern about how the monies that now come to my county from the federal government would be covered. These contributions are currently approximately 25% of the county budget and are almost the same as the amount now collected in private property taxes. I seriously doubt if the state, faced with a large deficit from the management of newly acquired federal land, will be interested in making up the shortfall in Ravalli County.

I urge the committee to disapprove SB 123. It is bad policy for the state, for many counties and for the entire country. Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Sagebrush vs. Wilderness testimony

My name is Tom Sewell, I am a senior in Geography at the University of Montana. I came over here today, despite my classes at school, to voice my opinion on the Sagebrush Rebellion and ~~on~~ its effect on the National Wilderness Preservation System.

The title "Sagebrush Rebellion" has ~~A~~ nice, down home, and earthy ring to it. Don't let it fool you. The S. R. is supposedly an idea of the local people. Actually its an idea of various corporate and special interest groups to make destroying our land for a quick profit, easier.

Have you people forgotten what happened over at Anaconda recently? It was a classic example of corporate interests pulling out when the profit is gone. And now Mr. Eckart has introduced this bill.

I came to Montana six years ago. I might end up here for the rest of my life. I came here because of the "wildness" of this area. I came here because of the Wilderness of this area. I came here because of the federal lands.

Back in Texas there are virtually no federal lands. There are fences and "No Trespassing" signs everywhere.

Out here there are National Forests, National Parks, and National Monuments.

These public lands belong to all of us. Not just the few who would benefit from the Sagebrush Rebellion.

These lands have always been owned by the nation. It is because they are public lands that people come from all over to recreate in them.

I believe Mr. Eckhardt's bill is devised with his personal profits in mind. I can't believe he would introduce such a bill when it is so clearly obvious that he would be the main beneficiary. There are more people in this state than just him.

I am what many people term a "Wildernut." I spend a lot of my free time in our Wilderness Areas. I don't believe the state could manage these areas as well as the federales are doing. I think these areas would eventually end up being developed in one way or another; even if they were ecologically unsuitable for anything but Wilderness status.

I am shocked by the section of S.B. 123 that calls for redesignation of W. Areas established after 1916. I am against it all the way.

We are very lucky in this country to have a N.W.P.S.. There is nothing like it anywhere in the world.

I support the Federal government and their continued management of our public lands. I do not want

to see these lands ruined by private interests, as would obviously occur if SB 123 is adopted.

I urge you all to carefully consider the economics of this proposal. Take into account the loss of tourism, the loss of federal funding, but most of all the loss of our land through mis-management.

We cannot afford to let a bill as impractical as SB 123 pave the way for ruination of our lands by a few specialized interest groups. Please include this in the record

I might also add that I am totally against any exploration for oil and gas in the Bob Marshall Great Bear and Scapegoat Wilderness Areas, regardless of circumstances.

Thank you
Tom Sewell
Missoula, Montana

January 26, 1981

TO THE SENATE NATURAL RESOURCE COMMITTEE:

My name is Joel Rosetta. I represent the state Audubon Society of about 1800 members. We wish to record our strongest opposition to transfer of these lands to the states. We believe such a transfer is merely a means to dispose of these lands to private ownership. SB123 provides for this under Section 5.

And of course strong supporters of the Sagebrush Rebellion urge sale of these lands. Senator McClure of Idaho wants BLM lands to be sold and Senator Hatch of Utah has authorized a bill in the U. S. Senate to transfer federal lands to the states--he says his goal is to get these lands into private ownership. Closer to home Montana "rebels" talk of transfer but let it be known they really want private ownership.

The desire to own these lands is certainly understandable. They have immensely valuable resources of timber, grass, water, wildlife, scenery, coal, oil, gas, and minerals. They have become so valuable because of the fire protection, watershed improvement and enforcement of conservation laws by the Forest Service and BLM. And this has come about because the owners of these lands, all U. S. citizens, have invested millions of dollars for their protection and conservation.

In Montana alone these costs exceed receipts by \$50 million a year. In addition \$46 million was turned over to the states for taxes, mineral payments, and grazing improvements--a total cost of \$96 million.

When all U. S. taxpayers shoulder these costs a family of four would pay about \$1.50 a year for Montana's BLM and National Forest lands. But if Montanans were to take on this job alone it would add about \$500.00 a year ^{in taxes} for a family of four. ^{1/}

We know the pitch this year by our state legislators is to cut taxes. Would any legislator in his right mind now try to raise taxes by \$500/year? The obvious alternative is to sell off these lands--and they would be the choice lands--leaving the public holding a few cliffs and rock piles, and probably the job of fire protection to boot.

We want to emphasize that the western states are in an extremely vulnerable position to sell off these lands if they are transferred. The desire to buy these lands for speculation is extremely high. There is little doubt that behind the Sagebrush Rebellion are the energy corporations, land developers, timber companies, and so on. They have power and easy access to money. Nationwide they can raise gasoline a few cents a gallon, coal a few dollars a ton, and pull in billions of dollars. Legislators would be powerless to resist the flood of cash. If these lands are turned over to the states there would soon be the biggest land rush in history by the fittest people. And as we pointed out earlier, the supporters of the Sagebrush Rebellion do want to sell off the federal lands and SB123 allows for its sale and sets up the procedure.

1/ 1979 figures.

Finally, we want to send out a signal here and it can best be sent by this story: At a meeting last February in San Diego of the Range Society, a panel of speakers discussed the Sagebrush issue. Supporters rolled out their heavy arsenal of large landowners, an attorney for the same, and a John Baden who is Director for the Center for Political Economy and Natural Resources at Montana State University. Their speakers didn't talk of state ownership, but of the advantages of federal land transfer to private hands. The audience was allowed to respond at the end of the discussion.

One young woman took the microphone. She said "You know, the men in this country have fought and died in wars to preserve the freedoms of this country. One of our great freedoms in the West is the right to use the great out-of-doors as provided by these federal lands. I don't believe they are going to give up these lands easily."

I wish to reiterate, we citizens of this state will not give up these federal lands easily either. Hopefully we will not be tested with this legislation which favors only a few special interests.

Hoel Rosetta

Hoel Rosetta
Montana Audubon Society

My name is Donald W. Nelson. I am a resident of Montana and have been continuously for the past 37 years. I reside at 405 South California Street in Dillon, Montana (Beaverhead County). I do not represent any special interest group. I do represent a group that is seldom heard from - "you and me". I traveled here at my own expense. I am both a "Forester" and a "Range Scientist". I graduated from the University of Montana in 1929 with a degree in "Forestry" and my experience in forestry and range management spans more than 43 years. I retired 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ years ago from the Beaverhead National Forest - having worked there 14 years holding the position of "Staff Officer" in charge of domestic livestock grazing management and wildlife management. My total experience with the U.S. Government covers more than 39 years. 38 of these years were with the U.S. Forest Service. I served on 9 National Forests in Idaho and Montana and the Plains Shelterbelt Project in Nebraska, North Dakota and Texas.

Because of my training and experience I do feel qualified to understand and appreciate the many benefits to the public that are provided by the National Forest system.

President Cleveland created the first "Forest Reserves" on Feb. 22, 1897. They were estimated to include 21,279,640 acres in thirteen areas. Three of the areas were in Montana. (1) The Flathead; (2) The Lewis & Clark; (3) The Litteroot. Between 1906 and 1909 they all became National Forests. After this early beginning thru 1980, the United States of America has developed the finest system of National Forests of any nation on this earth. They are staffed with ~~the~~ most competent and qualified personnel available.

These National Forests contain over 180 million acres and they are located in at least 37 States. Even the State of Nebraska boasts a National Forest - the Nebraska National Forest.

The most valuable and most important benefit that is produced from the Montana National Forests is WATER. Water is a public benefit of great significance. The National Forests were created because of their value as watersheds; for their value for timber production. Such were the primary reasons for their establishment. They were also recognized as producing forage for domestic livestock, for their production of forage for wildlife, for their mineral deposits, and for their recreational use.

The water produced from the watersheds of our Montana National Forests is of great value to the down stream States. Water from Montana that drains into the Missouri River Basin is vital to the public in those States. The same thing can be said for the water that drains into the Columbia River Basin. All ~~who~~ who so benefit from the National Forests of Montana help pay the cost of the management. Such cost include watershed management, timber management - both harvest and regeneration, domestic livestock management, wildlife management, recreation management, wilderness management, minerals management, insect control, disease control, fire prevention, fire control, land use management, State forestry assistance, private forestry assistance and cooperation.

Perhaps the most important thing that can be done to enhance and improve the watersheds of Montana National Forests is to make certain that all of our range lands, both public and private, are in good and/or excellent condition. Overgrazing ruins the land for both the watershed and ^{the} production of abundant forage. The public loses and the domestic livestock rancher loses. As plant cover is killed and lost, then more and more top soil is eroded away. Overgrazing can actually create a desert situation. I have photos of some deserts that have been created in Montana due to man's misuse of the land.

~~With~~ misuse, watershed benefits decline rapidly.

I spent 14 years on the Beaverhead National Forest working together with Beaverhead County and Madison County livestock producers . I recall this experience as perhaps one of the most rewarding of my entire ~~life~~ career. Together with the local District Forest Rangers and their assistants, we were able to initiate nearly one hundred grazing management systems that really produced beneficial results. These watershed lands benefited and the ranchers benefited. I hope that many of you have heard of "Rest-Rotation-Grazing". It works to improve the range and to improve the watershed. Many miles of fences are required to put such a system into operation. It is costly. Together the ranches involved and the Beaverhead National Forest shared in the cost. ~~In most cases~~ *in most cases* the ranges improved and increased stocking of livestock was allowed. Representative Harold Briggs from Beaverhead County and Mr. Bernard Markness were two of the ranchers that I remember working with. In fact, they were two of the first to help get the "Rest-Rotation" management system going on the Beaverhead National Forest. I ~~am~~ grateful for their help and cooperation.

This program was developed and first ~~started~~ by the research branch of the National Forest System. The "Rest-Rotation" grazing system was first demonstrated to work successfully at the Harvey Valley Experimental Station in the State of California. Mr. Gus Hornay was in charge of this demonstration. It turned out to be the most practical grazing management system *I have* ~~experienced~~ *with* during my long career. Yes, I am still enthusiast about it. It benefits the watershed and the livestock producer. The public is the winner.

During the past several days I have read and studied every article that I could find as related to the so called "Sagebrush Rebellion" I did this in an

attempt, on my part, to understand why a "Sagebrush Rebellion" was taking place in Montana. Who instigated it? I found a partial answer to my concern in a "commentary" on Pages 7-8 of the Montana Stockgrower - of June, 1980. I was then able to quickly appreciate why Mr. Elmer Hanson of White Sulphur Springs, Montana was upset. I recognized six items that frustrated him.

1. Money earmarked for range improvements was frozen.
2. Range improvement work discontinued because of the need for wilderness studies and for environmental assessments.
3. Coyote control not adequate.
4. Wild horses and burros not properly managed.
5. Letter (s) to agencies not answered.
6. Poor communication or lack of communication between users and the agency and/or agencies.

These six items tend to frustrate me also. I suspect that I am in at least part agreement with Mr. Hanson. *I can understand that they might help fuel rebellion!*

FINALLY, based upon my experience, it is my judgment that the National Forests of Montana have demonstrated a progressive watershed management program upon the lands. ~~that they administer~~. I have seen the rangelands improved in such a manner as to improve the watershed and at the same time provide additional forage for domestic livestock; wildlife also benefited. I appreciate the opportunity to so testify before your committee today. THEREFORE, because I believe that the Federal Government can best administer these National Forest System lands, I wish to be on record as in opposition to Senate Bill No. 123 of the State of Montana. I would like ~~to see~~ ^{to see} the National Forest System celebrate its 100th birthday.

In closing, I am not a book salesman - but members of any committee interested in Natural Resources should read - Breaking New Ground by Gifford Pinchot.

Page 5.

The said book is available from the University of Washington Press - Seattle,
Washington 98105 705181-8 \$10.50

Respectively Submitted,

Donald W. Nelson

Donald W. Nelson

January 26, 1981

Copy Furnished:-

Senator Frank Hagelbaker

Representative Harold Briggs

26 January 1980

The Montana Environmental Information Center is opposed to SB 123 because it will place the state in such a crippling financial bind that sale of the acquired federal lands is effectively mandated.

SB 123 requires the transfer of about 25 million acres of National Forest, Bureau of Land Management, and Bureau of Reclamation land to the state, to be managed for "multiple use" and "sustained yield" in "a manner that provides the greatest benefit to the citizens of this state." Unfortunately, a number of "zingers" in SB 123 insure that these lofty goals will never be realized:

Zinger #1: Montana, by acquiring title to this huge tract of federal land, also acquires the huge (\$96 million) deficit accumulated by the BLM and Forest Service in managing these lands. That's a whale of a deficit for 450,000 Montana taxpayers to shoulder, amounting to a tax increase of \$200 or more per year each.

Zinger #2: Local governments won't pick up a share of the deficit. SB 123 specifies that local government receipts won't be diminished.

Zinger #3: Private users of the acquired federal land won't shoulder the deficit either. SB 123 declares that the state may not raise "fees, rentals, royalties, interest, and penalties" above "present federal rates." Note that SB 123 freezes these payments at present, not prevailing, federal rates, meaning they could not be increased above the rates established at the date the act is enacted.

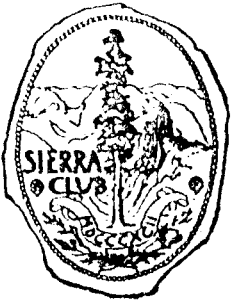
Zinger #4: Montana state government, financed by Montana taxpayers, is the only player left in the game whose checkbook isn't protected by SB 123. As such, the state alone will have to absorb the \$190 million biennial deficit management of these lands will produce. This deficit would require a 30-40% income tax surcharge or a 2-3¢ sales tax, rising each year. Such a tax increase is not possible in politics or logic.

Zinger #5: Section 5 of SB 123 authorizes the sale of public land by "an act of the legislature." This is the same future legislature which will be struggling with a way to make up the staggering deficit management of these lands will create. SB 123's authors have given them only two choices: a hefty tax increase session after session, or sell a few tens of thousands of acres each session to reduce the management burden and raise revenues.

Zinger #6: The land will be bought not by Montanans, unless they can compete with the Exxons, Ayatollahs, Moonies, and Sun Belt developers of the world. SB 123 mandates "optimum benefit" from the land, meaning sale to the highest bidder. Neither a huge deficit nor sale at deflated prices meets the test of "optimum benefit." And when Montana ranchers approach the Unification Church for permission to graze, they'll find the rates about three times higher than federal rates -- that's the current ratio.

Zinger #7: SB 123 mandates that federal wilderness areas designated after December 31, 1976, become state resource land managed for "multiple use." That's goodbye to the Beartooth-Absarokee, the Rattlesnake, the Great Bear, Welcome Creek, and the Bob Marshall Addition -- totalling 1.3 million acres. SB 123 also appropriates for "multiple use" the CMR Wildlife Refuge. These areas account for about 7% of the public land and 2% of the total land area of Montana -- areas which are serving a useful wilderness, watershed, wildlife habitat, recreation, and research function and should not be turned over to SB 123's vague definition of "multiple use" -- or sale.

SB 123 is a state-bankrupting proposal, the fuse that inevitably leads to the blowing apart of control over our own destiny. The goal of public lands in good man-



Sierra Club

NORTHERN ROCKIES CHAPTER

Comments on Senate Bill 123
THE MONTANA LAND REFORMATION ACT

Stan Walthall
before the Senate Natural Resources Committee
Montana State Legislature
January 26, 1981

Chairman Etchart, Committee members. My name is Stan Walthall. I am a native Montanan and I presently reside here in Helena. I am speaking today for the Sierra Club of Montana.

We opppse the transfer of public lands to the jurisdiction of the state or private interests. We reaffirm our support of federal jurisdiction over the public domain and believe that the management responsibilities should remain in the hands of the federal agencies responsive to the needs of the American people. We therefore oppose SB 123, the so-called Montana Land Reformation Act.

Passage of SB 123 would be a great travesty to the people of Montana as well as the American public. The public domain, whether found in Montana or elsewhere, is held in trust for the benefit of all the people--for this generation as well as those who will follow. It is a heritage we could easily lose to the greed and short-sightedness of a few. It is a heritage that we Montanans are privileged to have in our backyard. But having it in our backyard requires that we fulfill certain responsibilities as well as enjoy its privileges.

The Montana Land Reformation Act is apparently based on the four arguments which preceed Section 1 of the bill. When examined closely, these arguments do not provide a rationale for the State of Montana to seize the publics land, especially without due process or compensation.

The first argument (lines 12-16) claims that Montana has sovereignty over all matters within her borders except those powers specifically granted to the United States. This is true. The Congress has the sole power to admit states to the Union and to own and manage public property. Article IV, section 3 states:

Congress shall have the power to dispose of and make all rules and regulations respecting territory or other property belonging to the United States.

The second argument (lines 17-24, p.1) claims that the statehood act forces an imposition on Montana that was beyond the power of Congress. Not so according to Article IV, section 3 which states:

New states may be admitted by Congress into this Union...

In the case of Montana, the territory out of which our state was formed was acquired through treaty--one of the means by which the federal government can constitutionally acquire and own property. The land from which Montana was formed

"Not blind opposition to progress, but opposition to blind progress."

was the property of the United States and not the State of Montana. The public domain in Montana was never part of or owned by the State. The Enabling Act of 1889 was a contract between the new State of Montana and the Congress of the United States. It simply stated that Montana, after being given grants of land from the public domain to establish statehood would not come back later and claim more. Congress passed the Enabling Act while the State on a vote of the Legislature and the people passed Ordinance No. 1 as a part of the state constitution. Both documents state:

The people inhabiting the said proposed state of Montana do agree and declare that they forever disclaim all right and title to the unappropriated public lands lying within the boundaries thereof...

Section 6 of Ordinance No. 1 states:

That the ordinances in this article shall be irrevocable without the consent of the United States and the people...of Montana.

The Constitution of the State of Montana, revised in convention in 1972, reaffirms this commitment in Article I.

A recent poll conducted by the Behavior Research Center of Arizona shows that 60 percent of those living in the so-called "public land states" were overwhelmingly opposed to the seizing of federal land. This is clearly the intent of SB 123. The Behavior Research poll interestingly showed that 67 percent of the Republicans were also opposed.

A similar poll, commissioned by Governor Schwinden last summer, found that 54 percent were opposed to giving federal lands to the states. Only 40 percent supported private ownership. Montanans were overwhelmingly opposed to allowing the public domain to go into private ownership. Seventy two percent were opposed, and only 25 percent supported private ownership.

It is important to realize that while SB 123 claims in section 5 that the "sale of land (is) prohibited," section 4 (line 5, p. 5), section 5 (lines 20-23, p. 5) and section 6 (lines 24-25, p. 6 and lines 1-5, p. 6) all provide avenues for the "disposal" or transfer of these lands into private ownership. Existing state laws also provide for the sale of lands from the state public domain. Furthermore, this legislature or any subsequent legislature can make provisions for the disposal of these lands whenever they choose. The continuing efforts to destroy the Montana Water Use Act provide ready examples of what could happen.

This bill's intent is clearly for the seizure of the public's land, without compensation, as a first step in turning them over to private ownership even though the people of Montana clearly oppose such a scheme.

The third argument (line 25, p.1, and lines 1-3, p.2) claims that ownership and control of the public domain in Montana is without foundation and violates the U.S. Constitution. Article IV, section 3, clearly puts this argument to rest. The passage of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 is well within the constitutional authority of the Congress. This act sparked the sagebrush rebellion because it changed the policy of disposal to one of multiple-use management. The public domain is no longer a commodity to be exploited, but is now a resource to be managed for the greatest good, for the greatest number and for the longest time.

The fourth argument (lines 4-7, p.2) claims that federal ownership and control of the public domain causes a "severe, continuous and debilitating hardship" on the people of our State. This may be true of the people who are more concerned with maximizing their short-term profits at the long-term expense of the public and their resources, but it is not the case with the people of Montana.

The U.S. Forest Service pays \$69 million annually in salaries in Montana while employing 4,663 people. The BLM pays \$13.9 million in salaries and employs 614 people in Montana. Additionally, the state receives \$22.1 million in payments from the Forest Service and \$8.5 million in payments from the BLM. This is money earned without the costs of administration and management. In addition to jobs, salaries and direct payments, there are indirect payments through national programs such as fire control.

While some ranchers may not like the attempts of federal agencies to restore the productivity of the range after a century of overuse, federal grazing fees (\$2.40/AUM) are lower than state fees (\$3.85/AUM) and much lower than private fees (\$8.00 to 18.00/AUM). Montanans do not want higher grazing fees.

The Sierra Club is especially concerned with the attempt in this bill to de-classify the Wilderness Areas designated after 1976. These include the Rattlesnake, Welcome Creek, Great Bear and Absaroka-Beartooth. We are similarly opposed to the attempts by special interests to open up the Charles M. Russell Wildlife Refuge that is provided for in Section 2.

If a person leases land from the state that person can deny access for public use and to other lands. If the state takes control of the public lands the public will lose use of those lands. We cannot support a bill which would take the land we use for recreation. This is one of the qualities of life that make Montana a special place to live.

During the late 1940's and early 1950's there was another attempt to steal the public land. This time it was more straight forward and demanded that the public domain be transferred directly into private ownership. Instead of a reaction to a federal law (FLPMA), it was a reaction to the efforts of the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management's attempts to protect the range resource from overgrazing. Bernard DeVoto wrote in a Pulitzer Prize winning essay, "The West Against Itself" that:

The public lands are first to be transferred to the states on the fully justified assumption that if there should be a state government not wholly compliant to the stockgrowers, it could be pressured into compliance. The intention is to free them from regulation except such as the stockgrowers might impose on themselves. Nothing in history suggests...that cattlemen and sheepmen are capable of regulating themselves even for their own benefit, still less the public's. And the regulations immediately to be got rid of are those by which the government has been trying to prevent over-grazing of the public ranges.

The similarities are clear. It would be better if the resources were used to work closely with the range managers and the owners of the resource. Stealing the resource will not alleviate the problems of over-use and abuse.

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Sierra Club NORTHERN ROCKIES CHAPTER

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The Constitution of the State of Montana, revised in convention in 1972, reaffirms this commitment in Article I.

A recent poll conducted by the Behavior Research Center of Arizona shows that 60 percent of those living in the so-called "public land states" were overwhelmingly opposed to the seizing of federal land. This is clearly the intent of SB 123. The Behavior Research poll interestingly showed that 67 percent of the Republicans were also opposed.

A similar poll, commissioned by Governor Schwinden last summer, found that 54 percent were opposed to giving federal lands to the states. Only 40 percent supported private ownership. Montanans were overwhelmingly opposed to allowing the public domain to go into private ownership. Seventy two percent were opposed, and only 25 percent supported private ownership.

It is important to realize that while SB 123 claims in section 5 that the "sale of land (is) prohibited," section 4 (line 5, p. 5), section 5 (lines 20-23, p. 5) and section 6 (lines 24-25, p. 6 and lines 1-5, p. 6) all provide avenues for the "disposal" or transfer of these lands into private ownership. Existing state laws also provide for the sale of lands from the state public domain. Furthermore, this legislature or any subsequent legislature can make provisions for the disposal of these lands whenever they choose. The continuing efforts to destroy the Montana Water Use Act provide ready examples of what could happen.

This bill's intent is clearly for the seizure of the public's land, without compensation, as a first step in turning them over to private ownership even though the people of Montana clearly oppose such a scheme.

The third argument (line 25, p.1, and lines 1-3, p.2) claims that ownership and control of the public domain in Montana is without foundation and violates the U.S. Constitution. Article IV, section 3, clearly puts this argument to rest. The passage of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 is well within the constitutional authority of the Congress. This act sparked the sagebrush rebellion because it changed the policy of disposal to one of multiple-use management. The public domain is no longer a commodity to be exploited, but is now a resource to be managed for the greatest good, for the greatest number and for the longest time.

The fourth argument (lines 4-7, p.2) claims that federal ownership and control of the public domain causes a "severe, continuous and debilitating hardship" on the people of our State. This may be true of the people who are more concerned with maximizing their short-term profits at the long-term expense of the public and their resources, but it is not the case with the people of Montana.

The U.S. Forest Service pays \$69 million annually in salaries in Montana while employing 4,663 people. The BLM pays \$13.9 million in salaries and employs 614 people in Montana. Additionally, the state receives \$22.1 million in payments from the Forest Service and \$8.5 million in payments from the BLM. This is money earned without the costs of administration and management. In addition to jobs, salaries and direct payments, there are indirect payments through national programs such as fire control.

While some ranchers may not like the attempts of federal agencies to restore the productivity of the range after a century of overuse, federal grazing fees (\$2.40/AUM) are lower than state fees (\$3.85/AUM) and much lower than private fees (\$8.00 to 18.00/AUM). Montanans do not want higher grazing fees.

The Sierra Club is especially concerned with the attempt in this bill to de-classify the Wilderness Areas designated after 1976. These include the Rattlesnake, Welcome Creek, Great Bear and Absaroka-Beartooth. We are similarly opposed to the attempts by special interests to open up the Charles M. Russell Wildlife Refuge that is provided for in Section 2.

If a person leases land from the state that person can deny access for public use and to other lands. If the state takes control of the public lands the public will lose use of those lands. We cannot support a bill which would take the land we use for recreation. This is one of the qualities of life that make Montana a special place to live.

During the late 1940's and early 1950's there was another attempt to steal the public's land. This time it was more straight forward and demanded that the public domain be transferred directly into private ownership. Instead of a reaction to a federal law (FLPMA), it was a reaction to the efforts of the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management's attempts to protect the range resource from overgrazing. Bernard DeVoto wrote in a Pulitzer Prize winning essay, "The West Against Itself" that:

The public lands are first to be transferred to the states on the fully justified assumption that if there should be a state government not wholly compliant to the stockgrowers, it could be pressured into compliance. The intention is to free them from regulation except such as the stockgrowers might impose on themselves. Nothing in history suggests...that cattlemen and sheepmen are capable of regulating themselves even for their own benefit, still less the public's. And the regulations immediately to be got rid of are those by which the government has been trying to prevent over-grazing of the public ranges.

The similarities are clear. It would be better if the resources users would work closely with the range managers and the owners of the resource. Stealing the resource will not alleviate the problems of over-use and abuse.

++

♦
WU LEG HEL

WU INFOMASTER 1-008530A026 01/26/81
ICS IPMPTUC PTL
ZCZC00721 01-26 0850A PST
TLX 313137 WU LEG HEL
4-016384S026 01/26/81
ICS IPMTZZ CSP
4063675577 POM TDMT GLASGOW MT 6 01-26 1148A EST
PMS SENATOR MARK ETCHART
HELENA MT

BT
WE SUPPORT THE SAGE BRUSH REBELLION
MR AND MRS JACK BILLINGSLEY
BOX 768
GLASGOW MT 59230
1150 EST

NNNN
1155 EST

♦
WU LEG HEL

NAME Lorraine Gillies BILL No. SP 123
ADDRESS Box 273 Philipsburg, Mt. 59858 DATE 1/26/31
WHOM DO YOU REPRESENT Myself
SUPPORT X OPPOSE AMEND

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

Comments:

Jack A'Heen

Jan 26 80

321. *Steno b. b.*

223

546p211-57

X

7/14/81

NAME: J. D. Lynch

DATE: 1/26/80

ADDRESS: 532 W Mercury

PHONE: _____

REPRESENTING WHOM? Montana Bldg & Const Trades Com

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: SB 123

DO YOU: SUPPORT?

AMEND? _____

OPPOSE? ☒

COMMENTS: _____

NAME: Arnold, David DATE: Jan 2 1960

ADDRESS: 1882 17th St

PHONE: 442-5040

REPRESENTING WHOM? _____

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: 1st Bank Dep.

DO YOU: SUPPORT? _____ AMEND? _____ OPPOSE? X

COMMENTS: _____

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY

NAME: Floris Milner

DATE: _____

ADDRESS: NW 75 Reckitts Rd

PHONE: 363-1705

REPRESENTING WHOM? Montana Wilderness Assoc

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: § 123

DO YOU: SUPPORT? _____ AMEND? _____ OPPOSE? L

COMMENTS: _____

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY

NAME: Bernard J Harkness DATE: 1-26-81

ADDRESS: Box 83 . Dell, MT 59724

PHONE: 276-3336

REPRESENTING WHOM? Sagebrush Rebellion

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: Sagebrush Rebellion

DO YOU: SUPPORT? X AMEND? _____ OPPOSE? _____

COMMENTS: The problem

Washington control of Montana Lands
The problem is inadequate denial of state
rights. The problem is the inequality
with other states.

The solution is simple.

Give the federal government the
public lands and place control on the
state.

NAME: Jacqueline Lock DATE: 1-26-81

ADDRESS: 512 N. 2nd, Houston, TX 77070

PHONE: 214-241-1111

REPRESENTING WHOM? Salt

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: SB 123

DO YOU: SUPPORT? _____ AMEND? _____ OPPOSE? X

COMMENTS: Submitting under 700000

NAME: Steven D. Smith DATE: 1-22-81

ADDRESS: 200 Adirondack Ave, Hamilton, Mt
54840

PHONE: 363 5661

REPRESENTING WHOM? self

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: Senate Bill 123

DO YOU: SUPPORT? AMEND? OPPOSE? ✓

COMMENTS: See written testimony

NAME: Tom Ryan DATE: Jan 26, 81

ADDRESS: Box 4243 Helena MT

PHONE: 442-8999

REPRESENTING WHOM? Senior Citizens

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: Land Bank Rebellion

DO YOU: SUPPORT? AMEND? OPPOSE? ✓

COMMENTS: To do an adequate job
of serving the needs of the
people I do not think the
state has enough budgeting
power -

This ~~will~~ would lead to selling off
the valuable water sheds &
other resources to profit
motivated developers with
little regard for the needs of the
state & nation.

ADDRESS: P.O. Box 802 Helan

REPRESENTING WHOM? Nt. Demo Party

DO YOU: SUPPORT? _____ AMEND? _____ OPPOSE?

COMMENTS: _____

NAME: Niel Roseth DATE: 1/26/81

ADDRESS: 1100 Missoula

PHONE: 4413-7695

REPRESENTING WHOM? Montana Audubon Society

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: SB 123

DO YOU: SUPPORT? _____ AMEND? _____ OPPOSE? X

COMMENTS: will give a paper - on basic opposition
is the cost of administration, states forced
to sell lands of high value to private owners.
Loss of freedom to use out of - claim by public

NAME: Chas. A. Bannock DATE: 1-25-88

ADDRESS: Box 86 Ballantine, N.D. 59000

PHONE: 967-3464

REPRESENTING WHOM? Montgomery Citizens Assn. + ^{Local} F.U. + R.I.

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: Local Union Re-election

DO YOU: SUPPORT? _____ AMEND? _____ OPPOSE? X

COMMENTS: Will testify

NAME: Lonia Bloom DATE: 1/26/81

ADDRESS: Hamilton, MA. 59840

PHONE: 363-3485

REPRESENTING WHOM? self

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: SB 123

DO YOU: SUPPORT? AMEND? OPPOSE? ✓

COMMENTS: I have prepared ~~the~~ written testimony
which I will submit. I am primarily concerned
with the effect on Rowell County's tax base and
about the deficit I believe the state would be
acquiring. I am concerned that management of
public lands will suffer.

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY

NAME: Jeff W. Jones DATE: 1-26-81

ADDRESS: 179 Meadowlark Ln

PHONE: 363-2744

REPRESENTING WHOM? Self

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: SB 123

DO YOU: SUPPORT? AMEND? OPPOSE? ✓

COMMENTS: Concerns county economy and
unreversed impact from this bill
including offset payments
Federal revenues in Navajo Co greater than
property tax payments in county. Private
land is best & choicest in county as
opposed to the rocky, mountainous land
on federal lands

ADDRESS: _____

REPRESENTING WHOM? _____

DO YOU: SUPPORT? _____ AMEND? _____ OPPOSE? _____

COMMENTS: _____

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY

NAME: Rich Day DATE: 1/26/81

DATE: 1/26/81

ADDRESS: 13161 Cottonwood Rd. Bayview

PHONE: 763-4553

REPRESENTING WHOM? Montana Wildlife Federation

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: 50123

DO YOU: SUPPORT? _____

AMEND?

OPPOSE? ~~X~~

COMMENTS: _____

NAME: Donald W. Nelson, Sr. DATE: January 26, 1981

ADDRESS: 405 S. California Dillon, MT

PHONE: (406) 683-2026

REPRESENTING WHOM? Self

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: Senate Bill 123

DO YOU: SUPPORT? AMEND? OPPOSE? X

COMMENTS: SEE ATTACHED STATEMENT ; STATEMENTS FURNISHED FOR ALL MEMBERS

OF NATURAL RESOURCE COMMITTEE

ADDRESS: Box 1683

REPRESENTING WHOM? Mont. Wool Grower Assn

DO YOU: SUPPORT? X AMEND? _____ OPPOSE? _____

COMMENTS: _____

NAME: Markus Craford DATE: June 1981

ADDRESS: Walter Henderson

PHONE: 65-1302

REPRESENTING WHOM? W. Edwards Oppenheim of Philadelphia

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: Senate Bill 153

DO YOU: SUPPORT? _____ AMEND? _____ OPPOSE? _____

COMMENTS:

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY

NAME: Hofberg DATE: 7-26-81

ADDRESS: Box 1039, Mount Pleasant, S.C.

PHONE: 202-338-1111

REPRESENTING WHOM? Myself

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: United States - 9-11 Memorial

DO YOU: SUPPORT? / AMEND? OPPOSE?

COMMENTS: _____

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY

NAME: Barbara Hildreth DATE: 24 Jan 1981

ADDRESS: 2780 Schuler Lane

PHONE: 683-5398

REPRESENTING WHOM? Beaverhead Co. Freeman Institute

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: Senate Bill 123

DO YOU: SUPPORT? X AMEND? OPPOSE?

COMMENTS: Articles IV & V make it
unconstitutional. We must get
back to basic Gov't - Texas is
self governing & no federal
lands. Does just fine - We
Montanans want the same
privilege. Thank You for
considering me to testify
Barbara Hildreth

NAME: SARRY ADAMS DATE: 1/26/81

ADDRESS: Student Action Center U.C. 107 University of

PHONE: Montana MSLA, MT. 243-5597

REPRESENTING WHOM? Students - Student Action Center

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: SB 123

DO YOU: SUPPORT? AMEND? OPPOSE? ✓

COMMENTS: We do not want Federal Lands
opened for ^{actual} greater corporate influence on weaker
State Govts. - These lands belong to All
U.S. Citizens ^{than} just Montana. Our
State Govts. are being weakened currently
by pro-development - pro-job rhetoric.
Obviously this rhetoric is not ^{at} all a
dialogue on the future of Montana, rather
it is a static propaganda effort to
take care of citizens today and mainly
corporate citizens. ~~Human's~~ ~~and~~ Our future
for our children will be in jeopardy if
federal lands are distributed now. We oppose
this bill in the name of future generations.

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY

NAME: Mike Stephan DATE: 26 Jan 81

ADDRESS: 1402 11th Ave Helena

PHONE: 442-5309

REPRESENTING WHOM? MT Assoc of Counties

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: SB 123

DO YOU: SUPPORT? X AMEND? OPPOSE?

COMMENTS: MACU supports the concept of
this bill with emphasis on
local control on management
matters & the plan portion on
Page 5 lines 14, 19 giving local
governments their earned receipts

NAME: Dorothy J. Kaver

DATE: Jan. 26, 1981

ADDRESS: 135 South Ave. Stevensville, Mont.

PHONE: 777-3993

REPRESENTING WHOM? Self

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: SB 123

DO YOU: SUPPORT? AMEND? OPPOSE? ☒

COMMENTS: _____

Group 2

1-26-51

Box ~~1611~~ 1611 Home No. 59001

2000 6001 340014 200 99000 after

High County Learning Area

SB 123

SUPPORT?

AMEND?

OPPOSE?

REPORT SYSTEM

NAME: Harold H. H. H. H. DATE: 1-26-81

DATE: 1-26-81

ADDRESS: Yonkers, NY

PHONE: 728.8 3496

REPRESENTING WHOM? _____

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: *SR 123*

✓

AMEND?

OPPOSE?

COMMENTS:

NAME: Barney Deedle DATE: 1-26-81

ADDRESS: Univ of Wash, HR-10, Seattle, WA 98195

PHONE: (206) 543 2765

REPRESENTING WHOM? Univ of Wash. - Invited to attend
by Walt Collins

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: SB 123

DO YOU: SUPPORT? _____ AMEND? _____ OPPOSE? _____

COMMENTS: Am here to provide background
material, based on research interests
in field of public land management.

NAME: John Kibone DATE: 1-26-81

ADDRESS: 141 B. C. Lane Park

PHONE: 284-6771

REPRESENTING WHOM? ADA, PARK COUNTY LEGISLATIVE ASSN.

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: SB 123

DO YOU: SUPPORT? X AMEND? OPPOSE?

COMMENTS: [Signature]
Witness testimony called.

NAME: L. Peter Vessin DATE: 20 Jan 1981

ADDRESS: 215 N. Grove Massachusetts

PHONE: 547-5237

REPRESENTING WHOM? Self

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: 5123

DO YOU: SUPPORT? _____ AMEND? _____ OPPOSE? 1

COMMENTS: attached

NAME: Willa Hall DATE: 1-26-81

ADDRESS: 1502 Peosta

PHONE: 442-7495

REPRESENTING WHOM? League of Women Voters of Montana

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: SB 123

DO YOU: SUPPORT? _____ AMEND? _____ OPPOSE? L

COMMENTS: _____

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY

NAME Patrick R. Underwood BILL No. SB 123
ADDRESS Box 1207 Bozeman, Mt. 59715 DATE Jan 26, 1981
WHOM DO YOU REPRESENT Montana Farm Bureau Federation
SUPPORT xxx OPPOSE AMEND
PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

Comments:

The Montana Farm Bureau through it's resolutions on Land Use Planning and public lands, fully supports " The Montana Lands Reformation Act " SB 123.

We in the west whose roots go back to those who settled this country, have seen as much of broken contracts from Washington, as our Native Americans who were here first have seen, only on a broad scale and affecting 11 Western states, and most recently Alaska.

The first devastating contractual breach came in 1916 when the Stock Raisers Homestead Act took the mineral rights of public lands for the Federal Government.

It was breached again with passage of the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920.

The Taylor Grazing Act passed in 1934 put the West, including Montana, at such a disadvantage that ^{we} ~~they~~ have really never recovered.

The final straw came in 1976 with the passage of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA). It makes no apologies for its statement that these public lands are to be retained in federal ownership forever. That is a far cry from "being held in trust- for the people" that ^{many were of us were} ~~was~~ brought up with in Montana.

^{POLITICIANS} 33 Eastern States and their ~~politicians~~ and beaurocrats, including those who are elected to Washington, have complete control over the drowth and development of 11 Western states and Alaska.

That "Prarie Fire" that was set in Nevada is growing rapidly in size and fury. Many of our Western neighbors legislators ~~s~~ have already taken responsible action,, to remove their States from that of "Colony Status". It's time Montana joined them.

NAME: JOHN ERIEL DATE: NOV 26 1981

ADDRESS: 7884 Lusk Ave.

PHONE: 654 2522

REPRESENTING WHOM? *Adm't L' Stock Agcy & S&P*

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: *Jacobus H. Bellm JH 123*

DO YOU: **SUPPORT?** **AMEND?** **OPPOSE?**

COMMENTS:

NAME: Pat Yocallion DATE: Jan 26, 1951

ADDRESS: 3910 Chandler Dr. Helena

PHONE: 443-5747

REPRESENTING WHOM? Montana CowBills

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: Augbank Bill AB123

DO YOU: SUPPORT? X AMEND? OPPOSE?

COMMENTS: The growing involvement of the federal
land managing authorities in our ranching industry
is a real burden. The only relief that we see is
the possibility of state administration such as
is envisioned by Senator Elchart. The cost of
making this basic plan could be the best interest
the Montana Legislature could make. We urge you
give this measure a "Be Pan" recommendation.

DATE

26 Jan 1981

COMMITTEE ON

Natural Resources

BILL NO.

5123

VISITOR'S REGISTER

NAME	REPRESENTING	Check One	
		Support	Oppose
John H. Hille	self		✓
John Hille	self		✓
Lee Hargrave	self		✓
John Hille	self		✓
BILL ASHER	APA, PCA, SCPA + SCALA	✓	
SHERRI BROCKENBACH	APA, PCA, SCPA, SCALA	✓	
Dana Fitzgerald	self		✓
David Hille	NFO		
David Hille	ME Farmers Union	✓	
David Hille	self		✓
David Hille	self		✓
David Hille	self	✓	
Jack Hille	self, APA	✓	
David Hille	ME Farmers Union	✓	
David Hille	ME Farmers Union		✓
David Hille	self	✓	
Margus Matwid	Public Land Council	✓	
Jessie Zinsub	Public Land Council	✓	
MIKE A. MALES	ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION CENTER		X
Torraine Schwenke	self	✓	
Phas Schwenke	"	✓	
Thomas Schwenke	Self		✓
John Schwenke	Turner		
B. Anderson	Self; Morticians for the Protection of the		

(Please leave prepared statement with Secretary)

DATE January 26, 1981

COMMITTEE ON Natural Resources

BILL NO. 123

VISITOR'S REGISTER

[illegible]

(Please leave prepared statement with Secretary)

DATE January 26, 1981COMMITTEE ON Natural ResourcesBILL NO. SB 123

VISITOR'S REGISTER

NAME	REPRESENTING	Check One	
		Support	Oppose
<i>[illegible]</i>	<i>[illegible]</i>		
<i>[illegible]</i>	<i>[illegible]</i>		
Jim Jensen	LISCA		X
Robert Melegaard	intern		
Byron Johnson	Intern		
Richard Dolan	Legislative Aide		+
Mary McAnulty	intern		X
Dan O'Fallon	intern		X
Joel Hardy	intern		X
John Peterson	intern		X
Kim & Susan M. Kenney	Pay		X
Engle	St. Paul		X
<i>[illegible]</i>	<i>[illegible]</i>	X	
Ed Swanson	Spasgon	✓	
Donald W. McPherson	William "Self"		X
Edith C. McCallum	Self	X	
Roy McCallum		X	
Mon Teigen	Helena M. Stachnauer	X	
Thomas J. Smith	Self	X	
Bill Schroeder	American Indian Museum, Alaska		
Richard Boese	Baker - not - Self		
<i>[illegible]</i>	<i>[illegible]</i>		
<i>[illegible]</i>	<i>[illegible]</i>		
Charles [illegible]	Baker		X
<i>[illegible]</i>	<i>[illegible]</i>		X

(Please leave prepared statement with Secretary)

DATE January 26, 1981

COMMITTEE ON Natural Resources

BILL NO. SB 123

VISITOR'S REGISTER

NAME	REPRESENTING	Check One	
		Support	Oppose
Barbara Graham	Wilderness Society of Montana	✓	
John Graham			
Blaise Graham			
Rich Day	MT Wildlife Fed		✓
Harry H. H. H.	Mont. Wildlife Federation		✓
Ed Orie		✓	
Don Judson	MT STATE AFL-CIO		✓
Mark Daniels		✓	
Marion G. Chis	self - cattle producer Granite Co.	✓	
Pat Anderson	Mont. Farm Bureau, Bozeman	✓	
Sunny Wright	Livestock Blaine	✓	
Jess Kilgore	Three Jocks Mont	✓	
Paul Atchison	2210 Ottawa, Butte		✓
James M. Cann	Mont. Assoc. Grazing Districts	✓	
Pat Chevallier	Mont. Cow Belles	✓	
Ray T. Deek	mt Assoc. St. Grazing Dist	✓	
Gene Chapel	Lewistown Mont - Farm Bureau	✓	
Chas. E. Henderson	Mont. Senior Citizens Assoc.		X
Wesley Treason	Do		✓
Jack Hirsch	Mont Live Stage	✓	
Blue Eiel	" " " & self		
Walt Collins	Hayfield McConie Leg Assn	✓	
Betty Collins	2nd Peck Game Range	✓	
Wm. McConie	5015 - Rancher	X	
John Hall	LUVU Montana		✓

(Please leave prepared statement with Secretary)

1-26-81

Natural Resources

BILL NO. 123

VISITOR'S REGISTER

[illegible]

(Please leave prepared statement with Secretary)