

Hell's Canyon Survey To Determine Water Needs

(HELL'S CANYON)—In the very heart of Chief Joseph's awesome country, 60-plus scientists, technicians and others put the Hell's Canyon reach of the middle Snake River under scrutiny in late March, searching for answers on how much water is needed in a river to meet all the demands placed upon it.

Obviously this is an oversimplification and hardly does justice to those professionals who worked hard in this massive outdoor laboratory. But then, technical jargon does not make good reading.

What they hope to learn when all the nuts and bolts are sorted out is how much water should be left in the Snake River to make it both productive and recreationally palatable.

Changing values placed on water in recent years brought about the whole investigation about to determine desirable water levels for fish and wildlife habitat, recreation, water quality and esthetics. Actually, the project was conceived as a part of the Pacific Northwest River Basins Commission's joint comprehensive plan for the water and related land resources of the region. The commission is a five-state/federal water planning agency headquartered in Vancouver, Washington.

Chief ramrod and logistics expert for this in depth examination was Keith Bayha, a wildlife biologist with the Bureau of Sports Fisheries & Wildlife, Department of the Interior, Boise, Idaho. Assisting in putting the package together were Dick Nadeau of Bayha's office and Charles Koski, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce in Portland, Oregon.

Bayha, tireless and unperturbable, did his homework well. Throwing 60 civilians and 16 military people together for a week to ten days without incident should entitle the man to his doctorate in social psychology.

If nothing else would have been gained from the time spent in Hell's Canyon, the study was a glowing example of inter-agency cooperation with 24 state groups from Idaho, Oregon and Washington and five federal departments all working shoulder to shoulder toward a common goal—more knowledge. And let it be known, each man performed his assigned duties conscientiously, professionally and hopefully.

While dollar figures are not yet available, the Snake investigation was also unique in that each participating agency footed its own bill. It was necessary for the Pacific Northwest River

Basins Commission, the Corps of Engineers and the Bureau of Sports Fisheries & Wildlife to plunkle up some additional funds to reimburse the Defense Department for the use of four helicopters. Without the choppers, the whole study would have been slowed to a walk.

And a doff of the derby should go to those helicopter pilots who flew the treacherous terrain with aplomb.

Eight camps were scattered along a 90-mile stretch of the Snake from the base of Hell's Canyon Dam to the mouth of the Grand Ronde River. Each camp was assigned a different investigation to be conducted daily as the river was systematically lowered from a stable flow of 27,000 cubic feet per second to a summertime low of 5,000 cfs.

As the Snake lowered each 24 hour period for five days, the crews checked such things as white water boating, fishability, what happens to the fish and what they eat and how many get stranded as the water goes down, what happens to recreational power boating, what occurs in the way of temperature changes, time of water travel, the aquatic animal life, the spawning beds and so on.

Two large sturgeon—one 8' 2" and the other 7' 11"—were tagged and released, other species caught included rainbow trout, steelhead, Dolly Vardens, small mouth bass, channel cat, bullheads, squawfish, suckers and carp.

The findings of the investiga-

Favorite Foods

By "Odie" Anderson

I've spent the last few weeks looking for low calorie dishes and have found several. Here's one I'd like to share. I'm sure you have strawberries in your freezer. If not, they're on the market already.

STRAWBERRY JAM
2 tablespoons equal 11 calories

1 qt. strawberries
4 tsp. liquid sweetener
1/4 tsp. red food coloring

tion are to be published by the PNRBC and can carry real significance providing those participating don't dally in getting the material between report covers.

With helicopters darting up and downstream like dragonflies and jet boats chipping in some white water of their own, one could almost feel Chief Joseph looking down from a rocky bluff and wondering what the hell the White man was doing to his river.

The wise old Nez Perce could rest easy, the scientists left it just as they found it.

There is no guarantee it will always be thus.



JOHN SCHMITZ TO APPEAR IN PERSON

The Honorable John G. Schmitz, a two-term Congressman and recent Presidential Candidate of the American Independent Party, will be personally appearing this Saturday, April 14 at Meridian. Mr. Schmitz's tour is sponsored by the Treasure Valley Chapters of the John Birch Society. Congressman Schmitz will be speaking on "Let's Tell It Like It Is". He predicts that "as bad as McGovern's campaign pledges were in the past election, President Nixon's performance will be much worse. Unless more Americans tell government to stop, we will see a repetition of the past four years, when the President promoted scores of collectivist projects --- all the while talking like a Conservative."

Congressman Schmitz knows that Big Government is always a threat to liberty. To learn what this danger means to you—and how it can be defeated—be sure to hear this outstanding American patriot. Schmitz will be appearing at the Meridian High School, 1507 W. 8th St., at 8 p.m. this Saturday, April 14. Tickets will be sold at the door. \$2.00 for adults and \$1.00 for students.



NEXT IN THE SERIES OF AN eight part program sponsored by the Malheur Country Historical Society and Treasure Valley Community College is set for Thursday, April 26, beginning at 8 p.m. in the Weese Building on the college campus when Emery Strong of Skamania, Washington will speak on the topic "Traces of Early Man in the Oregon Country."

Strong is an author of renown having written "Stone Age in the Great Basin" and "Stone Age on the Columbia River." An engineer by profession, Strong has spent many spare hours searching for remnants of the first inhabitants of the West. He roamed the hills and explored the valleys prior to the time when dams flooded large areas and military bases and corporate farms obliterated the traces left by aboriginal residents.

Strong is a skilled photographer and has an extensive collection of artifacts to go along with the photographs of Indian petroglyphs and pictographs.

Anyone sharing an interest in this part of the history of our prehistoric West is invited to attend this lecture. There is no admission charge.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

By Rep. D.E. (Denny) Jones

The big news now is the school finance plan, HB 2004. A group of us originally opposed to the bill, and this group has grown since, are opposing the ballot title and have filed a petition for this. At the present time we haven't had a Supreme Court ruling yet but we expect this on Monday. However, it's similar to a decision that was made some time back on a ballot measure, and we feel optimistic about this. The ballot title will explain to the people of Oregon exactly what they're voting on. As I am opposed to this bill, I will state some of the arguments to consider in opposition to it:

1. Probable loss of local control for schools (with 95% funding);
2. Creation of a poor business climate;
3. Highest income tax in the nation;
4. One of the highest corporation taxes in the nation;
5. State-wide property tax (\$7.50 with a maximum of \$10.00 per \$1,000 true cash value);
6. New business profits tax;
7. No incentive for economy in government;
8. Too heavy a reliance on one major tax (income). The income tax will have to be raised again if our economy drops below the level of today;
9. Projections of Revenue and Budgeting beyond this biennium are subject to serious questioning;
10. Inequalities in distribution (\$900 grants for some districts, \$1,200 for others);
11. Elimination of tax on farm equipment (Why not construction equipment or logging equipment?);
12. Municipal overburden, 10%;
13. Unrestricted \$2.00 per \$1,000 for school board whims, without a vote of the people;
14. Without a sales tax or a school tax on homes, Oregon will be a haven for out-of-state retirees. (They pay little or no property taxes and income taxes);
15. For those who are renters, they will be paying 35% more in income taxes to receive a 9% rebate in rent;
16. Provides 55 of the largest Oregon corporations with tax breaks;
17. There is no financial reimbursement to counties for their work in separating the classes of pro-

erty. (All property in state has to be classified as income producing or residential); 18. 80% of all income tax is paid by people on wages and salaries;
- 19. Eliminates the practice of deducting Federal Taxes paid on amounts over \$2,000;
- 20. If this plan is so air tight and sure, why did the Department of Revenue and Senate Tax Committee find a \$53 million error two weeks after the bill was referred from the House of Representatives?

I am certainly concerned in my district and especially my little old home school district #12. We will just be short—we won't have enough money to run on under this program, and there isn't any provisions for us to get any more. I could also cite an example of the Crane School over there, which has a \$2200 per pupil cost and, as I understand, especially after this year, there won't be any provisions made to make up the difference. I think these are things that should be noted in our particular case—we have \$690 per pupil in deductible receipts, according to their figures, and this money is money that is ours, and part of it is a carry-over from last year, which is necessary to begin our next school year with. So they are taking these away from us, therefore making the amount of money that we'll get from the State less than we are entitled to. It leaves us with a deficit amount at the end. I'd like to point out again that we do lose local control, even though they keep making this a point and keep stating that we will retain local control.

Again, a short comment in regard to the school finance bill. The opposition is organized to fight this bill—there are 28 of us at this time. It seems like we were short some when the vote was taken on the floor, but there are quite a few people that have changed their minds. We will have the first further news for you the first of the week, I hope, and I'll phone that up to you as soon as it's available.

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GAME HENS
CORNISH 20 OZ. **89¢ EA.**

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SWISS ROUND BONE STEAK **\$1.19 LB.**

POTATOES
U.S. NO. 1 10 LB. BAG **84¢ EA.**

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CONTROLLED ATMOSPHERE RED DELICIOUS **29¢ LB.**

CABBAGE
FRESH CRISP HEADS **11¢ LB.**

CELERY HEARTS SUNNY LOU **39¢ PKG.**

MED. EGGS TREASURE VALLEY 'AA' DOZEN **62¢ EA.**

ELBO RONI AMERICAN 24 BEAUTY OZ. CRACKERS **43¢**
NABISCO PREMIUM SALTINES 1 LB. **37¢**

JOHNSTON 38-40 oz. CHERRY APPLE FRUIT PIES **69¢ EA.**

FLAV-R-PAC BRAND 12 oz. CAN GRAPE JUICE **37¢**

ICE CREAM SANDWICH 6 CT. PKG. **45¢**

VINYL 5/8" x 50' COIL GARDEN HOSE **\$2.59 VALUE 2.33**

VINYL 1/2" x 50' COIL GARDEN HOSE **\$1.79 VALUE 1.49**

JUMBO GRADE I ASST. COLORS ROSE BUSHES \$1.88 VALUE **1.57 EA.**

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ASST. KINDS HAMBURGER HELPER 6 1/2 - 8 oz. **49¢ EA.**

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