

NEWSLETTER

<http://www.wi4wda.org>

LAND USE: CONCENTRATING OUR EFFORTS; AVOIDING BURNOUT - (MANAGING YOUR MONKEYS)

By Del Albright

It's encouraging to see so many recreationists getting involved these days in the land use/public lands access battles. In fact, now we face a time when some of us old land use horses are starting to sag under the burden of doing this so long. We can't afford to lose any of our activists to burnout, so I've come up with a cure to keep our fighters fighting.

I've found that a key to avoiding burnout and staying effective is to narrow your focus; concentrate your efforts. I like to think of our land use battles as a quail hunt. You ever hunted quail? Well, a typical hunt consists of hours of walking, wearing yourself out, then all of a sudden blazing away at a flurry of birds, usually missing most of them. The only one who gets any enjoyment out of this is your dog - who can't stop dog-laughing at your new-found state of frustration.

The land use battles have reached such a flurry that many of us don't know where to start. So we take the shotgun approach. We try to get in all the games. Of course, we want to help out all our partners in other states; other regions; other clubs. So we assist with letters, phone calls, emails, etc. Pretty soon we have an extensive little filing system that may cover many subjects and many letters and many meetings. Then all of a sudden, we realize we're up to our ears!

And hey, what about that lawn that needs mowing? And that car (4wheeler?) that needs detailing; the significant other that is tired of you being at the computer half the night; and the trails that need riding? Next thing you know, burnout sets in. There are just too many battles to fight and soon you begin to drop off in effectiveness.

A friend of mine told me once that in his mind, this tactic of having too many battlefronts is JUST WHAT OUR OPPONENTS WANT. Just like in military maneuvers; if you spread the battle lines thin, pretty soon you'll find a way to penetrate and overwhelm the enemy.

Well, STOP! If you're a land use activist who's been doing MORE than your share, it's time to concentrate your efforts, increase your effectiveness and avoid burnout. Here's some ways to do that.

First Step: Re-affirm your commitment to fighting the land use battles. We all need to keep fighting the good fight. You can't let burnout take you out of the battle. Every letter we write; meeting we attend; run we run; new



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COMMANDO RAID 2000

Rod Schneider along with his wife Luana, his daughter and son-in-law Brenda & Craig Lothe and his 4 year old grandson Zachary attended Commando "Raid" 2000 out in Frisco, Colorado in August. He brought with



him his Special Edition "Hurst" Commando which apparently only approximately 100 of them ever were made. There were over 50 Commandos there from various parts of the United States competing in various categories. On Friday the Commandos that were already there took a parade ride to Breckenridge. On Saturday the vehicles were in a show'n shine in a motel parking lot. Rod with the "Hurst" Commando took first place in the "Most Original" category. During the show the Wisconsin crew set up a commercial popcorn machine and Zachary was handing out popcorn to everyone compliments of 4 Lakes 4 Wheelers. It was a fun weekend for all but when it was time to leave the rest of the Wisconsin crew had to pry Rod out of there! It was time to

head to Silverton to meet up with the rest of the 4 Lakes 4 Wheelers at their Colorado run. The "Hurst" Commando ran the mountains of the Silverton area the rest of the week and turned many heads along the way. There were those who thought maybe this kind of usage of such a vehicle was not very sensible; however, Jeepsters are Tough!

Contributed by Luana Schneider



Seven GOP Senators Recommend Bicycles & Windmills

It's hard to believe, but seven Republican Senators have lined up against the drilling for oil in Alaska. Here we are, faced with problems in the Middle East that could deprive us of the oil we need to keep this nation going, and these Stupid Seven are more concerned about caribou than the energy needs and security of the nation.

They are Sen. Bob Smith of New Hampshire, Sen. Olympia Snowe and Sen. Susan Collins of Maine, Sen. James Jeffords of Vermont, Sen. Lincoln Chafee of Rhode Island, Sen. Peter Fitzgerald of Illinois, and Sen. Richard Lugar of Indiana.

Notice something they have in common? Five are from Northeastern States that are utterly dependent on oil for heating and to fuel vehicles. They are the first to complain when the cost of heating oil rises. The other two are Midwesterners and have probably never seen an oil well in their lives.

To demonstrate the idiocy behind their position, Sen. Collins is on record saying, "I don't think the case has been made. we need to look at other ways to increase production and conserve more energy and develop alternative energy sources." Apparently, in a pinch, we're all supposed to leave our cars in the garage and ride bicycles.

Here's a tip of the WS hat to the website, AntiDemocrat.com for calling this to my attention. This nation now imports more than half-52%--of the oil it uses annually. I am growing a little tired of politicians who keep talking about "alternative sources" of energy or "conserving energy" when we could all run out of energy just as fast as the folks in California if we don't start building a lot of nuclear plants, as have most other industrialized nations, and adding to our stock of coal and hydroelectric plants.

This nation is going to need a lot of energy for a very long time to come and it is irresponsible to leave us at the mercy of a bunch of Middle East sheiks and others when we have a billion barrels of oil sitting beneath the tundra of Alaska and billions more just offshore in States that include California, Louisiana and Florida.

The Anti-Energy Californians

The old saying is that you don't know how good something is until it's gone. Well, Californians are discovering that energy is a good thing. In the past, they thought it was a bad thing.

Here's how it works. According to an article in Forbes by Lynn Cook, in 1969, Californians made sure that any further oil exploration off Santa Barbara stopped. In 1989, they elected to shut down the Rancho Seco nuclear plant near Sacramento. In the past decade, the State's population climbed 14 percent and the peak demand for electricity jumped 19 percent. In then Silicon Valley, electricity demand rose 33 percent just since 1996.

To be sure, ten new plants to generate electricity are in the pipeline, but here's the reality of how Greens have managed to slow down the process of getting any one of them built. Compared to Texas that gets the job done in 90 days, applications to build in California take at least twelve months. In Texas, nine large power plants have been built since 1990. In California, none have been built in the past decade. It will be another decade before the new ones go online.

In California, at least seventeen "assessments" must be made to insure that a plant will not displace an endangered species or pose a horrible health threat to anyone's life. (Remember the hoax that power lines posed a threat? They don't.) Of course, having your respirator go off due to a lack of electricity can lead to having your lungs cease to function. Now multiply that example against all the other ways electricity contributes to people's health. Heating one's home when it's cold outside comes to mind.

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KEEPING STOLEN PROPERTY

By Charles Bloomer
web posted March 5, 2001

Interior Secretary Gale Norton has announced that the Bush administration has no plans to overturn the Clinton administration's unconstitutional designation of millions of acres of land as off-limits. This hardly seems an appropriate behavior of an administration that vehemently defends its legitimacy in the provisions of the constitution - the peaceful transfer of power, the primacy of the Electoral College, the Supreme Court's interpretation of election laws.

While the 1906 Antiquities Act may have been passed with good intentions, those good intentions have led to bad law and unintended consequences, including abuse of power. The law remains on the books because it raises strong emotions that cloud good sense. No one seems willing to challenge the constitutionality of the act. Opposing the law that gave us National Parks such as Yellowstone immediately paints the opponents as wildlife haters, or worse, supporters of the dreaded "urban sprawl". After all, only capitalist philistines could oppose preserving the wild, natural beauty of Shenandoah. Supporters of the law can sleep at night because they "feel" good about protecting our natural wilderness areas.

The Executive Orders that President Clinton used to designate monuments are not supported by the Constitution of the United States. The constitution allows congress to exercise authority over lands purchased with the consent of the legislature of the state wherein the land lies, for use in the legitimate functioning of the federal government. Designating and maintaining national parks, forests and monuments are not a legitimate, constitutional function of the federal government.

Additionally, federal land grabs violate states' rights guaranteed by the tenth amendment. The states, not the federal government, have the right to determine the disposition of "public" lands. The people of the states, through their elected bodies, have the right to designate state parks and recreational areas if they wish. With that right, the people of the states have the responsibility to provide the money to maintain those parks.

Those who support the latest federal land grabs are willing to violate important founding principles that have made our nation the most prosperous in history. Private property rights are fundamental to our unalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. The socialist, utopian notion that the government knows best how to manage and allocate land and resources has resulted in failure in every case. Some of those failures have been spectacular, such as the massive pollution of land in the former communist satellites of the Soviet Union. In the United States, the poor land stewardship has resulted in deadly, destructive fires. With no intelligent motivation, the government manages its land in such a way that responds to emotion, seeking only to maintain its grip on votes, and therefore, power. The legitimate interests of the people, the efficient use of the land and the natural resources contained on or in the land are subverted by this lust for power.

The Bush administration should rethink its support for the illegitimate abuses of our land. Failing to overturn the designations of these millions of acres makes the new administration complicit in the Clinton administration's unconstitutional theft of the peoples' property. Not only should president Bush overturn the leftover Executive Orders, he should push for the repeal of the 1906 Antiquities Act. All federal land holdings not required for the legitimate functioning of the federal government should be turned over to the states, along with the responsibility to maintain those holdings. Each state could then decide the disposition of the land and its resources.

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The new President should also scrap CARA - the Conservation and Reinvestment Act. This act provides federal tax dollars to buy more privately held property. The federal government already holds title to twenty-five percent

of the land in the United States. How much land does the federal government need to perform its functions? It certainly doesn't need any more. Taxpayer money should not be used to illegally and unconstitutionally grab more land.

Other legislation being considered should also be rejected. Recent legislative proposals merely tinker with the problem, but do not offer acceptable solutions. One proposal would limit the president's designation to a mere 50,000 acres at a time. While that is considerably less than the multimillion acre Clinton grabs, it is still excessive. No one seems to be considering the economic impact of taking 50,000 acres out of productive use. Other legislation being considered does nothing to change the designation of stolen land. Instead, the proposals would smooth ruffled feathers by allowing more local control of the federal land or by fiddling with boundaries. Such proposals might be appealing to politicians in the affected states, but it is, in reality, insulting and patronizing.

It might be useful for the president to have several large posters made of "The Map". A copy should be hung in the office of every cabinet officer, especially the office of the Interior Secretary, to serve as a stark reminder of President Bush's support base. Those areas shown in red are not up for grabs by power-hungry federal officials.

President Bush owes his presidency to the US Constitution. Now he should show his respect for the entire document and the limitations it places on the federal government. The land belongs to the people. Give it back.

PIPELINE GRANT WORK DATES!

DATES FOR PIPELINE GRANT WORK:

May 5-6

June 2-3

July 14-15

Aug 11-12

Sept 29-30

Oct 13-14 Pending Frost

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!! - contact Mary DeBauche for weekend plans!



member we recruit; we make a difference. People we keep in the fight, no matter what their role, we make a difference in the outcome. So **STAY IN THE FIGHT**. Tell yourself you're going to do your part; just maybe a different part from here on. That's ok.

Second Step: Decide what you're really good at. Are you a letter-writer; a meeting person; an advisor to others; a volunteer leader who organizes others; a writer in general; or just someone who wants to give money and stay in the background?? Find your niche. This may take some soul searching.

Not all of us like to write letters, but we want to help. Not all of us can lead a run or meet face to face with some bigwig bureaucrat and feel comfortable doing it. Not all of us can take the time to attend all these seemingly endless meetings; but we still are interested in many of the meeting topics. The answer is to narrow your efforts and focus on those things you can be good at (your niche).

Third Step: Drop those things you're not good at. Yes, it's like the old management system called "Monkey Management" from the 1980's. In that system, everything on your chore list is a "monkey." Your objective is to either feed the monkey (keep it happy); get rid of it (if it's not yours); or shoot it!

So if your list of things to do, letters to write, meetings to attend, etc. etc. is way longer than you can handle, (in other words some of those monkeys just aren't yours or you're not keeping them happy), **GET RID OF THEM!!!**

Fourth Step: Help others pick up what you need to drop. The sensible thing to do is to help someone else take over those monkeys for you. Find another activist to jump in where you left off (or never really got started). Don't just leave your partners hanging. If folks are depending on you, find a way to transition out of something you're not good at by helping someone else pick up where you left off. It may take some "cards on the table" talks, but that's better than letting something fall off the table.

Fifth Step: Focus your efforts on your niche. Now that you know what monkeys you want to keep, and have gotten rid of the rest, begin to focus. Concentrate on getting really good at those things you're now doing. Make every effort count. Take classes if appropriate to improve your chosen niche. Get the paybacks. Make a difference.

We all need to be fighting the land use/public land access battles; but we all don't need to fight all the battles. We must find ways to avoid burnout in our fellow club members and keep everyone doing their part. Of course, this assumes we're all already out their joining organized recreation and recruiting new members every chance we get. That's always a given. If you follow these steps, I think you'll find we can stay in the fight and make our efforts more effective.

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LAND PROTECTIONS FACE ROLLBACK

By Mike Soraghan
Denver Post Washington Bureau

Mar. 9, 2001 - WASHINGTON - Interior Secretary Gale Norton said she will roll back some of the land protections at Western monuments created by President Clinton if the sites' neighbors want changes. Norton said she'll work with communities around the monuments, which have complained that they would like more mining, grazing and off-road uses now off-limits.

"We're doing things in reverse - we're trying to resolve the problems after the monuments were created," Norton said Thursday. "We try to tailor things to existing uses and to what makes sense for the local community."

Her stance is likely to bolster her standing with conservatives, coming out the same day she announced that a mining industry lobbyist will be her top deputy and just minutes after taking a slap at her critics in the environmental community, accusing them in a speech of campaigning against her nomination to "fill their fund-raising coffers."

Her comments Thursday were the fullest explanation she has given of what she plans to do about the monuments, and a reverse of what has been reported in some national newspapers. Norton's monument plan parallels the slow, cautious approach taken by other Republicans left seething by Clinton's drive for a lands legacy but mindful that it was popular with the public.

But environmentalists accuse her of mounting a "backdoor" campaign to reverse the protections Clinton imposed. "I think the Bush administration recognizes their public lands agenda is not popular," said Melanie Griffin of the Sierra Club. "I think they'll be trying to pursue it quietly."

Clinton designated 21 monuments, many in his last year, imposing protections on millions of acres he said were threatened by development, tourism or industry. Westerners howled about the loss of access to the land. Among those monuments was Canyons of the Ancients, 164,000 acres of mesas, canyons and ancient Indian ruins in southwestern Colorado near Mesa Verde National Park.

Norton, formerly Colorado's attorney general, has criticized the way Clinton created the monuments, saying he did not consult with the Westerners affected by the new restrictions on the land. But she has shied away from a frontal assault on Clinton's "lands legacy," saying she hasn't heard direct calls for repealing the monuments.

House Resources Committee Chairman Jim Hansen, the Utah Republican who has been the leading critic of the monuments, is working on a similar plan. Hansen acknowledges that "no one is going to see a wholesale rolling back of these monuments," but he has solicited ideas from lawmakers about how Congress could change them.

Conservatives welcomed the plan, calling it a return to sanity. "If Norton's talking about restoring the uses that were there before the monument designations, that's good news," said Mike Hardiman, lobbyist for the American Land Rights Association, a propertyrights group. "You're looking at restoring the recreational access."

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Nuclear energy has always been a major target for the Greens. They also hate any utility that runs on coal and that includes most of the utilities in America. Former candidate for president from the Green Party, Ralph Nader, has long been a leader in the crusade against nuclear energy. Now Public Citizen, one of Nader's many front groups, wants the Rancho Seco plant turned on. In November, this same group called nuclear power "a failed technology." Well, tell that to most of Europe that uses it.

What this should say to any sensible person is that Greens will say anything to advance their goals of leaving this nation without the power it requires, but when they need it, it's okay. There's plenty of blame to go in California. There are the politicians who bought into the Green agenda that energy could always be purchased

cheaply from other States or the utilities themselves. Most of the new plants will operate with natural gas, as opposed to coal, the evil fossil fuel this nation has in abundance and the Greens hate. Then, of course, they also hate anything that uses or is made from petroleum. Did I mention that the price of natural gas is going up, up, up? It's called supply and demand.

Anyone, it would seem, with any judgment whatever could have seen that a growing population in California required the plants to meet that growth. No one, however, to go against the vocal Greens for whom any plant anywhere was an anathema. Moreover, the states from which California was purchasing power were also experiencing population growth. The most elemental economics would tell you that the price of energy was going to rise.

The California Greens are so out of touch with reality that, as PG&E and SoCal Edison sought to fend off bankruptcy by refusing to pay their suppliers, they actually accused them of staging their own bankruptcies by transferring large amounts of cash to their parent companies shortly before the energy crunch began. This was nothing more, however, than normal business practice to honor their obligation to the shareholders who put up the equity. It's called capitalism. California has since put up more than \$10 billion in taxpayer's money to purchase power and redistribute it. That's called socialism.

What do we really know about generating power in America? We know that thousands of windmills will not provide it. We know that plastering every home with solar panels will not do it. Both are far too expensive and both depend on Mother Nature providing enough wind and sunlight. Both of these Green "alternative energy sources" exist thanks to all kinds of government funded credits.

We know that "conserving "energy", while a good idea in theory, has little real effect on its provision. Now you will begin to hear the next Green "solution"; fuel cells, a technology that combines oxygen and hydrogen to make electricity with water vapor as the by-product. If the cost of fuel cells drops to a point where they will be cheap enough to put in the basement this technology may work, but for now, the next time someone says fuel cells to you, think windmills and solar panels. Think brownouts and blackouts.

Like so many Green ideas, Americans are beginning to wake up from their love affair with "saving the environment" and grappling with the reality of providing the energy our population, security, and economic growth requires.

Understand this. The environment-Mother Nature---doesn't care if you freeze to death in your home or apartment. Or suffer heat stroke during the summer because your air conditioner doesn't work. She doesn't care if water doesn't come out of your faucet. She doesn't care if food doesn't get delivered to your local market.

The environment is the Earth and it's been around for 5.4 billion years. On the cosmic scale of things, your life and that of a Monarch butterfly are about the same, but on the scale of human values, your human life and that of every other human being is the Creator's ultimate triumph

SPRING CONVENTION 2001

Just some quick information for those attending the Spring MW4WDA Convention in Neenah Wisconsin over April 21-22. Phone 800-725-7000 for those last minute reservations! Info also available online at <http://www.mw4wda.org>.

TENTATIVE meeting times are as follows:

Saturday:

8:00am - 9:00am	MW4WDA Board Meeting
9:00am - noon	W4WDA and MN4WDA State Meetings
noon - 1:30pm	LUNCH
1:30pm - 3:00pm	MW4WDA Committee Meetings
1:30pm - 3:00pm	Nail Painting and Rubber Stamping Seminars
6:00pm until ??	Dinner/Dancing/Prizes/etc...

Sunday:

9:00am - noon	MW4WDA General Meeting
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DINNER SATURDAY EVENING!!!!

YES, we are actually posting the menu...

Country Style Ribs, BBQ Chicken
American Potatoe Salad, Pasta Salad, Corn-on-the-cob*
baked beans, corn bread with honey and butter, fresh fruit bowl
texas toast, steak fries, relish tray
apple & cherry cobbler

* NOTE: Chris is a corn-on-the-cob fanatic, so everyone better be quick!



LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING EVERYONE THERE!

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At Colorado's only new monument, so many uses already are allowed that any changes would negate everything Clinton did, said one of the environmentalists who lobbied to create it. "I don't know how you could roll back any of the protections and not just unravel the whole monument," said Jeff Widen of the Colorado Environmental Coalition, who lobbied for the monument near Cortez.

It's not entirely clear what authority Norton would have to alter the monuments. Some say the authority is spelled out in the Antiquities Act of 1906, the law Clinton used to declare the monuments. Some think President Bush could just reverse them, while other say it would take a lawsuit.

What is clear is that the management plans, the detailed rule books of what is and isn't allowed in the monuments, have not yet been written. The employees who will be writing them now work for Norton, not Clinton's interior secretary, Bruce Babbitt.

West Monroe, LA - Black Diamond, a high-quality line of suspension lift systems and components, shock absorbers, and body lifts, formerly manufactured and marketed by Warn Industries in Clackamas, Oregon, has been purchased by Woods Ready Distributing, Inc. of West Monroe, Louisiana.

Woods Ready Distributing will continue using the Black Diamond name, but all Black Diamond corporate offices and manufacturing will be relocated to West Monroe, Louisiana. Black Diamond will maintain its product emphasis on superior quality and performance, and much of its existing product will be retained. However, the company intends to widely expand the product line to include most popular domestic and import truck applications. There are also plans to create an international network of independent dealers to make Black Diamond products available everywhere. New dealer inquiries are encouraged. Black Diamond's new corporate offices can be reached at the address below:

For further information, contact:

Black Diamond - 274 Huey Lenard Loop Rd - West Monroe, LA 71292

Toll Free: (866) 680-6666 - Local and Int'l: (318) 807-6666 - FAX: (318) 807-6669

www.blackdiamondoffroad.com

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