

Valley

Hospital expands rehab center

By **MATT FURBER**

Express Staff Writer

In a joint venture, St. Luke's Wood River Medical Center and the Idaho Elks Rehabilitation Hospital in Boise have put together a new outpatient therapy center in St. Luke's Physician Office Annex adjacent to the hospital. The first patients were seen Monday, Aug. 4.

Akin to a weight room in an athletic club, the facility expands the hospital's outpatient rehabilitation services, which include a variety of therapeutic machines, three treatment rooms and an aquatic therapy pool.

"We see a lot of work related hand injuries," said Mary Kay Foley, site manager and physical therapist. "We will work closely with patients so they can resume their daily lives as quickly and as safely as possible. We will also offer a variety of wellness programs to improve quality of life, fitness, and sports performance. The pool is also a great addition to our services."

"It looks like a little submarine," said one visitor.

The Swim EX pool produces current for resistance training.

"It's like a class four wave," said one of the installers. "You could tie a rope to the wall and surf it."

Physical therapists can watch patients through the four windows in the pool or get in the water to work with them, said Foley.

There is also a 10-piece Nautilus clinic for strength and conditioning, treadmills, elliptical treadmills, Stairmasters, exercise bikes, a Pilates reformer machine for core strengthening, and an upper-extremity ergometer for rehabilitation of things like shoulder injuries.

Although worker's compensation cases may be a large part of the business at the center, many visitors are likely to be sports injury patients.

Drs. Charlotte and Herbert Alexander moved their orthopedic services into the annex in November 2002. Their office is next door to the center.

The only other physician with offices in the annex is gynecologist Dr. Ross Donald, with the Women's Medical Group. Nurse practitioner, Carol Wade, who has an office in Hailey shares the space. The entire second floor of the annex is yet empty.

The rehab center is planning to offer corporate wellness programs and sees a growing potential for seasonal patients, Foley said. "People come to the mountains for recuperation."

See REHAB on page B12



Photo by Ed Cannady

REDEFINING WILDERNESS

DOES WILDERNESS DRAW BUSINESS TO TOWNS?

Second in a series of three

By **GREGORY FOLEY**

Express Staff Writer

Central Idaho, including the region that encompasses the vast Boulder and White Cloud mountains, is a land of contrasts. Flat pastures dotted with sagebrush give way to towering peaks. During the abbreviated summers, a dry heat parches the landscape, before succumbing to an extreme cold that asserts its grip each winter.

But for many central Idahoans, the most noticeable disparity in the region is between the economies of the two counties that comprise the heart of the state's mountainous middle.

Blaine County is an established bastion of wealth, fueled in large part by tourism and second homeowners attracted by recreational amenities. Meanwhile, its neighbor to the north, Custer County, has routinely seen a departure of people and jobs, as traditional industries that extract resources from the abundant public lands have experienced a sharp downturn.

Legislation being drafted by Rep. Mike Simpson, R-Idaho, to designate 250,000 acres of wilderness in the Boulder-White Clouds and concurrently boost the Custer County economy with a unique economic development package, proposes in part to lessen the financial disparity in central Idaho.

Lindsay Slater, Simpson's chief of staff, said economic considerations have been critical in the development of the draft legislation. "We have to ensure we protect those who are affected directly," Slater said. "Packers, guides, ranchers, sportsmen... We need to work to ensure that they are as well off or better off than they are today. Everybody needs to win in this process."

Opposing views

Wilderness designations inherently carry economic impacts, with arguments being made for and against protected lands based on financial considerations.

Many conservatives claim that wilderness areas give back to rural populations less than they take, creating only a limited demand for basic services at the expense of traditional enterprises, cultures, and recreational activities.

At the same time, some economists and environmentalists have said that designating a large portion of the Boulder-White Clouds as protected wilderness could in itself provide substantial economic benefits to the economies of both Blaine and Custer Counties.

"I think wilderness designation would be good for the identity of the area, and the economy of the area," said Rick Johnson, executive director of the Idaho Conservation League, which has strongly lobbied Simpson to advance the wilderness legislation.

Simpson's economic plan

In an attempt to diversify the beleaguered economy of central Idaho, Rep. Mike Simpson is proposing a package of legislation to boost the local economy. See B-WC on page B7



Express photo by Willy Cook

JIM SUPER, of Super Mountain Outfitters of Sun Valley, talks to Simone Beasley of Georgia before he takes her and her family on a day-trip into the mountains.

Recent designations provide models for BWC negotiations

By **GREG STAHL**

Express Staff Writer

Wilderness designations in the 21st century are taking on a new guise that appears to be an attempt at tempering progressive idealism with conservative realism.

One recent model included congressional wilderness designation of 450,000 acres in 17 road-free islands surrounding Las Vegas, Nev., in 2002. The legislation simultaneously opened 183,000 acres of public land for private and municipal development.

Another example entailed appointment in 2000 of Oregon's 170,000-acre Steens Mountain Wilderness, where

ranch owners were paid for properties within the designated area and then given public land elsewhere on which to rebuild.

Rep. Mike Simpson's chief of staff, Lindsay Slater, said a Boulder-White Cloud wilderness bill would be modeled, in part, on those efforts at compromise.

And Slater knows the drill. As legislative director for Rep. Greg Walden, R-Ore., he was the point man on the Steens Mountain package.

However, it's the Nevada legislation that appears to have captured Slater's imagination.

See MODEL on page B3

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Photos courtesy the Boulder White Cloud Council

THE THOMPSON CREEK MOLYBDENUM MINE near Clayton, Idaho is Custer County's largest private employer. Since the town of Challis was founded in 1876 as a mining and agriculture supply depot, the area's residents have ridden the boom-and-bust cycles of the mining industry.

Mining built and shaped region's early days

By GREG STAHL
Express Staff Writer

Like many of Idaho's mountainous regions, Boulder-White Cloud country was settled largely because of mining activities around the turn of the 19th century.

With only a handful of exceptions, however, large-scale mining has become a part of the region's history. But Custer County has ridden the surging waves associated with the boom-and-bust nature of the industry through to present day.

Minerals were first discovered in Custer County in 1873, with the discovery of gold, and a three-decade mining boom ensued. Mining and cattle ranching activity in the area soon warranted a supply base, and in 1876, Alvah P. Challis laid out the city of Challis as a supply depot.

In more recent terms, for most of the 1980s and 1990s, the Thompson Creek Mining Co. near Clayton was Custer County's largest employer, but because of a recent decline in the market prices of molybdenum, the mine's workforce was scaled back from 400 at its peak to 20 in 2001. With a slight increase in the world molybdenum market, the mine said it now employs approximately 100 and continues as Custer County's largest private employer.

Mineral claims at Thompson Creek were staked in 1967, and commercial production began in 1983. During peak operations, the mine's annual production of 15 million pounds represented 8 percent of the world molybdenum supply.

In April 1997, the short-lived Grouse Creek gold mine near Stanley was closed by its parent firm, Hecla Mining Co., after 3.5 years of operations. The 187-person workforce was scaled back to a skeleton crew of as many as 31 that continues to work on mine-site reclamation.

Mackay, roughly 60 miles south of Challis, was a copper mining and livestock center, and agriculture continues as the primary staple in Mackay's economy.



TAILING POND IMPOUNDMENTS on Bruno Creek are part of the huge Thompson Creek mining project.

In 1901, Mackay was abuzz with expansion plans from the White Knob Mining Co.'s copper mine.

During the Great Depression, metals prices dropped dramatically, and the local impact forced a near shutdown of mining activity during most of the 1930s. The war years, however, were prosperous ones for Mackay, as war dictated increases in demand for copper.

The late-1940s marked the end of significant mining in Mackay, but limited activity continued until about 1975.

The towns of Ketchum, Hailey and Bellevue in the Wood River Valley of Blaine County were also mining centers before sheep ranching and, later, tourism took over as the primary economic engines. In 1936, Sun Valley resort opened its doors and the seeds for present-

day tourism were sewn.

The Wood River Mines were rich in lead and silver, and between 1880 and 1885, \$12 million worth of the minerals were extracted from mines in the area.

The communities commemorate this heritage annually, with Ketchum's Wagon Days celebration held each Labor Day weekend.

In between the modern-day communities that surround the Boulder and White Cloud Mountains, abandoned mines and ghost towns abound.

Custer and Bonanza are restored ghost towns and popular tourist destinations in Custer County. The ghost towns of Galeana, Bullion City, Boulder City and Broadford lay dormant in the Wood River Valley. Vienna, Sawtooth City and Gladiator are some of the Sawtooth Valley's mining relics.

MODEL
Continued from page B1

“We’re looking at what happened in Nevada last year, the Clark County bill. They gave a fair amount of land to the state to sell,” Slater said.

The Clark County Conservation of Public Land and Natural Resources Act of 2002, which designated small wilderness areas in the Mojave Desert around Las Vegas, also freed up federal land for private development and a new airport 30 miles south of the city.

Wilderness advocates had originally asked for 4.1 million acres, but pared down their request by 10 times to make it more palatable for wilderness opponents.

As a concession to the hunting community, the deal also included a condition allowing the Nevada Division of Wildlife to use trucks and helicopters in the wilderness to survey and capture wildlife and to maintain artificial watering holes.

The Steens Mountain Wilderness was a different animal entirely, but might be applicable to the Boulder and White Clouds discussion.

The Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Act of 2000, in addition to designating 170,000 acres of wilderness, authorized \$5 million to purchase ranch in-holdings, as well as the trade of 104,000 acres of Bureau of Land Management property for the displaced ranchers.

The Nature Conservancy-Idaho is working with Simpson’s office to potentially move existing livestock operations near the White Cloud Mountains “to a more secure base,” said Geoff Pampush, TNC-Idaho director.

“In particular, we’re in conversations with landowners in the East Fork, but it’s actually much broader than that,” Pampush said. “What we’re looking to do is potentially identify new operations for some of the existing ranchers in the upper Salmon basin. In order to make that work, we may have to buy the ranches of the impacted ranchers and then identify a ranch for them to acquire and help them acquire it.”

The motivation for designation of a Steens Mountain Wilderness was different from current efforts in the Boulder and White Cloud Mountains, Slater said. Efforts there stemmed from a defensive posture assumed when former President Bill Clinton’s interior secretary announced plans to designate the area as a 3 million-acre national monument.

“We decided there could be a better alternative,” Slater said.

In return for supporting wilderness protection, ranchers were also permitted to graze cattle in parts of the wilderness, and they are allowed to drive into the area to check fences and stock tanks.

Of his experience with the Steens Mountain bill, Slater said he learned, above all else, to be meticulous.

“One of the best things I learned is that we have to button down every issue,” he said. “We have to cross every t and dot every i, and make sure we leave very little ambiguity for others to interpret, either in lawsuits or by agency officials.”



Express photo by Willy Cook

HORSE PACK AND HUNTING OUTFITTERS are taking a potential wilderness designation in the Boulder and White Cloud mountains with a grain of salt. “When I take someone out on a trail ride, there’s an expectation that there will be nobody else on that trail,” said Jim Super, of Super Mountain Outfitters of Sun Valley. “If you have too much use, you lose that look and feel.”

Some outfitters view wilderness as a mixed blessing

By **GREG STAHL**
Express Staff Writer

Mike Scott and Louise Stark have led horse pack and hunting trips in Idaho’s White Cloud Mountains for 17 years. As owners of Challis-based White Cloud Outfitters, they said they see potential designation of a wilderness area in the White Cloud and Boulder ranges from multiple perspectives.

“It will bring more people. I think that’s kind of a given,” said Stark. “But then I have to look at the type of experience (we) offer right now, and our clients don’t want to see people when they’re up there.”

“You put that W on these places, and people just come. They will come. So I am wondering if the agencies are prepared to manage the people that come.”

In addition to an increase in forest visitors, Stark said wilderness designation would probably be accompanied by increased scrutiny from public lands managers, “possibly to the extreme.”

“Really, we don’t have any problems with the way things are right now,” she said. “The language in the Sawtooth National Recreation Area laws is pretty restrictive. It’s worked, to a great deal, to this point in time. If we just enforced what’s already on the books, we’d be close to being there.”

Sawtooth Valley-based outfitter Tom Proctor owns Pioneer Mountain Outfitters

It will bring more people. I think that’s kind of a given. But then I have to look at the type of experience (we) offer right now, and our clients don’t want to see people when they’re up there.”

LOUISE STARK
White Cloud Outfitters

with his wife, Debbie. They’ve been leading horse pack and hunting trips in the White Clouds for 18 years.

Proctor agreed that a wilderness designation would probably attract more visitors

to the region. However, he still views wilderness in the area as a mixed blessing.

“On one hand, when they set this up in ’72, they established the wilderness in the Sawtooths, and the White Clouds were left for multiple use. You have to understand that I don’t like mountain bikes and motorcycles, but they have to have a place to go.

“If you go wilderness, you’re looking at eliminating a lot of (those uses), and it probably would be better for me.”

Like Stark, Proctor said current regulations would probably be satisfactory if they were enforced more vigorously.

Unlike his Custer County counterparts, Blaine County outfitter Jim Super said wilderness designation in the Boulder-White Clouds is “long overdue.”

But Super, who owns Super Outfitter Adventures of Sun Valley and offers day-use hunting trips in the Boulder Mountains, also said more people would trigger a balancing act between the benefits of increased business and his clients’ expectations.

“When I take someone out on a trail ride, there’s an expectation that there will be nobody else on that trail,” he said. “If you have too much use, you lose that look and feel.”

The bottom line, said Stark, is that predictions are difficult.

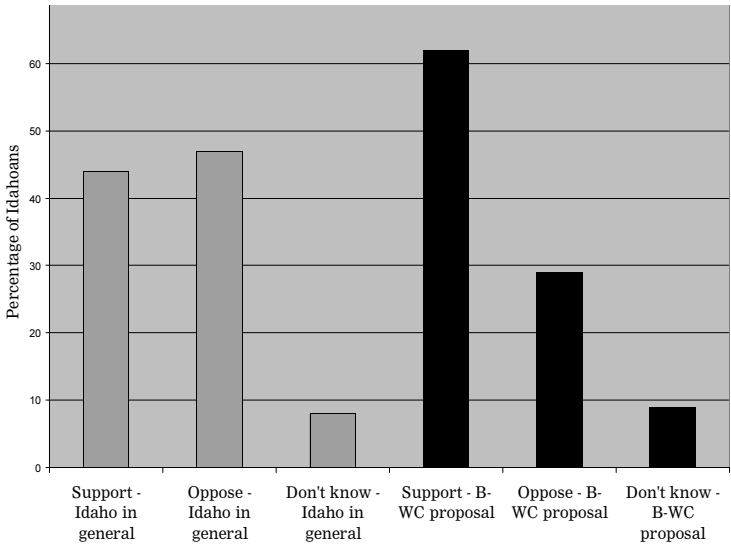
“I can not tell you if it would enhance our experience or not,” she said. “I kind of wonder.”



Express graphic by Gavin McNeil and Tony Barriatua

THE BOULDER AND WHITE CLOUD MOUNTAINS contain the largest road-free land mass in the lower 48 United States. Rep Mike Simpson’s proposed wilderness boundaries, though still unofficial, would include about half of the total road-free area. The mountainous area east of Highway 75 represents areas without roads.

Support for Wilderness designation in Idaho



A 2002 POLL BY DAVIS, HIBBITTS & MCCRAIG asked Idahoans about the issue of wilderness designation. When asked a conceptual question about designating federal land as wilderness in Idaho in general respondents were fairly evenly split. When asked about a specific 500,000 acre wilderness in the Boulder-White Cloud Mountains those in favor outnumbered those opposed by about 2-to-1.

B-WC
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guered economy of Custer County, Simpson plans to attach to his wilderness proposal a still-evolving plan to raise up to \$10 million for economic development in Challis—the county seat—and its outlying areas.

The bill—to be called the “Central Idaho Economic Development and Recreation Act”—currently includes plans to convey to Custer County 16,000 acres of federal land somewhere near the White Cloud Mountains. The scattered parcels of land would be sold to private landholders to generate revenue for economic programs, while also increasing the tax base of the cash-strapped county.

Slater said approximately \$4 million of the proceeds would be used to finance development of a modern educational facility called the “Central Idaho Educational Center,” while an equal amount would be retained by county officials to promote economic development.

“All we would hope is that the county would use that money to enhance what would be done at the Central Idaho Education Center,” Slater said.

In addition, an estimated \$1 million in land-sales proceeds would be reserved for recreational enhancements in Custer County, including improvements to public campgrounds and multi-use trails. The work would likely be administered by the state, Slater said.

The educational center, planned for location in Challis, would be operated by a consortium of educational organizations, including Boise State University, College of Southern Idaho and University of Idaho. The facility would be charged with training students for a variety of professions, such as medical services and emergency response, Slater noted.

In theory, the center would provide Custer County with a tool to develop a skilled work force, which in turn would attract businesses and individual entrepreneurs seeking to locate in an affordable mountain community.

“All we’re trying to do is give Challis an edge up,” Slater said, noting that the plan is “in no

way” intended to be “an economic bailout for Custer County.”

Does Custer need help?

Many groups with an interest in Simpson’s proposed legislation agree that Custer County needs economic stimulation, although some environmental organizations outright oppose the concept of selling public land to fund new programs.

“We believe direct appropriations are a far more effective way to achieve economic enhancement goals,” Johnson and ICL directors said in a July 22 letter to Simpson.

Indeed, Custer County in recent years has been in the midst of an economic depression. Unemployment in the county hovered just under 8 percent in 2001, Idaho Department of Commerce statistics indicate. Average yearly earnings per job in 2000 were \$24,287, compared to a statewide average of \$28,103. In addition, an estimated 38 percent of the county’s income is derived from non-labor sources, such as stock dividends, interest payments and retirement payments.

“Custer County is in such dire straits,” said Paul May, owner of the May Family Ranch reunion center and bed-and-breakfast inn, near Clayton. “We’ve lost the superintendent of schools, the principal of the high school, and the principal of the grade school. People are just moving out.”

In fact, the population of Challis from 1990 to 2002 declined sharply, from 1,073 to a mere 873. The population of Custer County increased only slightly during the same period, from 4,133 to 4,292. The city of Mackay, on the southeast side of the proposed wilderness, also decreased in population from 1990 to 2002.

Boom-and-bust industry

Custer County’s population peaked in the 1980s at approximately 5,500, during the boom years of the mining industry, which reached a countywide high in 1984 with approximately 600 employees. By 2000, a mere 206 county residents were employed in the mining industry.

See B-WC on page B8

GATEWAY CITIES

Challis

Population in 2002: 873
Named after A.P. Challis, surveyor. Grew as a commercial center for mining operations. Median age in 2000: 41.8 years
Custer County average monthly wage in 2001: \$2,005
Largest employers: Challis Schools, U.S Forest Service, Custer County

Mackay

Population 2002: 546
Named for George Mackay, who built a smelter at the town site. Developed as a copper-mining community in the 1880s.
Median age 2000: 44.3 years
Largest employers: Custer County School District, INEEL, U.S. Forest Service

Stanley

Population 2002: 95
Named for John Stanley, prospector. Ranked in 1999 by Weatherwise magazine as the sixth coldest spot in the country. Median age in 2000: 39.1 years
Largest employers: Stanharrah Corporation, Forest Service,

Ketchum

Population 2002: 3,100
Named for David Ketchum, settler. Developed in the 1880s as a shipping center for area mines. As mining faded, sheep herders moved into the region. Became a tourist destination with opening of Sun Valley Resort. Median age in 2000: 39.0 years
Blaine County average monthly wage in 2001: \$2,650
Largest employers: Atkinsons’ Markets, Smith Sports Optics, Forest Service

Sun Valley

Population 2002: 1,447
A resort community that was put on the map with the opening of Sun Valley resort in 1936. Median age in 2000: 47.5 years
Largest employers: Sun Valley Company, Elkhorn Golf Club

Source: Idaho Department of Commerce

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Nick Maricich 726-3333

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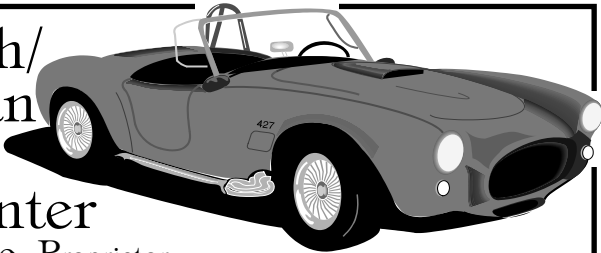
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B-WC

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Sharon May, co-owner of the May Family Ranch, said she is concerned about the continued loss of jobs in longtime staple industries that use public lands. "It sounds wonderful to set wilderness aside, if you can control it," she said. "Logging has been stopped. Mines are being closed. The cattle are being driven out. Ranchers' incomes have really dropped."

However, one body of evidence suggests that economies across the rural West are being forced to diversify to pull out of the historical boom-and-bust cycles of extractive industries.

In a widely publicized report issued in April, the Sonoran Institute, a nonprofit organization with offices in Arizona, Montana and Canada, provides data that suggest rural economies that have diversified and have provided certain public amenities, such as Blaine County's, tend to be most successful.

Ben Alexander, associate director of socio-economics for the Sonoran Institute and co-author of the report, called "Working Around the White Clouds," said he believes the economic incentives in Simpson's plan could make a difference in Custer County. "What I think Mike Simpson is trying to do is on track," he said.

In the 52-page report, Alexander states that the demographic and economic conditions in the rural West are changing rapidly, requiring communities to focus more on services and so-called "knowledge-based" industries to stay competitive. "At the very least, citizens need to realize that competing as a low-cost producer of food, fiber and minerals is no longer a competitive advantage," the report states. "The game has changed and the communities of central Idaho must adapt to these changes in order to succeed economically."

The report notes that "decades of heavy dependence on mining have left (Custer) County impoverished." The good news, it says, is that the region is well positioned to establish itself as a retirement and tourism destination.

"Before, the concept was jobs first, then migration," Alexander said. "Now, people decide where they want to live. The whole economic paradigm has shifted to migration first, then jobs."

Keys to economic success

Specific community offerings, such as an educated workforce, locally based education facilities, a regional airport, high-speed Internet access and



Express photos by Willy Cook

BRUCE WEBER, a Bellevue resident and 15-year employee of Backwoods Mountain Sports, in Ketchum, assists Wood River Valley resident Dave Spaulding in selecting a new backpack for an upcoming expedition. Weber supports designating the Boulder and White Cloud mountains as federal wilderness. "There are not that many places left in this country with those kinds of resources and that scenery," he said.

**"The economic
health of Blaine
County depends on
wilderness and
roadless areas that
provide for high-
quality recreation
opportunities."**

SARAH MICHAEL
Blaine County commissioner

public lands in protected status, can all play a role in attracting new residents and businesses, Alexander said.

Blaine County—with approximately 20,000 residents—in 2001 posted average earnings per job of \$30,709, well above the state average. Part of the equation, Alexander said, is the social, cultural and environmental amenities the county offers,

which attract residents, tourists and retirees.

But, with more than 94 percent of the land in Custer County controlled by federal and state agencies, some of its residents claim that less, not more, government control is needed to boost the economy.

State Rep. Lenore Barrett, R-Challis, said that calling Simpson's draft legislation an economic-incentive bill does not automatically make it such. "I can call myself Elizabeth Taylor, but that's not going to make me beautiful," she said. "We're losing our resource industries because of environmental regulation."

Barrett said she believes that one of Custer County's primary economic shortfalls is insufficient federal "Payments in Lieu of Taxes" subsidies—funds provided to counties with nontaxable federal lands in their boundaries. Allocations are based on each county's population, amount of federal land in its borders and payments for uses of the land. For the fiscal year 2003, Custer County is slated to receive \$381,000 in PILT funds, compared to \$963,000 for Blaine County.

Benefits of wilderness

Countering claims that feder-
See B-WC on next page



Notice of Public Hearing



The **Blaine County Planning and Zoning Commission** will conduct a public hearing and consideration of an ordinance of Blaine County, Idaho, amending Blaine County Code Title 9, Zoning Regulations, Chapter 5, Productive Agricultural District (A-20), Section 5, **Conditional Uses**, by adding **Large Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation**; providing a severability clause; and providing an effective date. The public hearing is scheduled for **Thursday, August 14, 2003 at 6:30 p.m.** in the **old County Courthouse**, 206 1st. Ave. So., Hailey. All interested persons are invited to attend. Written input may be submitted to the Planning Office, 206 1st Avenue South, Suite 310, Hailey, ID 83333, or FAX 788-5576, or e-mail to tbergin@co.blaine.id.us and will be made part of the public record.

B-WC

Continued from previous page

al control over and protection of lands necessarily hurts rural economies, the Sonoran Institute’s 2003 “Working Around the White Clouds” report said there is abundant evidence of “a strong relationship between economic growth and the amount of land in protected status.”

“I’m totally against it.
Totally against it.
It’s just more government.”

ROB DUNHAM
Challis

Alexander said a wilderness designation for the Boulder-White Clouds would make central Idaho a more easily recognized destination and enhance the opportunities for regional communities to promote and develop their economic base with nonconsumptive uses of the land—such as outdoor recreation.

“Tourism is often the first step in an economic transition,” he said. “People come to a place first as tourists, and then may relocate their family or business.”

Stanley, considered the gateway to the Sawtooth Wilderness and immediately west of the White Clouds, has reaped the benefits of a boom in the nation’s \$18 billion per year human-powered outdoor-recreation industry. The largest employer in the city, the Stanharrah Corporation, operates a variety of tourism-related businesses.

Numerous studies also have indicated that the draw of protected lands and recreation has provided a significant economic boost to economies nationwide.

A study released in May by the Outdoor Industry Foundation’s Business for Wilderness program found that counties that contain the country’s largest national parks experienced income growth twice the national average.

A 2001 study by Oregon-based economic consultants Dean Runyon Associates—composed for the Sun Valley-Ketchum Chamber and Visitors Bureau—states that the impacts of tourist spending in 2000 in Blaine County sustained 5,980 jobs and provided \$120 million in income.

See B-WC on page B10

HEALTH INSURANCE

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WEED WARRIORS of the WEEK



Kent Pressman of Ketchum has been waging his own war on weeds in his Warm Springs neighborhood. Thanks Kent, we need all the help we can get!!

These folks live on Timberline Road in the Willowood Subdivision in the East Fork area.

Create your own “Weed Free” zone, call Blaine County Weed Control at 720-8774

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Public Notice of Intent To Propose Or Promulgate New Or Changed Agency Rules

The following agencies of the state of Idaho have published the complete text and all related, pertinent information concerning their intent to change or make the following rules in the new issue of the state Administrative Bulletin.

IDAPA 02 — DEPT OF AGRICULTURE
PO Box 790, Boise, ID 83701
02-0104-0301, Rules Governing the Idaho Preferred Promotion Program. Establishes voluntary promotion program requirements for use of the Idaho Preferred™ logo, defines eligible products, application procedures and participation fees for promotion of Idaho food and agricultural products. Comment by: 8/27/03.

IDAPA 04 — OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
P.O. Box 83720, Boise, ID 83720-0010
04-2001-0301, Rules Implementing the Idaho Tobacco Master Settlement Agreement Complementary Act. Rules are being adopted to enforce the Act. Comment by: 8/28/03.

IDAPA 07 — DIVISION OF BUILDING SAFETY
1090 E. Watertower St., Meridian, ID 83642
07-0201-0301, Rules Governing Repeal of Existing Plumbing Permit Rules. Repeal of chapter. Comment by: 8/27/03.
07-0207-0301, Rules Governing Readoption of Rules of Plumbing Division. Repeal of chapter. Comment by: 8/27/03.

IDAPA 08 — BOARD OF EDUCATION
P.O. Box 83720, Boise, ID 83720-0027
08-0202-0301, Rules Governing Uniformity. Changes relate to new school bus construction standards, operations and bus purchasing programs. Comment by: 8/28/03.

IDAPA 10 - IDAHO BOARD OF REGISTRATION OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS
600 S. Orchard, Ste. A, Boise, ID 83705-1242
10-0101-0301, Rules of Procedure. Clarifies the courses a technology or related science graduate or a comity applicant must complete to be the equivalent of an engineering graduate; would allow a failing candidate access to a diagnostic analysis of his performance if it is available to the Board; clarifies Board will proctor an exam for a candidate from another jurisdiction if candidate would qualify for the Idaho exam; and recognizes the educational equivalency for a graduate of a program recognized in the Washington Accord or by ABET. Comment by: 8/27/03.

10-0102-0301, Rules of Professional Responsibility. Requires that license holders keep clients reasonably informed about pertinent matters and that they exercise independent professional judgment and render candid advice. Comment by: 8/27/03.

IDAPA 16 - DEPT. OF HEALTH & WELFARE
PO Box 83720, Boise, ID 83720-0036
16.02.19, Food Safety and Sanitation Standards for Food Establishments.
16-0219-0301- Repeal of chapter. **16-0219-**

0302- Chapter rewrite sets standards to be more consistent with other states on food safety; incorporates by reference the federal 2001 Food Code. Comment by: 8/27/03.

16-0301-0301, Rules Governing Medicaid Eligibility for Families and Children:
16-0308-0301, Rules Governing Temporary Assistance for Families in Idaho. Changes in both chapters clarify and extend eligibility for citizens and qualified non-citizens in compliance with federal law; clarify that individuals not meeting the citizenship or qualified non-citizen requirements, when all other conditions are met, may be eligible for medical services. Comment by: 8/27/03.

16-0305-0301, Rules Governing Eligibility for Aid to the Aged, Blind and Disabled. Clarifies and extends eligibility for aid to qualified non-citizens in compliance with federal law. Comment by: 8/27/03.

16.03.09, Rules Governing the Medical Assistance Program.

16-0309-0303 - Provides guidelines for a Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee and supplemental drug rebates.

16-0309-0304 - Changes comply with legislative intent language by removing requirement that adult clients must be considered high risk or in need of emergency dental services for Medicaid dental coverage.

16-0309-0305 - Deletes a level of care scoring system on supervision that is not consistent with the Uniform Assessment Instrument that is currently being used and assures services are appropriate to the individual's need. Comment by: 8/27/03.

16-0310-0302, Rules Governing Medicaid Provider Reimbursement in Idaho. Changes allow Department to adjust the interim rate used to calculate the reimbursement amount to a hospital. Comment by: 8/27/03.

16-0320-0301, Rules Governing Electronic Payments of Public Assistance, Food Stamps, and Child Support. Changes comply with the federal 2000 Food and Nutrition Service regulations; and authorizes the Department to adjust a Food Stamp account to correct an auditable, out-of-balance settlement condition that occurs as a result of a system error. Comment by: 8/27/03.

IDAPA 18- DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE
PO Box 83720, Boise, ID 83720-0043
18-0115-0301, Fingerprinting of Agents, Solicitors and Brokers. Eliminates language requiring fingerprint background checks on all producer license applicants to allow the Director to discontinue fingerprint background checks on nonresident producers who have met the licensing requirements of their home state, removing a possible obstacle to reciprocity for Idaho residents; removes requirement that a law enforcement agency take fingerprints; removes obsolete references to agents, brokers and solicitors. Comment by: 8/27/03.

IDAPA 39 — IDAHO TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT
PO Box 7129, Boise ID 83707-1129
39-0322-0301, Rules Governing Overlegal Permits for Extra-Length Vehicle Combinations. Increases the maximum vehicle length to 115 feet; clarifies that all permitted Longer Combination Vehicles (except triples combinations) are required to have the off-track form completed as part of the permitting requirements; and clarifies operating and reporting requirements for vehicles participating in the pilot project. Comment by: 8/27/03.

39-0346-0301, Rules Governing Stud-ded Tires. Repeal of chapter. Comment by: 8/27/03.

IDAPA 58 — DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
1410 N. Hilton, Boise, ID 83706-1255
58-0101-0301, Rules for the Control of Air Pollution in Idaho. Updates citations to federal regulations incorporated by reference, revised as of July 1, 2003, in accordance with the Clean Air Act. Comment by: 8/27/03.

58-0102-0301, Water Quality Standards and Wastewater Treatment Requirements. Changes meet federal requirements by setting water quality standards that protect designated uses in, and ensure attainment and maintenance of the water quality standards of downstream waters in Oregon and to meet the schedule for development of TMDLs. Comment by: 9/5/03.

58-0105-0301, Rules and Standards for Hazardous Waste. Updates citations to federal regulations incorporated by reference, revised as of July 1, 2003, makes technical corrections to corresponding federal regulations and clarifies definition of Director. Comment by: 9/3/03.

58-0108-0301, Idaho Rules For Public Drinking Water Systems. Establishes standards for imposing fees for operator applications, certification exams and renewals, and course evaluations for continuing education units; makes language consistent with changes made in IDAPA 58.01.02 that deal with Wastewater Operator Certification. Comment by: 9/3/03.

58-0123-0301, Rules of Administrative Procedure Before the Board of Environmental Quality. Establishes public notice requirements and modifies procedures for filing petitions with the Board; clarifies the procedures for intervention, review and reconsideration of interlocutory orders. Comment by: 9/3/03.

Please refer to the Idaho Administrative Bulletin, August 6, 2003, Volume 03-8 for notices and text of all rulemakings, public hearing schedules, Governor's executive orders, and agency contact names.

Citizens of your county can view all issues of the Idaho Administrative Bulletin at the county law libraries.

Copies of the Administrative Bulletin and other rules publications are available for purchase. For subscription information and ordering see our website or call (208) 332-1820 or write the Office of Administrative Rules, Department of Administration, 650 W. State St., Room 100, Boise, ID 83720-0306. Visa and MasterCard accepted for most purchases. The Idaho Administrative Bulletin and Administrative Code are available on-line at: <http://www2.state.id.us/adml/adminrules/>

B-WC Continued from page B9 Blaine County support

Blaine County commissioners last December unanimously supported a wilderness designation in the Boulder-White Clouds. "The economic health of Blaine County depends on wilderness and roadless areas that provide for high-quality recreation opportunities," Commissioner Sarah Michael said.

"I think there's no question that this wilderness designation would be an economic benefit. But, it will not be the answer."

RICK JOHNSON
Executive director, Idaho Conservation League

Cathy Becker, mayor of Challis, said she believes establishment of a new wilderness area near the city would not have a profound effect on the local economy. She said it could discourage elderly travelers and families with children from visiting Challis because access to surrounding lands would be restricted. However, she noted that if the national economy improves, significant numbers of out-of-state travelers—many of whom have significant travel budgets—could be inclined to visit a new wilderness area in the Boulder-White Clouds.

Lance Moss, president of the Challis Area Chamber of Commerce, said many Challis business owners hope to establish a more tourism-based economy, but do not necessarily want more designated wilderness. "It could be good or bad, depending on your business," he said.

Moss said a wilderness designation for the White Clouds could have a negative impact on local businesses catering to large numbers of tourists who visit the region to ride motorized vehicles. At the same time, outfitters that offer horse-packing and fishing trips might grow, he said.

"The mentality that I run across is that (the wilderness designation) is pretty much inevitable, so people hope we can get something out of it," Moss said.

Paul May, who said his lodging business alone will bring 1,500 people to Custer County this year, said he supports Simpson's proposal in concept, but wants more details. "We need to make this area a destination, not just a drive-through."

Next week: The complex politics of a 21st century wilderness discussion.



CITY OF KETCHUM NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING



On Monday, August 11, 2003, at 5:30 p.m., in City Hall the Ketchum Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a Public Hearing upon the application of THUNDER SPRING III, LLC for a Planned Unit Development—Conditional Use Permit to construct thirty-two (32) townhouse units on approximately 1.92 acres located at Tax Lot 7599 (1908 Warm Springs Road) in the Limited Residential (LR) Zone.

All interested persons may appear and shall be given an opportunity to comment on the matter stated above.



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