

value of the grazing allotment is commonly a majority of the value of the ranch.

□ 1430

Grazing allotments are taxed and used as collateral for bank loans. But besides tying private property and the grazing allotment together in one inextricable ecological and economic unit, the Taylor Grazing Act also gave ranchers the ability and the incentive to improve the range.

And ranchers responded with their hearts and their souls and their hard work. The results were absolutely astounding. With the legal ability to exclude the transient stockman and the right to use the land and improve the land, the entire dynamics of the Western livestock industry's grazing changed.

Today, Mr. Speaker, today I can say that we have one of the Nation's finest California big horn wild sheep populations in that very area, well taken care of by not only our Idaho Fish and Game, but also by our ranchers. That population has grown and proliferated so much that we are now able to take some of those wild sheep out and plant them in other States. It is because of the ranchers and the cooperation that we are seeing results such as that.

Ranchers began fencing to hold their cows in different pastures and to divide their range to facilitate proper grazing allotments and rotation. They began developing springs and water holes away from the creeks, to draw the cattle off the riparian areas and spread them across the range to protect those riparian areas and to spread the grazing more evenly. They began improving roads and building ponds, clearing brush, eradicating weeds and improving the land. Very, very hard work.

Jim Anderson, his family and the families that I have mentioned began working to improve their land and perfect their grazing operations. They have been working on it literally for generations, and the results have been incredible.

Think about it. The cumulative knowledge of generations was contained in Jim Anderson's mind. The knowledge of animals, the knowledge of weather, the knowledge of plants, the knowledge of wildlife and of proper stewardship of that land. All this knowledge was resident in Jim Anderson's mind and in his every action. It was this knowledge that he was passing on to his children as it had been passed on to him.

But what kind of life has Jim Anderson passed on to his two young sons? We fought shoulder to shoulder for 25 years to make it a better life and to guarantee them the best opportunities possible. But what have these fine two boys actually inherited?

A legacy of burgeoning bureaucracy, of strife and conflict in management of public lands, of science with a political agenda, and a legacy of continued restrictions and limitations on the way

of life that their family has cherished for generations, a way of life that is pictured in movies, in songs, in dress, in poetry, in novels. But it is being regulated out of our existence in America.

I feel for those boys. Their father and their ancestors left them a proud and wonderful legacy, a rich and strong heritage. Our government, on the other hand, has left them a bitter draught, a sad and heartbreaking regulatory stew, and a lifetime of struggle and strife to just continue the family tradition and maintain their way of life.

Unlike the thousands of youngsters before them, I hope that they are not driven from this land in desperation, hoping to be able to pursue a reasonable living somewhere else without continual government intrusion.

The day Jim was out before dawn to gather his cattle along the Owyhee River, the BLM land managers who manage this area were still in bed. Federal land managers are not members of Jim's community, although they would be welcome and, from time to time, some of them do make themselves part of the community and, indeed, they are personally welcomed.

Most of the managers, though, who manage and make the decisions that affect them live in Washington, D.C. They do not live out there on the ranch and they rarely work out there. Long, regular spells of pushing paper in the office are only occasionally punctuated with short and infrequent visits to the actual land that they manage.

Like in old Ireland, ranchers very rarely see their Federal landlords, except carrying bad news or bringing new regulations or restrictions. It is very little wonder that Jim Anderson and the community of Owyhee ranchers feel a great deal of frustration and are calling for better, more responsive land management. They are also calling for more range monitoring, yes, more scientific range monitoring.

Some allotments in Owyhee County are 8 hours of steady driving from the nearest BLM office. Some are 4 hours driving. But no allotment in Owyhee County is nearer than 1 hour of steady driving, about 50 highway miles from the nearest BLM office.

Today, we rarely see the BLM land managers out there on the ground with the cattlemen, yet Jim Anderson knew and I knew that critical, important decisions that affect our ranchers' livelihoods and their children's futures are being made every day by these government land managers. These decisions are often based on faulty information, poor science or science with a political agenda, and are heavily influenced by the litigation and pressure of urban environmental groups who have limited, if any, knowledge or understanding of the dynamics of the Western range.

Our ranchers today are struggling for a small say in the management of the land they have lived on, the land they have loved for generations. And what they are calling for is better land management through science and on-the-

ground range monitoring. They are asking for decisions made on the basis of what the range will actually support, and the cattle stocking levels based on clear scientific standards. But that is not what they are getting, and they and the land deserve far better.

Mr. Speaker, I want my colleagues to know that even here in Washington, D.C., I always carry with me the memories of people like Jim Anderson. I am sure my colleagues know what I am talking about. Their faces and their histories and their families and their struggles are always on my mind. I know the names of their children, they have told me their dreams, and they have shared their frustrations with me.

Today I wanted to share it with my colleagues. I wanted my colleagues to know about a person in my district, a man with hopes and dreams, a man we could have helped to have a better life and to give his children a better future, a person who we have needed to consider in our debates and in our discussions for America's future.

But Jim Anderson is now gone and I ask that my colleagues remember, like I do, who he was and what were his hopes and his dreams; remember his children, that we might treat them with greater respect and more thoughtfully in the future.

Today, all I can say is, goodbye, my friend. We will keep working.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. BENTSEN) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. BENTSEN, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. WOLF) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado, for 5 minutes, May 12.

Mr. HERGER, for 5 minutes, May 12.

Mr. FOX, for 5 minutes, May 13.

Mr. WOLF, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. JONES, for 5 minutes, May 12.

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

By unanimous consent, permission to revise and extend remarks was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. BENTSEN) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. KIND.

Mr. WAXMAN.

Mr. KUCINICH.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. WOLF) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. PORTMAN.

Mr. NEY.

Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado.

Mr. DOOLITTLE.

(The following Members (at the request of Mrs. CHENOWETH) and to include extraneous matter:)