

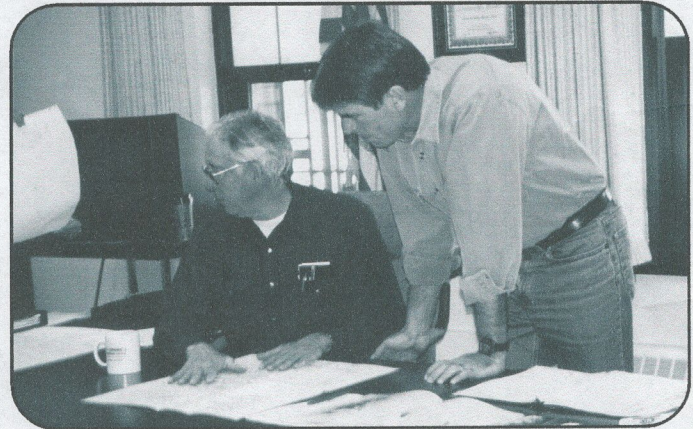
THE DREAM KEEPER

FROM THE PRESIDENT

APRIL 2001

1. This report has been delayed due to action concerning the James Peak Wilderness Area. Congressman Mark Udall has again proposed legislation to designate James Peak a Wilderness Protection Area. Grand County Commissioners have stated they would accept the designation of "James Peak Protection Area" on the land west of the Continental Divide in Grand County.

Representative Udall reduced the size of the proposed wilderness area to 14,000 acres east of Continental Divide and has proposed 18,000 acres of the area in Grand County be a "James Peak Protection Area." I was invited to a workshop in Hot Sulphur Springs by the Grand County Commissioners. About 25 individuals attended. In reviewing the map of the proposal I noted the wilderness boundary cut across the Moffat Road at Forest Lakes. This was corrected. I also requested the Moffat Road be highlighted as it came down from Corona on the west. Specific areas for mechanized vehicles and bicycles will be designated by the Grand County Commissioners on the final proposal. The biggest surprise was a discussion of repair to the Needle's Eye Tunnel. Attendees were most receptive to gaining an east-west road. The Guinn Mountain 4x4 bypass of the tunnel was also mentioned.



Grand County Commissioner "Bob" Anderson & Representative Mark Udall

2. I am pleased to report that sufficient funds have been donated and received for replacement of signs along our Auto Tour. I took signs and posts over to Don Neumann and he will schedule installation when conditions permit. I did have volunteers to assist the replacement of signs on the eastside of the pass. This will be in July when we can go up the hill.

3. We have lost access to the loop at the square water tower. During discussion with Boulder Ranger Saul Engle he stated this access was granted in 1955 "for as long as the water tower remained standing." It would seem to me that the law of Imminent Domain would apply. The railroad went over this land from 1902 until 1935, and we had access for 60 years after that time. Our Tour Guides are being stamped "CLOSED" at number 4 Square Water Tower.

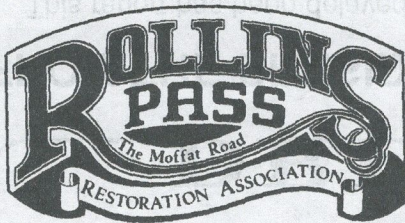
4. The RPRA Annual Meeting is scheduled for May 21, 2001 at 7:00 P.M. in Rm 1107, 325 Broadway, Boulder, CO. Parking is available to the right as you enter. This is the National Institute of Standards

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and Technology Building. Program will be by PSA Technology about Tomography, a science that can instrument the Needle's Eye Tunnel similar to a catscan. A computer drawn image of the mountain and tunnel results. Any faults or weaknesses will be depicted for study. Engineers can then determine the best approach or technique to restore the tunnel. Allan Rogers has been gathering data and will also present information on "epoxy insertion" which could be used to repair the Devil Slide Trestles. This technique could restore the strength of the trestles in place at 11,500 feet elevation. It will be an informative evening. Please plan to attend.



Dan E. Straight
President



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