

INTERVIEW WITH:	Charlie Fransisco
INTERVIEWER:	Jay Haymond
INTERVIEW NUMBER:	
DATE OF INTERVIEW:	September 16, 1998
SUBJECT OF INTERVIEW:	His life and experience as a cowboy - Tropic, Utah
TRANSCRIBER:	Vectra Solutions/PC
DATE:	March 1, 1999

JH: The date is September 16, 1998. I am going to talk to him about his experience as a cowboy. We are in his home in Tropic, Utah and my name is Jay Haymond. O.K., tell me a little bit about your family so that we would know, from what you say, where you came from.

CF: My mother's side of the family was born and raised down at Paria, my mother was born down there. My grandparents on both sides were from down there and are buried there, the Smithsons and the Smiths. I lived in this area all my life. I was born and raised down in Henrieville. This Monument has really been our backyard all my life. I am really quite concerned about this, what's going to happen to our backyard. And our town, all we have to do is go across the road and we are in the Monument. We're just surrounded. Just get over that hill right there and you are in the Monument again, its all around us. We are closed in by the Park on the other side. It does kinda concern me, what's going to happen to us, especially if we have to pay every time we turn around. I don't know what these answers will be, how it will come out.

JH: Everybody was involved in livestock.

CF: I've been, all my life. My father didn't have too much livestock. My father, when he first came into this country, brought a herd of cattle, I don't really know how many years he had all this livestock, but it was about the time BLM went into effect.

JH: About 1936 or 37, along in there?

CF: Yeah. He had a quite a lot of cattle at that time. He worked out in the oil fields when they first came into this country and they drilled several wells and they always had him go out on these oil well drilling jobs and he just sold quite a lot of his cattle cause he could make more money working for that kind of wages than he could in the cattle business, really. In about that time, there was kind of a lot of bad times. They had over grazed the country at that time and it was done before people realized what had happened.

JH: Weren't really acquainted with the consequences.

CF: Well, no, this wasn't something that was done intentionally, it was done before people realized what was happening to the whole country. It wasn't only just here, but everywhere that they were - people were doing pretty well, they had a lot of livestock and everybody was expanding out and there was a lot of cattle at a very low price. You had to have a lot of cattle to make a living because they were very cheap.

JH: That meant you had to have more.

CF: All of these guys had 1000 head of cows and that takes a lot of country and a lot of feed. Then when I was a kid there was 18 sheep men in these three little towns. Some of them had two herds of sheep, several thousand head.

JH: Did they also have cattle?

CF: Yes, had cattle and a lot of them had goats. Had a herd or two of angora goats. The wool at that time was pretty expensive, you know, paid a pretty good price so a lot of them got into the angora goats.

JH: When do you remember being out on the range? Did you go out and work for wages with livestock?

CF: Oh, yes. I went out, I wasn't very old, I can tell you that. At about ten or twelve years old I was herding sheep.

JH: What was your job- just making sure they moved when they should move?

CF: No, well yes, but for several different years I camp jacked for those guys because I moved their camps. That was a big job. I'll tell you, it was a big job for me lifting all those bags of grain. There was all that stuff to move, move 'em on mules and burrows.

JH: How did you manage that? That's awful heavy for a twelve year old.

CF: Well, I did.

JH: Were you big?

CF: Yeah, yes I was a big kid. And I did this for several years. Worked for three different men during those years. But that was really about all the employment there was here. If you didn't have some of your own. In fact, I've had sheep ever since until the last two or three years and my wife was allergic to sheep and so I finally had to get rid of all my sheep or I'd still have a few. But then, after awhile, I met a family down here that raised horses and I stayed with them until after I got out of high school. I would go every summer. I would go down there with them people and work for them during the summer months and then come back and go to school during the winter. That was a wonderful job for me. They had a lot of horses. They broke a lot of horses to ride, they sold horses all over, they raised a lot of horses. They did have a bunch of cattle but mostly horses.

JH: What use did they put these horses to, did they sell them off?

CF: Oh yes, they sold horses. Well, they broke a lot of them for saddle horses, still a lot of pretty big cow outfits in Arizona. They could come there and buy twenty at a time, twenty saddle horses. They raised a lot of mules. They used these mules, even a lot of those went to these parks. I think to Grand Canyon and that kind of places, when they first started out. There was lots of mules, they broke them to ride, broke them to pack and to do everything. That's what I used to do. One summer I spent a whole summer breaking two mules. Break them to work and break them ride. I'd roll up wire and carry wire on them and hauled wood, I did everything to use these mules. I'd come home, I was out below the Nipple down here. I'd go out and around to Pahree [Paria] and back up the Pahree Creek and come home for a few days. One time I'd bring a wagon, next time I'd ride one and pack the other one. I'd change off and do everything with them.

JH: Get them used to all kinds. . .

CF: Yeah, everything. I done everything. They were young mules. This guy wanted them for a buggy team, but I done everything with them so they would be gentle, you know.

JH: Can you make generalizations about mules and horses? In other words, did you prefer mules over horses or did it just depend on the team?

CF: Well, no, I liked horses better than mules. Some places mules is better than horses, but I always said a poor horse was better than a good mule. (Laughter)

JH: Why did you say that?

CF: Well, I just like a horse better. A mule you have certain kinds of problems you don't have with horses. It's best to keep one out alone. You can keep one horse out alone but it's hard to keep a mule alone. You better keep your hands on him or you haven't got him, he'll get away from ya.

JH: Social critter, huh?

CF: Yes, and they are more temperamental than a horse. They're a wonderful work animal but they just don't seem to. . . they are followers, they aren't leaders. Mules are just natural followers. Just like people. Some people are just followers and other people are just natural leaders. Take right out and take the lead and do a job and others can't do nothing without somebody to tell them how to do it. That's kind of the way the mule is really with a horse. If a mule is with a horse, the mule always lets the horse take the lead. Always. They follow and do whatever the horse does. Whether its good or its bad, they do the same thing.

JH: That's an interesting trait.

CF: They make a wonderful work animal but I think lots of people abuse them because they are a work animal. They get the idea they are way tougher than anything else and this type of stuff. They are just like anything else, if you handle them and are good to them, you can do anything with them. If you abuse them, they're mean. They wait a long time to even the score with you. But they do. (Laughter)

JH: That's scary! Get a guy out alone and he's in trouble.

CF: These old boys say a mule will wait twenty years to get to kick you just the right way and they'll do it every time, even it up. But they are nice to work with. They are just more temperamental than the horses are. They are just not a trust worthy as the horse is. It takes a lot longer to get them to trust you.

JH: Did you ever have a favorite horse?

CF: Oh, yes. I think everybody has a favorite horse. I had a big yellow mare. This family gave me a horse about every year, but one of the first ones they give me was a big yellow mare. A beautiful horse I had for years while I was a kid growing up. I didn't think there was another horse in the world better than that one. She was a wonderful horse. I would favor that horse now. I've got a picture of him on the wall. I've got a big Pinto horse over here. He's my horse. He has been

ever since he was a colt. He's been my horse. A lot of people have rode him but he's just my favorite. I just found a horse I liked.

JH: It's nice to have a friend like that. Do you think of favorite horses as you would think of a friend?

CF: You bet. If you treat him that way, he'll treat you right. If you treat him mean, he'll treat you mean. Like I say, this is something you work on constantly to keep him your friend. This horse I got over here, he could go anywhere. He can go anywhere you can go. I climb around the ledges, he's right behind you. He can jump through the ledges just like steps. You can't even believe you can take a horse but he can go anywhere I can go. If I can climb up he can go to. That's something to have an animal like this that can go where you want to go with him.

JH: You bet.

CF: He ain't afraid to go anywhere. If I'll go, he'll go. If I don't want him to get too close to me I just leave him, just tie the reins up and tell him to come on and he'll come. If it's a bad place, I just leave him stand and tell him to come on. Even where you can't ride. They get to know what you do and like I say just to have a horse trained to tell him to get in and that's all there is to it, he just gets in.

JH: Done that before and knows what to do.

CF: He knows exactly what you are doing and as long as they know what you are doing, why its just like having a person along with you.

JH: Right.

CF: It's kinda like havin' a dog. You use a dog and he just gets to be a companion with you. I think a horse is pretty much the same way. I take real good care of my horses. I have to tell you a little story about this horse over here. I was after another horse. I don't what was wrong with him. I was doctoring him and I went around over behind my chicken coop over there and I knew he stopped because he thought I was after him. I knew he stopped around behind there. It was kinda muddy and I just reached down and picked up a gob of mud and threw it up over the chicken coop and he came a walking back shaking his head and the horse walked right up to me. There was a puddle of water, the reason I didn't want to go over and get my feet wet in this puddle of water walkin' around there. I thought I wonder if it hit that horse? After I caught the other horse I went back and there was tears a runnin' down his eyes - I throwed that mud and it hit him right in the eye- right squack in the eye. And I could see he was in trouble. So I come

over and hooked on the trailer. They asked me where I was going to go and I said I don't know but I am going to take my horse to the vet. I took him clear to Kanab. It was a good thing I did because I had to leave him down there a couple of weeks. I cut his eye real bad, they didn't know if they could save it or not. That mud when it hit him, it hit him on a place that cut the eye. But he is alright now. But I learned one thing - don't throw at your horses. At least when he is hiding from you and you can't see him.

JH: Oh, boy, that's good. Changing from that, how much doctoring you did do with, not just horses, but the livestock that you were working with. How much medicine did you practice?

CF: Did it all. You know...

JH: Tell me about your tobacco drench. You know that term? A drench?

CF: Well, I never used it too much. A lot of them used to use that but they used it for cows more than anything else. I used to use sagebrush. Sage is one of the best medicines there is for animals for cuts or bruises or anything like this. Joints flip out or something like that that's happens to animals and they don't go back in too well and you don't have a chiropractor to work on them why then you kind of have to work on them yourself, you know, to get them back to where they are not lame of something. Or they don't favor some part of their body. You can just about tell after a while that something is still wrong. So you kind of work on them. I used to use boiled sage and use it as a hot poultice on them, two or three times a day and pretty quick everything is alright. It works real good for anything like that.

JH: How does that work? Does it relax the muscles?

CF: Well, I guess it relaxed the muscles but sage is, if you ever tasted sage, it is very, very stout. I tasted it a time or two and boy, its stout. It's hard to take. But it's very good for you. I don't know what it does but it solves a lot of problems for livestock. Oh, I had cows who used to have foot rot and this type of stuff, do your own doctoring, nobody to do it for ya. Just one of those things that you just get to what you do you know. One time, coming through the country and I seen a crippled cow. I could see it was her foot that was all swelled, so I thought well maybe I better take a look at it. So, I roped that cow and got up to it and she had bone between her toes and it drove up into her foot. Her foot was this big around. [He uses a motion to show size] The cow would have died. It was getting hot weather, you know. She was a carryin' that leg. I had a quite a time. Tough gettin' that pulled back out. She was sore and she fought me. Finally, I pulled that piece of bone out of her foot and she was having to walk and put pressure on that all the

time. I didn't even know then who's cow it was. But, those kind of things everybody done. If there was something wrong, you stopped and took a few minutes to see if you could help them. If you didn't do that, you just took out your gun and killed it then told whoever it was what had happened.

JH: That's mercy, too.

CF: Yeah. If there's no way to cure it, if it was something that- I have had quite a lot of animals get bit by rattlesnakes and had to cure them.

JH: What is the cure for rattlesnake bite?

CF: Well, with an animal, the main thing is to tie him up where he will stay still. Where they will stay quiet-where they won't travel around and move around too much. Just make sure they can get water, you water them and keep plenty of liquid there for them. They get in terrible shape and in a day or two they'll come out of it. But if you just let them go, sometimes it will kill them. They just can't handle that. I don't know why when an animal is hurt they want to move, they always want to go somewhere, you know.

JH: Escape the hurt.

CF: They want to pull off to themselves and just keep a walkin', just keep a staggering around. But if you tie them up and pin them right up and keep them confined, why in just a couple of days its all over with. They start to going down and that's all there is to it.

JH: I wonder if that immobilizing them keeps the toxicity from going into their heart?

CF: Well, I am sure it does and keeps from getting real warm. I think this is one of the main things I always found. Horses, it doesn't seem to effect like it does cows. Cows it really affects real bad. I've had a dog or two get bitten by a rattlesnake. Their old head will just swell up til' you couldn't even put their head in a bucket. I just kinda had to pull their mouths open and pour water in several times a day to get some liquid in them. In a day or two they start to . . .

JH: Hard experience.

CF: I've even tried to stop and cook them something to eat, you know, something they eat something soft and gentle that they could swallow. Get something into them that they could eat. That's all I

guess. It's all the process of getting something well. Oh, I've had all kinds of animals and have had all kinds of accidents, gets cut in the wire. Wire is one of the worst ones for animals. They get all cut up in the wire, rips them all up. You just kind of have to use your own judgment. I did whatever, if they need to be sewed up or if they swelled so bad they pulled out after you done it.

JH: You've done that sewing, I guess?

CF: Oh, yes, you bet, I did a lot of sewing on them. I used to castrate all our own horses and everything. Now, they have a vet do all that stuff anymore. We just tied them down and got it done and it was all over with.

JH: Yeah, sure. You know, along with that there are remedies for human sickness. What are some of the remedies that cowboy, say, applied to himself when he is out on the range.

CF: I've been out and had a bad cold, had the flu, did the same thing. Just get me a bucket or a can or something, put a little sage in it, bring it to a boil and drink it just like tea. I don't know nothing that will stop a colder quicker then that old bitter sage.

JH: What are you talking about, black sage or white or . . .

CF: We have about fifteen or sixteen different kinds of sage in this area. I don't know that it makes a lot of difference. I used to use the old white sage more than anything else, but . . .

JH: That would be the most mild, wouldn't it?

CF: Well, I think so, but I have used them all. I've had several broken arms where my arms would swell way up. I would soak it in sage, pretty quick they're alright.

JH: Have you told these medical practitioners about that?

CF: On my left arm I drove the bone back about that far out of my arm.[motions] I've still got a big piece of it. I went to the doctor with that and they said "well, there's only one thing we can do is just take your arm off." I said, "naw, I don't think you need to do that." I left with a broken arm out of the doctor's office, went down here to Henrieville that was an old first aid man up Castlegate in the coal mines. He said, "I'll go get my brother-in-law", he was a first aid man too. These two guys were first aid men in the mines. They set my arm and took an old orange crate and made splints and put on it and it was fine. It was crooked but it was fine. The doctors wouldn't even

touch it. We had two Dr. Bigelow's over here that wouldn't even touch it and said it has to be taken off, it was too far gone, that the bone was split down but it never has bothered me. I never did get in the Army on the account of it I can tell you that, they wouldn't have me but... I've had it broke two or three times since. When you ride horses, you always get bummed up. Never has given me any more trouble.

JH: That's a good story. What about your experience on running stock on the range. When you are out in a camp, a line camp let's say, and what do you do as a cowboy in a camp where you are trying to keep the herd moving or trying to keep them within a certain pasture?

CF: Well, now, in sheep and cattle its two different things. Sheep you graze them but you kinda keep them together so you don't loose them, you've got so many of them. That takes a person pretty near all the time to do this. But usually, when I was working, you'd take two men. One guy would do the herding, he was the main herder, the other guy helped him. Like when you went into water in these canyons, one guy went below and the other guy had to stay above, you know so when they come out of the canyon, one guy would kinda hold them up until they all got pretty well out. They would scatter out for maybe two or three miles down these canyons for water. You'd give them quite a lot of time because they would muddy the water up, so everything could get a good drink of water. This didn't happen every day, you'd do this every three or four days and it would take two men. But, usually one guy could do the herding and the other guy was what we called the camp jack. He took care of the camp, he carried the supplies. I herded deep down here one winter and I hauled all their grain and feed for the sheep and salt. It was about a steady job hauling all the time. I would have to haul seven, eight or ten miles, just depends on what kind of location and where they had a general place they could put supplies.

JH: You would haul supplies to the camp?

CF: To the camp and do this with mules. Everything was carried in. There was no roads so you went on the trails, you know. Sometimes I had grain and salt even ahead a camp or two. Well, you kinda have a pattern; you know when you run around with sheep. You have a bed ground just kinda on the slope, you know, where they drain off good, maybe on the south slope or on a east slope where they drain off real well and the sun hits them and they clear real good. Once you do this for sheep, them old sheep will always go right back to the next bed ground. It's just another way, if you lose some, its real easy to pick them back up again.

JH: In other words, they learn the routine too.

CF: Yeah, they learn the routine. You know, they're not too far out of the area usually.

End of Side One, Tape One

Begin of Side Two, Tape One

CF: Every bit of my experience has been on this Monument. About every bit of it. I went off up into the northern part of the state, out in Wendover and out in that area for a year or two.

JH: Who were you working for out there?

CF: Short Livestock Company. I can't tell you what company that was, but it was a big company. He'd married into that family. That wasn't his name but then he just changed it to his name when he took it over. But they had about a million head in sheep. But he got killed in an airplane. Him and his son-in-law took off in an airplane and the wind slammed them into a power line and killed them both.

JH: That hasn't been too long ago, has it?

CF: No, not it ain't. It hasn't been too many years back. But, he tried to get me to stay out there but I had a family and I didn't want to stay out there.

JH: That's pretty country too though.

CH: Oh, yes it is. And they went way up high on the Wasatch Mountains with most of the sheep in the summer. Oh, they had a lot of different places they went. They had a lot of sheep. He wanted me to stay there on the ranch, he had pure bred sheep. They raised all their bucks and this type of stuff. He wanted me to stay there, but I didn't want to stay out there. That was no place for a family out there.

JH: Seems like he was from the West Millard country.

CF: I don't know where he was from, I really don't know. But I know that he married into this family that had all this and actually the whole thing belonged to his wife really, it was willed to her.

JH: Well, let's talk about some of the different areas that you worked down in this country. You went down and worked on the area just east of Paria. What did you call that when you worked in those hills?

CF: Well, they call that now the Nipple Country and all that country back west of there, in fact I went almost clear back over to Johnson. They had a lot of country in that country that they run horses in. They run maybe one-hundred head of brood mares, and they had all ages of horses, they had a lot of horses.

JH: Now, when you say brood mares, which means that they all had a foul . . .

CF: Mares that just had a colt every year. Some of them mares would four or five colts with them.

JH: That's a lot of horses.

CF: And every time they get two years old there's another horse string started again. They had a lot of horses. But that was their family business and they worked at it. Just the same as cows and everything else. So they had eighty, ninety head of cows but a lot more horses than they had cows at that time. And I was a lot more interested in horses than I was cows. I loved to mess with the horses. Now in their horse business, the first thing they done, if those was bucking horses, they never done nothin' with them. If they would buck they was mean bucking horses, they just sold them for bucking livestock. That was when rodeos was starting to come in pretty good. That was some of the best pay, we didn't have to do nothing with them. They paid pretty good money for a good bucking horse and you didn't have to do nothing with them. They had several but they just kept them their own. They just fed them and rented them out.

JH: Did you ever go to the rodeo as a contestant?

CF: Yes, oh yes, everybody contested when you went to the rodeo in them days. This outfit put on quite a lot of rodeos. In fact, that's how I met them. I met them up at Bryce Canyon. They come there and put on a rodeo on what we call the Pink Cliffs- right on top right there. One 4th of July, that's where I met them. Then I went from there with them and took them over and went clear over to Escalante, took all those horses and stuff over there for the 24th of July. Stayed with them and when they went back I went right back with them and went back for several years after. He couldn't get nobody to go with him to take him, he didn't know the way through this country.

But all the time that you were talking about livestock and the cow business, it's a different type of work really. Cowboying in this country was, you gather your cows, just keep moving them around to different pastures. Like you said, everybody is kind of an environmentalist and they tried to keep their cows on good feed and not overdo the country. They realized what had happened one time over these western states, it was just over-done. Everybody was very conscious of this. I

think our whole country was coming back real well. I know it has made a real come back in the Mira days since people started watching this and not overgrazing it. In fact, I think the people had a lot more concept what was going on then the BLM people really, I think personally. Because, they had been here and seen what it was in the first place. Oh we've developed watering holes and done this type of stuff. I made troughs and put out water and a lot of this stuff is gone. You take a good little spring and you could take it and you could water a lot of livestock around it. These old troughs is gone and a lot of these claims are gone now. Now they leave it up to the BLM to do this. The individual person ain't into doing that no more.

JH: Too, bad.

CF: We used to have one big watering hole right out here not too far out from Kodachrome there we called Bunk's Troughs. An old man by the name of Bunk Moore built all those troughs, had a little seep out there, he run cattle out there. A couple of herds of sheep could go there and water. He had fifteen or twenty troughs and he didn't have very much water but it run there constantly all the time. It was a wonderful watering hole and now there ain't nothing there no more.

JH: I guess when the troughs go the animals go . . .

CF: Well, these were all wooden troughs you know and the pipe wasn't as good then, you know. He run from one to the other, he just run a little metal plate you know, made a little V-plate and run it from one trough to the other trough and they would fill up from one to the other. One would be just a little bit lower than the other where they would feed from one to the other, this type of stuff. But that was a big job to maintain the streams and like I said, this just doesn't happen any more. If the BLM don't do it it just don't get done and a lot of them are just gone. There's a lot of these seeps that really is of no value for anybody any more. This is one thing that I kind of feel bad that we are losing. In this part of the country you lose that kind of stuff and you work trails, did quite a lot of trail work. This stuff has all dropped. In fact, these guys go off down in this monument and they always want me and some of these older guys to go with them because we know where the trails are. They are just almost . . .

JH: Lost.

CF: Lost. In fact, I go along all these old bad trails, I piled some piles of rocks all along, especially where there's a bad turn or something where they can't find the trail, can't follow it. It's kind of natural terrain and if you can't follow it where you have to change why I pile rocks up all along these old trails so that people can follow them. We are losing that.

But in the cow business, like you said, you move the cows. They stayed there a month or so in the area and then you moved them on and kept real close track of them in the winter time so you could put them someplace where you could move them in case they got into quite a lot of snow. This was the livestock man's worry was snow, getting snowed in and lose your whole outfit. A lot of them did lose them. A lot of them lost herds of sheep, get snowed in and there was no help. Lost everything.

JH: Either you or them, or maybe both.

CF: Yes, you just leave everything. You either went broke or you started all over again. This was something that people don't really realize, like this monument. A man spends his life here trying to make a living. He's kind of like me, he kind of feels like part of it is his. Part of it is mine. You know, you take care of it. This is with the older people, I am sure, is quite a concern. They have worked this all their life and tried to make it better and like you say, a lot of these little things are going, they are gone. The water holes are getting worse. If you keep those things, don't make any difference who they belong to, everybody could water when they come by. It's really a benefit for the whole country when you do one of those projects, even if it's an individual who does it, it is really a help to the whole country. These things, I can see a lot of them, like I say the trails I go over, all these trails I have trailed them all my life by horseback and they are getting in really bad shape, they are almost gone. This is something I would like to say and do is to maintain a lot of these trails though the country.

JH: Are there outfitters that would use these trails if they were put onto this as a resource?

CF: I do that myself. I do this myself all the time. In fact, I spent several trips down in that country on horseback this spring. I don't know how long we are going to be able to do that, but yes, there is. There is quite a lot of people and I am sure there would be more people now that would be interested in this because there is more people around that want to see it. I took one fellow from Rhode Island that comes here this spring and that's the fourth time he has been back for a horse trip, a four-five day pack trip.

JH: Is he a good horseman?

CF: Pretty good, pretty good. He is a pretty good horseman, he has a horse or two of his own but he always uses my horse. In fact he rides this Pinto horse of mine. He rode that horse. He is big and stout and trustworthy and all that stuff. But he thinks it is fantastic, beautiful country. And it is just rough country, beautiful country if you know how to get through it. Very few of them knows how to get through. And there's a lot of very interesting things. There's a lot of artifacts and all

these types of things that a lot of different people likes to do. You do this and done it all your life and knows where this stuff is and people that's interested in that kind of stuff, that's where you kind of line your trips up.

JH: Is he a photographer?

CF: No, no, he is a psychiatrist really, but he loves horses and he just loves this country. We went off down that rough country and he said he never, never dreamed there was any part of the world like that. We go up strictly by horseback, no roads, no trails, there was a trail but he didn't think it was a trail. But, he loved it and everybody that I take down there does the same thing. I take some, go back up here on the forest, up in the high mountains. But, summer time really isn't a good time for that type of business because you have all kinds of flies and this kind of stuff to fight, you know. Mosquitoes and flies. I take some up around some of the lakes up here but its really isn't that enjoyable where you have to fight flies and mosquitoes and this type of stuff in the hot summer months.

JH: But down in the BLM is different, isn't it?

CF: Oh, yeah.

JH: You can go in the late fall or early spring.

CF: Yeah, it's not too hot and its beautiful then. Well, you drop down two or three of these levels down and its so much warmer, too. You leave here and its cold here. Last spring, we went off down in there. When this guy came, he only had five days. It was stormy. It was right when one of these bad stormy spells come by and we left. We rode in snow everyday.

JH: He didn't mind that?

CF: Never minded it at all. We had rain coats, we had chaps, all this stuff, you know, to protect yourself. Then we had a fellow going around and we had camp in a four-wheel drive pickup. We'd set up camp and had a nice tent and such. We thoroughly enjoyed it. The weather didn't bother us at all.

JH: Sounds ideal.

CF: But we some days that it snowed all day long. Then it would break up a little bit and he would take some good pictures. Usually, we had mostly storm at night. It never ever really bothered us too much that way.

The wonderful thing, if you know how to get through the country and this type of stuff, I love that kind of stuff. I know millions of people that want to do that, to see some of this stuff especially if there is never going to be no roads. That's why I would like to see somebody maintain a lot of these trails a little bit. Volunteers do it or anybody, you know. Leave a rock or two and maybe cut a tree or two where they are in the way and that marks the trail. Just mark the trail where everybody could follow them. Even a back packer or anybody else could follow. These old trails, a lot of them, turns out to be washes after a while if you don't watch them.

JH: They erode real quick.

CF: You get on a slope or something and straight down through there, the first thing you know, you've got a trail this deep. The more you use it the more it washes away, you know.

JH: Cripple your animals.

CF: And these things is what the local people used to watch for.

JH: Talk about the experiences that you had with the goats. You talked about the angora goats. How did they get in here, how were they to herd, and all that stuff, would you please.

CF: Yeah. The angora goats, like you say, these people brought them in because they were worth more than sheep. Their mohair was worth a lot more and really that was what they consisted of. There was a good demand for mohair so they started into the goat business and I can't tell you exactly when - up in the late 30's we just simply started, when the Depression come along, so many of these guys just about had to give up. There just was no market for nothing. They had a lot of animals and no market. This is one of the things that I really believed really started our range to deteriorate worse than any one thing. We had livestock everywhere and people just, if they went broke, the government they borrowed from or the bank or whatever, they just walked off and left them. They never had the care. They scattered and went everywhere. They over-grazed the areas real bad. Now the government, when I was a kid and this was a happening, the government was buying a lot of this livestock for one-dollar a head or two-dollar a head. I remember when I was a kid, they'd pull these herds of sheep right into these towns and slaughter them. You can have all the meat you want but we want the hides. People would kill twenty

mutton. All they had to do was lay the hide out there for them. That's the way they got rid of them.

Now the goats, they didn't do that. When I was down here in these bushes a few years before, they would buy these goats and put them out on No Man's Mesa down there, I guess you have heard about No Man's Mesa. They'd make a trail out on that place and put about three-thousand head of goats out there, nobody would take care of them. After about three years, they went back out there and there was about two-hundred, three-hundred head out there. All the rest of them had got off. They were scattered all over the country. All the years that I was down there with these horses I used to catch them and kill them for meat. Oh, they had the most beautiful wool, the mohair hung right to the ground. They just separated down their back just perfect, like somebody parted their hair. But I would just chase them, get off my horse and just chase them a little ways in the brush and then throw them down. They would get tangled up in the brush and they couldn't go nowhere. As long as they stayed up in the rocks they did pretty well. That hair came right to the ground. It hadn't been sheared off for several years, you know, but they were beautiful animals when they was like that. We ate a lot of them. While I was working for the outfit that raised the horses, we ate them all the time.

JH: Camp meat.

CF: Yeah, just for fresh meat. We killed two or three at a time and used them for fresh meat.

JH: If I understand right, then, the original owners just walked away from them. It would cost money to gather them, I guess.

CF: They had them already gathered up but then somebody else took them over. If the banks had to foreclose on them or who ever they had borrowed money from. Most everybody to get into a business has to borrow money from one source or another. When the money went down then they wasn't worth nothing. The valuation, there was no - the people at the banks and the finance people just never had no way to take care of them. They just more or less just had to drop it. The government bought herds and herds and herds, especially of the goats. Bought a lot of cattle and a lot of sheep. Killed them by the herds. Just slaughtered them to get rid of them because they were overrun with livestock at that time and they could see what was happening to the range, they was everywhere. There was wild cattle till I was middle-aged. There was wild cattle here everywhere. I captured quite a lot of wild cattle.

JH: What did you do with them?

CF: Bring them in and break them to lead. Bring them right in and try to gentle them down a little bit. Most of them went to the market. Couldn't do much with them.

JH: After they had grown up free it was pretty hard to change their ways.

CF: You bet, they are pretty hard to change. You can kind of gentle them around. I had some here one time. In fact I bought a bunch from a fellow one time and tried to feed them. Almost starved them to death trying to get them to eat hay. But after once I got them to eat the hay they was pretty good as long as I was around them alone. But I had a brother used to come and walk around and they would jump out and run and tear down the corral if he just come around. I don't know why they had that sense of fear of somebody but they did. But they got to where they more or less trusted me if I didn't get too close, you know.

JH: You were feeding them.

CF: Yeah, I was feeding them. But it's hard, even at that, to really get them to where they are handable enough so the best thing to do was just take them to market. If the market is pretty good, just dump them. And they are hard to handle in them kind of places. They don't take much abusing them until you lose a lot of the flesh off them because they are so wild. This is the way with the wild horse and everything else. It tears them up to monkey with them any more than you have to.

JH: I'm sure that's right.

CF: They have about got control of all the wild cattle here in our country. The BLM has done a good job closing most of that kind of stuff out. So, that's kind of something of the past anymore.

JH: Well, it takes management of some kind.

CF: You bet, you bet. There's no better management than the man that is doing it. That is actually in the business because it is to more of his benefit than to anybody else's to see that things goes along well and you are not over doing everything and you are kind of making things better instead of making them worse.

JH: It is in his interest to do that.

CF: You bet. The BLM went in here and railed a lot of this country that was cedar trees and I don't know, environmentalist people or who all stopped it, but that was one of the best projects that ever happened in this whole part of the world. Right here in our dooryard, right up top of that bench up there is one example. That whole bench up there wouldn't take care of two cows in the summer months and now they go up on there and put 1000 head of cows and calves and for two months and they move off. Then it builds itself back up and it is beautiful. Beautiful feed way up to your waist and there is all kinds of grouse for the deer, in fact the grouse is getting real big. It's got beyond the deer now, its like trees is so big. It helps everybody when this happens. It was a wonderful program. I would like to see a lot of that happen to a lot of this country again. The trees comes back after twenty years, they are right back. But it certainly opens up the country and makes beautiful country. Makes our country so much more productive.

JH: I saw a railed pasture down in San Juan County, a bit north and east of Monticello, and there were actual springs showing up in the troughs because the trees had pulled the water out of the ground and with the trees gone, these springs were coming back into these troughs.

CF: I've seen a lot of that happen right here too.

JH: Amazing.

CF: Now these seeps, we call them seeps, springs that has really started to show the last few years. It was just plain dry. I am sure the trees was taking every bit of moisture out of the soil.

JH: Well, some botanists will tell us that the junipers and pinion are poverty weeds anyway.

CF: Well, I think they are really. I don't think they are a whole lot of value on any of them. The old cedar we use for fence posts and I think there is still a quite a lot

End of Side Two, Tape One

Begin Side One, Tape Two

Of course, the old cedar post lops off and goes back into the ground and it's gone. But this metal post lays there for years and years after part of it is rotted off in the ground. So they can be a mess after a lot of years. And I think everybody looks out for the environment. I don't know of anybody that looks out for the environment any better than these old farmers and ranchers and livestock people, cause every bit of that is to their own interest.

JH: Well, they depend on it.

CF: You bet. You bet they do, they have to depend on it slowly. If they don't they are out of business shortly.

JH: I was going to ask about the economic pressure to build up a herd in order to make more money compared with the inclination to only put a limited number of livestock on a pasture to keep the productivity up. Is that a fair comparison?

CF: Yes, I think it is. I think, well, I think we got a lot better management. Let's put it this way, I think we got a lot better management practices now than we had before. I am sure of that. People has got educated a little bit about how long it takes for the country to come back. There's nobody learns this harder than the livestock man. What happened years ago, it isn't this generation that's done that, it's the generation that is done and gone that created a lot of that stuff, but a lot of these people are learning what a tragedy can happen if something is not taken care of.

JH: Well, I think may be we have grown up a little bit.

CF: Yes, I am sure of that. People's grewed up and learned better ways to do things. But, I still think people is dependent on the BLM too much. I really feel this way. Our livestock people today got the idea to let the BLM do it, why don't we let somebody else do it instead of us doing it. And this is the wrong attitude for people to have.

JH: I think so too.

CF: With our livestock, with our trails, with our water, I feel worse about the water than anything else. The watering holes are just not being taken care of and are disappearing. We just got nowhere near the water we had back a few years because people would stop and do it themselves, they would fix a watering hole. Then they had a little claim to that area and everybody respected that. But, like I say, the BLM comes along and they tell you what to do and how to do it and it's a kind of a joint thing that just happens. But it is really happening and they do a lot, they fix a lot of watering holes but the little tiny ones in between they let go, they don't even know about them. This is what hurts our country.

JH: Let's say that a business man in your position, an outfitter that took people on these tours that we talked about on horseback, just sightseeing, no other use of the land but to see how beautiful it is, water resource is almost everything isn't it?

CF: Everything, everything. I run into that very same thing last spring, that very problem. Never in my life have I ever known this country being dry. Had one of the best winters we ever had for moisture and there was no water.

JH: Because nobody had developed it?

CF: Well, no, it wasn't only that somebody let their watering holes go, we down in that country we use the natural tanks, there are some big tanks down in there in that rock and we had enough storm that we had the water, but it had run slow and it filled them clear full of silt.

JH: Oh, dear!

CF: The water went right on down. Now there's water in them but you had to dig out ten feet of sand to get to a little water. Now when you have a good heavy storm, it washes all that out and just eats that right out and you have beautiful, clear water. I never did see it all full of sand like that. In fact, we went further in one day than we usually went in three with a group of people. There was no water. One night we watered and we had eight or ten head of horses, twelve head of horses, and we had to get down in there with a pan and pan it out so each horse could take a drink. It took us a couple of hours to water those horses so they could stand to go on through the next day and get through all of the country. We had to get clear out of the country in two days when we would usually spend four or five days. Had to get clear down into Paria or into the Cottonwood or somewhere where there was water. It's just nobody's fault, that's just the elements of the country. This is a problem, too. This is a problem and will be a problem for people on this monument. I really think it would be. You know you go some place and depend on water and there ain't none. Like I say, I knew every watering hole in that whole country and I went to all of them and there was no water. I lead those people to all the watering holes and there was no water.

JH: People can get into trouble in those circumstances.

CF: You bet, you bet. We had to go on and we had to come back. So I just push it and go right on through the country. It makes long days for people who don't know how to ride, I can tell you that. You have to kind of handle them pretty careful. This is things you get into, you know, when you get into that type of business.

JH: Speaking of getting into trouble in the country, talk about that blue clay, how do you deal with that, do you just watch the clouds?

CF: Just stay out of it! Yes, you really do, you better stay pretty skeptical of it. Anybody that has ever dealt with it ain't going to get into it, I can tell you that. Just bypass it if there is any way possible to do so. You might to backtrack and try to do everything you can do to stay out of that and you watch the weather pretty close. I was down there this spring and into some bad weather. You either got to get out or just sit it out and stay there for several days until two or three days its all cleared up and your all right again.

JH: Dry enough to walk out.

CF: Dry enough to walk out of there or drive out of there or whatever. Down in that Cottonwood is a very bad place for that. I guess there have been a lot of people the last few weeks have had a lot of trouble trying to come up through there. It's kind of bad. Nobody tries to block it too good and let's people get into those situations and a lot of its foreign people.

JH: They don't have any notion about it, do they?

CF: No, they don't have the slightest idea what they are getting into.

JH: Well, the monument is going to have to deal with that.

CF: Well, yes, its something, like I said we don't know, I don't know, have no idea what they are going to do for roads. Looks to me like there would have to be a couple of roads somewhere to let people get through the country and see some of it from an automobile. A lot of people ain't never going to see it, cause they cannot go that far afoot unless they have some kind of outfitters or somebody, then that don't work only to a certain point. There's a certain amount of people that can't ride a horse if they had every opportunity in the world. Big part of the people never even tried to ride a horse and this is one of my big problems. How far to take them, how far you get to the next water hole without overdoing them. This is really one of the things that bothers me more than anything else, I figure them pretty close so that ten miles or three hours riding on a horse is about all them kind of people can stand in a day, especially the women and that kind of stuff. Its pretty tough, after that it gets pretty boring.

JH: Ever have to use travois to get them down onto the country and back?

CF: Yes, yes, like I said, where I go down in that country I always have an outfit on the other end so if something happens, you.. . .

JH: Send them home in a truck.

CF: You can get them home in a truck, you know anything can happen. You can have any type of an accident or anything like this, what you seldom do, but I always try to be prepared for those kinds of things. Its just a big safety factor. I'm usually the one that comes out all banged up. (Laughter) It is really quite a concern. And this is something that whoever they get down in there, sometime somebody needs some help to get back out or they just don't get out. I have run into backpackers down there the last few years. Most people would be from Colorado or Northern California or someplace. How on earth they knew about those places and walking for forty miles. They walk there, go across and come back down another canyon. All they got to do is slip and fall. One time, I will have to tell you one time I was over at Escalante, I worked for the highway department and they got a call that a bunch of back packers had gone down into Calf Creek and they called for help. One of these women had come up on a rock and fell and broke her leg, down in there with a broken leg. Broke it just above the knee. They were down in there thirty-five miles. Anyway, I went with two or three fellows and we went down in there. They had so much stuff they couldn't even carry it back. They carried it down in there but just one person dropped off and they couldn't carry it all back. We had to send one guy back with a pack mule, come back and got another pack outfit to carry part of her stuff out so they could get back out of there. They got caught in floods and things that happen, the elements of the country. I often thought about that lady, she just had to be put on a horse and hauled out of there. I done this a lot in Bryce Canyon here the last eight or ten years, carry people out of there that fall. Ninety-nine percent of them get off the trail, climb up around somewhere and fall and get a broken leg or broken ankle or something like that. It was a lot easier to put them on a horse and haul them out of there than it was to try pack them up those trails. It took half a dozen men and then you had to have people to change off every fifty feet up there trying to carry somebody, a couple hundred pounds up them trails on a stretcher. You had to get practically down on the ground, the other one up in the air to kind of keep them half way balanced. It was quite a problem. And this is what I think will have to happen down here, really. I think they will have to figure a route or two that you can get people to.

JH: That sounds like a need for some kind of orientation package going in so that these bad situations that you are talking about are avoided, if possible.

CF: Well, you try to avoid everything, you know, but things just happen. Things just happen that you just don't expect. I guess I don't be telling you all these tales. I had one of these things happen to me a few years ago. I had a young horse I was just breaking to ride and I took him for an extra horse. Every day I would ride him for a couple of hours. I would ride this young horse

around through them bad places, and I stopped, I was on the lead, looked back to see how everybody was coming behind me and all at once I felt this horse kind of give and I looked down and we was sliding, we was on a big flat rock.

JH: That rock was sliding.

CF: That rock was sliding, that horse was standing on it and that rock started to slide down the hill. We just went down a little ways and there was a kind of a bank and he went until he hit this bank and I was pinned to the horse, I was caught by my leg. There was no way I could get off. If I had my foot in the stirrup. Somebody had to come around there and pull my boot off and get my foot out of there. That horse just kept turning, kept going, the weight of it with this horse on it was turning it around this bank so it would go on. I could feel it going all the time and I was caught and couldn't get off. Finally, I reached down there and pulled my foot out of the stirrup and I was free of him and I could get off even if we was going down that hill and I had an idea of where we was going in a few minutes. I got my foot free and before we got through I went right down the side of that horse and went out between his legs. He was a broke horse, I just got a hold of his front foot and lifted his front foot up and crawled right under him to get out of there and finally pulled him off that rock and that rock BOOM! Clear into the bottom of the canyon.

JH: Close shave!

CF: Close shave but something you never even dreamed would happen. It was just barely covered with a little bit of dirt but it was loose.

JH: You couldn't put that into your plan.

CF: No, those kind of things how damn lucky can you be! Get off that damn horse and it was bronc horse too. If it was a horse that was gentle it would be a different thing. Like I say, a man would never dream of crawling under a horse's belly like that. But I just picked up his front foot, held his front foot up and crawled right underneath him and he never even moved. Just stood there but he knew something was wrong. He just couldn't figure out exactly what was happening to us.

JH: Good thing he trusted you.

CF: Those kind of things happen and it happens to people walking or anything else. They just don't realize these things can happen.

JH: Kind of goes with the country.

CF: It happens in Bryce Canyon every day or two. People just don't pay attention. It can sometimes create some real bad situations.

JH: I'll say. Not only for them but for others.

CF: Yes, for everybody. Well, then it makes people make rules and regulations that aren't even needed, if people would just pay attention but they won't, just mind what they are supposed to be doing. You know, like climbing out and getting out on places they know very well they hadn't ought to be, it ain't safe. A lot of them falls off. Even if there are warning signs for them not to do it they go ahead and do it anyway. We had a woman up here to Bryce a year or two ago. Right around on one of those high lookouts at Inspiration Point went right around it and reached under to pick up a couple of little wild flowers. She didn't realize she was standing on solid rock, she just stooped over and whooosh! Off she went down about 400' before she hit the ground.

JH: Hard to survive that.

CF: You bet. You know there wasn't any need to hurry. She wasn't going to be a survivor when they got there. Had to climb up through all those ledges and this type of thing. Like I said, went clear right around the rails they had there for everybody's safety. They just don't pay no attention. This happens all the time. It happens the more people there is the more it happens. People just don't pay no attention.

JH: I guess you could use a term like "greenhorn" or something like that to try and explain it away but it maybe is more than that.

CF: Well, like you said there is just a majority of the people that just won't pay any attention, don't seem to know what fear is. A lot of them don't even realize how much danger they are putting themselves or someone else in. People that's around knows and is watching for that kind of stuff but lots of them just never really think. They just do these things before they even think of what they are doing. They know they have made a bad mistake when they get caught in a bad place and a bad situation but it happens all the time. The more people the worse it happens. I am sure that's why they had to make so many rules and laws and regulations what they can do and what they can't do.

JH: Let's change our subject and go back to when you were a kid and talk about hunting arrowheads. What experience have you had in that?

CF: I hunted arrowheads, I hunted a lot of them. Down where I was at they was everywhere in those days. In fact, I picked up, at one time I had a quart coffee can full of arrowheads. You could just pick them up most everywhere. I think most everyone used to do this really, not realizing what they were doing, what they were robbing the country of, really. Right there where I was at, where I used to gather arrowheads on one little point, we went down that country a few years ago on Easter and that just made me sick. They had even took a bulldozer and went right through that hill. There was were graves, I know it was a burial ground. Took a bulldozer and dug trenches right through that hill. I walked out there and I could see human bones just piled there, just went off and left 'em.

JH: What was the purpose of that dozer being in there? Were they digging for artifacts?

CF: I think they was just digging for artifacts. Nobody much went in there too much, I figure they just thought nobody would bother them anyway, you know. Lots of people just do for something to destroy. I just couldn't believe they'd destroyed that whole - it was a big knoll. They just cut trenches five or six feet deep right through it.

JH: Believing that they buried wealth.

CF: Buried wealth or whatever they were looking for but I can't imagine they could save anything anyway. They bulldozed people up out of there. There was just bones scattered all over. That's not even human to me. I felt so bad about that. I walked around it and picked up arrowheads you know and in places where they lived right around there but I never believed in robbing graves and that kind of stuff, I just didn't do that. I just kind of it's against my religion to even think about that kind of stuff. I think if people is buried they ought to be buried in peace and that be it. I had gathered several pieces of pottery but never did keep one. Never had the desire to keep one. Lots of people are crazy about that kind of stuff but I never did ever keep it. But I know everybody, like you say, when people got started at it they were real bad. It will never do them no good. Take a lot of that stuff out of the ground but I don't think they had any business of doing. I always tried, I still do, I look for their tools laying around. People don't know what they are, what they are looking for. If you know what you are looking for you can always find some of their tools that they used. I got a real kick out of this and I don't think that hurts anybody, its just rock. Just a rock that they ground grain with, weed seeds, or whatever it was they used for flour. Those kind of things, tools, I just see if I can find any of this stuff that they used.

JH: Did you ever find any kind of a weapon other than arrowheads, like a knife or a hatchet?

CF: That's a tomahawk. [Charlie shows Jay a part of tomahawk]

JH: Sure.

CF: I was going to put a birch stick on that but I don't have no rawhide to tie it on with but that is, that's what that was. Feel along the top of it, feel where the stick went on with it?

JH: Yes. That's an interesting piece.

CF: Stuff like that, I get a kick out of you know. It's just a rock laying there and you don't even know what it is. That's the most valuable part of it. Whether hunting for arrowheads or hunting to see where it has been hit.

JH: Knocked a chip off the edge.

CF: Yeah. I've been going to fix this and hang it up on the wall here, but I never did do it. I've got another piece here, its got a hole through it, where they put their fingers. I think its what they weave streamers, threads through, made rugs and stuff with. Started through there then twist them and it sizes them. Use the fiber, use hair and use wool and pull the thread and twist it and it pulls it together and then it sizes it. I've one of those in there and those things to me is more fascinating because it is something they used rather than, I never did care to dig. A lot of people digs but I never did approve of that kind of stuff. I think what's laid buried should stay there. Something put it here for a purpose or it wouldn't have been put there.

JH: Spiritual purpose or something.

CF: Something. It's the same thing as an artifact on a wall or something. I can't imagine people wanting to destroy that stuff. It stayed there for thousands of years for people to see, I don't imagine why - I've seen where they have even tried to cut them off the wall. It would be impossible, it would ruin it. You know, try to chip a slab off the wall, you don't realize it goes back that far than you are at different angles, you know, but they just ruin a good piece of that type of stuff.

JH: Are you acquainted or have you had encounters with Indians?

CF: Every year, up here in trade, trade blankets and stuff like that for horses. For a little food but mostly animals. And they wasn't too crazy about cattle. They would trade for a cow or two maybe, just something for meat but they would trade for any kind of hides. But they use hides for their clothing and everything. They traded for hides and they'd trade for horses, anything they could use and take back. But I really believe what happened about my time the people on the reservation that was kind of running this could see they were over stocking themselves with livestock. They went kind of right back down to like it was with the people here. The first thing you know they had to have so many livestock to make a living that they were just overdoing the whole country. This is what happened to the Indians. They thought that's the way they was rich, to have a lot of horses. Maybe there wasn't a whole lot of value to them, but after they got so many there was no more value to them, but still, if he had a whole herd then he was in the top of society, among the rich men because he had all these animals. After they got so many, like you said, they got like the white man, there was no value. My father used to tell me, these old uncles of mine used to run cattle all their lives said they would never sell a steer until he was three years old. Now they sell them when they are six months old. You can just imagine what happens. These guys had a 1000 head of cows and keeping these steers until they was three years old. They was great, big old steers they get \$25.00 out of them. See what was happening. People don't really realize what really happened to our range. It just turned a complete flip flop. I think it was more or less the economy, lack of a lot of education and the way people bought. The way the buyers bought was altogether different. There weren't these feeding programs and it goes right back to education, I think.

JH: I believe you are right. Is the day of the cowboy coming to an end? Is range livestock of limited future?

CF: Well, yes, I would say so. I hope they don't ever eliminate livestock because I don't think people realizes where all of the meat they eat come from. Its all of this beef, a big majority of it is raised right here in these Western states and 90% of them is raised on government ground.

JH: How about the feed lot supply?

CF: All of them goes to the feed lot but this is where they come from. They sure don't raise them back there where they raise all the feed. The way they got it set up now, all these Western states raise these calves, then when they are about six months old and up to about 600 pounds or so, they are shipped back there and they stay right in those feed lots until they are slaughtered and shipped all over the world, I guess. But, the great big majority of them is raised right out here in these Western states and most of them are raised on government ground. A lot of it, that's all its

good for and it has been good for all these years. Like you say, 50 years ago you couldn't give away this country, the Indians would have it, but now everybody wants it and now they took it. (Laughter) Yes, I really believe they are dwindling. But, they are managing a lot better, too. You don't have to have such a big herd, you know. You got better feed, their calves are growing a little bigger, and you are making about as much money with a few as they were with whole big herds of them. I am sure they are making a lot more money than even the guys that had the big herds because they just weren't worth very many dollars. Cattle prices has stayed up pretty well and I think everybody has profited by it. Especially this country.

JH: They are turning the stock over a lot sooner.

CF: Yes. They haven't got that big of numbers of cows. After all, a man's trying to do his livestock like any other business is make a living. He isn't particularly trying to get rich, he is trying to make a decent living. I guess that's the bottom line when it's all through.

JH: Let's talk about the community a bit. I know you have seen a lot of changes in the country. There's a quality in the people that I know in here that hasn't gotten to survival as much as its how they have adapted to new conditions and changes of things. Have you seen that, too?

CF: Yes, yes. I think we are all adapting really faster than we realize, I really do. Just the last ten years here I can see such a change in our communities and our people's attitudes. Like you say, to survive down here you had to have some livestock, that's all there was or you had to have a little farm. I started out pretty young trying to get me a farm. The first thing you have to have some property if you are going to have livestock. Then you worry about all these things. I can see tremendous change in just the last ten years. I farmed here for years and years and years and finally 20 years ago I sold my farms. I had a job and I decided I either had to make a decision whether I was going to farm or I had a job and I could go ahead and come out in a few years with a retirement. I only had about 21 years left to decide whether I wanted to come out with a retirement or if I wanted to go right on farming and spending what I was making to do with the farm. So, I just decided I was going to go ahead and stay with my job and got rid of the farms. All the time I farmed, I don't think the property raised 10¢ in value in all those years. But the next year after I sold, property started coming up and it's never quit. I had a farm right here at the end of this lane; I sold all of my stuff for around \$30,000. He's got one farm that same guy now, after 20 years later wants \$400,000 and he took half the water off, the water was the value. Took half the water off and wants to sell it for \$400,000 now.

JH: That's amazing appreciation.

CF: Now, he hasn't sold it but that's what he wants for it. This is how it's changed. But with change we got a little industry. We got a little tourist trade. It has made a tremendous change. But we do the same thing. We take a few people in our home. We thoroughly enjoyed it more than anything else. We've had a lot of contact with the people in the world. Evadean has enjoyed it more than I have because she really is in closer contact to them. But, the foreign people especially. We started out with mostly foreign people, Germans. The Germans were fantastic people for guests, never complained but they were very curious about how we lived. But, I feel everybody has even got a change in their attitude in these last ten years from what it was on how to make a living, what the kind of values in our country. There is still a lot of them that are still in the cow business and works another job part of the time, but that is still the main part of their living is their livestock. Its dwindling, I know that, I can see that.

JH: I suppose it's been doing that for 50 years if we took a record of it.

CF: Well, I am sure it has, you know, the way the change the economy has been and again, I would say the educational part of it and working with the BLM and the Forest Service and these kinds of people you know, has made a lot of changes and made a lot of good changes for the good. For the good of the country.

JH: Its an interesting situation to see where - I'm going to say this people - because I think that the people who live in Bryce Valley are unique. They have come together as communities and have dealt with their problems probably that other rural communities have had alright, but they have had their own solutions to the challenges and it's an interesting thing to see this growth and change come on so fast right now. Its an interesting question to raise, what's going to be the next adaptation to accommodate this new land management situation.

CF: Well, I am concerned with it and I know everybody is concerned about it, especially the older class of people that's been here. I kind of feel like they have taken out backyard right away from us. Just like you have a lot and they take the whole backyard right away, just cut you right back to the house. You look back and that's all you got. This kind of what makes us feel like, I hope this will do a lot of good for somebody in the future, I really do. But, I have always felt that they over done this thing around our communities, you know, just go right around our city limits and this type of stuff. I am in hopes through this thing the people can work with it and really make another way of making a living and be able to stay here. This is a rough, hard country. I don't believe people have any idea how hard it is to make a living in these rural areas out here. Our Church leaders said there would be thousands and thousands come but few would stay, and it

sure is the truth. You take people come here with - school teachers, park people, any of these people that have jobs come here and as soon as their jobs are done they are all gone - they never stay. People move here, a wonderful place to live - it is - but it is kind of a hard place. They don't think that part. But, when they move here, in a few years they are gone, they can't handle it. We have people that go up along the streets you'll see a place for sale. People buy this and are going to do big things but it just simply don't work out.

JH: What is it that's so difficult for these newcomers to make it?

CF: Well, its just a hard country to make a living in. Everybody, just the same as you and me, has to have some way of making a living. A lot of these people that's retired even, just has a hard time living here after two or three years. They just can't fight the elements. It's getting better all the time. It used to be we didn't have very much snow removal equipment, you'd sit down here for two weeks and your road was plowed up and you couldn't get out. People don't think of those things. Sitting down here with three feet of snow and you couldn't even get up the street. Maybe if you wollow up through the snow to get to the street then you go to town. These type of things. They just simply won't fight it. This is one of the elements we have in our country. Some years it's wonderful, some years it ain't so good. Some years it's almost impossible. Out shopping is altogether - we live different than other people do. We go to the store, we don't buy a bottle of mayonnaise, we buy a case. I go to the store to buy potatoes, I buy 300 pounds, I don't buy a ten pound bag or a 20 pound bag of potatoes, I buy 300 pounds so we don't have to go back again for a while.

JH: Where do you go to do your shopping?

CF: Well, we support our local stores here pretty much. We go out if we've got to go to the hospital or if we have to go out we go to Cedar City, we go to St. George. We have a girl lives in Monroe right here to Richfield. When we go we buy up quite a lot of stuff. Our shopping part of it, we do most of our's right here at Ruby's Inn. Like you say, we don't go there and buy something off the shelf, we want something we go buy a whole case. People out of here just don't buy like that. Evadean's got a cousin lives in Los Angeles. We went down there a few years ago and spent a couple, three weeks with them. They come up here, they had a trailer house here, we went down there and spent a few weeks with them. I just couldn't get over how they lived. I never lived that way in my life. They'd say, well, what are we going to have for supper? They'd say, well, we'll have potatoes, or they would make a menu up. Then they would say, well, we have to run down to the store. So we all go out and get in the car. I know we passed five-hundred stores; we'd drive for thirty minutes down to a store because they had something on sale and we would spend an hour getting what we needed.

JH: A family outing.

CF: We come back two hours later and have supper. The funny part was, she'd buy five pounds of potatoes. Just buy enough for not more than two meals. Here I'd buy three-hundred pounds if I was going to go buy them. If I need them I'd run down to the tatter bin and get tatters. They just live so much different, it just fascinated me to see how they live different than we live here. And everybody was the same way. When I was a kid, if you didn't raise it you didn't have it. We done all those things when it was the time of the year to kill the pigs, we killed the pigs. We cured the hams, took all the fat out and rendered it out, they bottled the lard - they rendered it and then put it in bottles and bottled it so they would have grease for a year or two. All of those things we had, we never went to no place to buy it. If you didn't do it yourself you just didn't have it. But people don't live like that. But we are getting away from this way a little. The last few years I used to raise four or five big hogs and I ain't had a hog for four years. Evadean used to spend a couple of weeks here curing meat and we had a year's meat, we had a year's supply. For years, we lived here and about where that kitchen is there, behind the house here, we had a great big trailer house in here for a number of years, had a great big, chest-type deep freeze sitting out there. Sat there for ten years and never was down very little bit. We just crowded meat in it all the time. An old fellow come around one time and walked over and looked in that thing and it was just chucked clear full of meat. And he says, how long has this been here? I said, I don't know ten or twelve years, why? He said, ever been robbed? I don't believe its ever been touch, that I know of. I don't think there has ever been a thing taken out of it. He said, you know, that wouldn't last in the city thirty minutes and the whole thing would be gone. You know, we just never though anything bout it. We would go a couple of weeks and never think about it. All of our meat was outside.

JH: It's an attitude, isn't it?

CF: Yeah, but that's the way we used to live and everybody did. But instead of people putting somebody down, this time everybody was looking out for somebody else. They was always trying to give somebody a hand or looking out for somebody else's stuff. I tell you, doctoring their stock, it didn't make any difference who's stock it was, if somebody needed it, somebody would take care of it. They just don't live this way. And a lot of us will miss this way of life as we are changing. I can see it is changing. I have to take the keys out of my car, my wife gets after me all the time now. Had car after car and truck and never did take the keys out of it. Didn't know you could take them out for years. (Laughter) These things are changing. The world is catching up with us here.

JH: Yes, I'm afraid it is. Are we going to have to give up our social cooperation, our community value of helping one another?

CF: Well, this I don't know, this I don't know. People are kind of upset about this type of thing. This is the thing that worries people. Are you going to have to give this up or just be forced to move out. There is all kinds of little problems, you know. Especially when you are involved right in it and still we don't whether we are in it or out. We don't know. This is the whole thing that bothers people around this monument. We don't know whether we are going to be in or whether we are going to be out. If we are in, we don't know how far. Or how far we could go when we're in. People makes these rules and regulations and all this type of stuff. I am sure they are doing their best they can do to make things work out. I am sure they will do a good job. Still, there is these doubts in your mind. I am sure everybody feels just like me, there are going to be some changes in the way we live. I am sure of that. As more people come, that alone starts these changes.

JH: When the Taylor Grazing Act was put into affect, they organized local advisory committees and maybe the leading stockman was on that committee and he helped the land managers come up with policies with how to use that land in a prudent way. Would that kind of thing be helpful with the monument? Let's say the people in Bryce Valley wanted to say something to the park managers about how the land around Bryce Valley was managed. Would that be helpful?

CF: Yes, Yes, I think it would be very helpful. I think this is really one of the big worries that people worry about - is somebody else going to make all the decisions or are they going to let us do some of it. Everybody wants our country to be better. I don't know that everybody agrees, and I am sure everybody don't agree with this monument that its going to make anything any better, like you say, this whole thing has really been our backyard for all of our lives. We worked in it, worked for it, when nobody else would even have, you might say. It was more or less just waste. Not only waste ground, it was just wasted area, really a lot of it. There is a lot of it that is more or less.

And a lot of it is beautiful country. Beautiful, beautiful scenery in a lot of it. I think a lot of people are really concerned about whether they would have any say, should I say rights, to do what they want to do, whether there's going to be a fence up here or there, you know. I think people were very disappointed in our park, in Bryce Canyon in particular, right here in our area for two reasons: It was drawed up for a monument and in about two years it was made into a park and that just changed the whole scope. And it's been foreign people who have run it every since - people from out of here - not the local people. When our first superintendent here it was a local

man here and he done more for our country that all the rest the superintendents have ever done since they been here. They had a job, it was a job for them. But this guy was a guy that was making trails and was making it so people could come and really enjoy it. This is what I'm kind of concerned about this monument. All the rest of the local people, how they could fit in if this happens again, if in two years its turned over to the park service or some other service. I would love to see the BLM - I hope they can go right ahead and make a managing plan out of it rather than just be over the part of it for the BLM. Have a hand in something else is what I'm trying to say.

JH: Makes a lot of sense.

CF: And I think all the people feel this way. I'm sure a lot of people that know what happened to Bryce Canyon here, it turned out to be a monument then all at once it turned out to be a park and that ended everything. They run it. Hands off! I hope this don't happen to this big parcel of land. It's mighty big when you are down there a foot, I can tell you that. People don't have no idea in the world what they are into. I hate to see it go for things like just a back packing group. There are so many people that have something wrong with them or hasn't got the physical health for this type of stuff to walk to do the task that wants to see those things. Most of them have very good interest in the country that will never get to see a lot of it if there are no roads or whatever. There's a lot of people that will have to look at that part of it in books.

End Side One, Tape Two

End of Interview