

INTERVIEW WITH: Clint Mecham and Lori Mecham
INTERVIEWER: Marsha Holland
INTERVIEW NUMBER: 1
DATE OF INTERVIEW: October 2002
PLACE OF INTERVIEW: Driving Highway 12 – Boulder to Torrey
SUBJECT OF INTERVIEW: Wildlife Management and Lion Study
TRANSCRIBER: John Holland
DATE: December 3, 2003

Tape 1, Side A

Interview starts in mid-conversation driving north of Boulder, Utah on Highway 12.

CM: There's this big old hole, right in the bottom, that's Trail Point, the trail that goes out on top of there. But back in that big cove, that's where the water comes down off, it's really pretty.

MH: Can you still get up in there?

CM: Yes.

MH: What's the road you take up there?

CM: Just turn at the Garkane hydro-plant and then you turn, one goes over to Haws Pasture and one goes up to King's Pasture. You go up by King's Pasture and you can hook onto the Great Western Trail there right over here at Criss Lake.

MH: Criss Lake?

CM: Criss Lake, Deer Lake, this is Deer Mountain.

MH: I didn't realize there were so many lakes over on this side.

CM: They said that when they named this mountain that they got this one and Thousand Lake [Mountain] mixed up. This was supposed to be Thousand Lake Mountain and that was supposed to have been Boulder Mountain.

MH: Oh, so the Boulder Mountain is actually misnamed?

CM: Yeah.

MH: And they just misnamed it on the map, they put it on the map wrong?

CM: I think so.

MH: This was the main route through here that would take you up into the Wayne County area, Bicknell...

CM: Yes. I remember coming to rodeos in Wayne County on a gravel road right here.

LM: My grandma tells a story that they had to ride a horse over here, she and my grandpa and another couple rode horses over here. It was so rugged and she was so sore she rode on her belly, then she'd ride on her back, (laughing) she'd walk for a while.

MH: Where did they ride from?

LM: From Tropic. I can't remember why she said; do you remember her saying why they were coming over here?

CM: They used to come over just to visit or to go to a dance.

LM: It seemed like they were coming for, like they were delegates or something political. My grandpa was always a delegate.

MH: Where was the church stake center?

CM: Where was it?

MH: Was Tropic's was in Panguitch, Escalante was in Escalante...?

CM: No, it was all in Panguitch and then they made it Escalante. Everybody used to go to Panguitch.

MH: But the communities were really isolated at the time. When did this area become famous for its hunting and fishing?

CM: Before I was ever born. If you read that book that Lenore wrote about Boulder, she's got neat old pictures of hunting camps. A lot of California people knew about it. I guess it was somehow publicized maybe back in the old *Field and Stream* or *Outdoor Life* magazines.

MH: And they would read about it in advertisements and they would find a guide? There were some famous guides who would come in here, right?

CM: No, I think most of the people hunted on there own back then. I think they got to be friends with some of the local people but I think at that time, from the stories I've heard, is that there were so many deer, and there wasn't elk. There was just deer; the elk were transplanted later.

MH: It still kind of holds that draw as the premier place to hunt deer, doesn't it?

CM: Well one of them, just because of its remoteness.

MH: The Boulder?

CM: The Boulder.

MH: And also the Paunsaugunt?

CM: Yes.

MH: Still in this area, right?

CM: Right in this area.

MH: The elk have done well haven't they?

CM: The elk have done well. They were planted in the fifties and there's more elk and wild turkeys now. I was watching a program the other day, they were saying there's more elk and turkeys in the United States than there ever has been.

MH: So the elk were gone, hunted out?

CM: Yes, and then they reintroduced them.

MH: How did they get hunted out?

CM: Just the European settlers, people came in and hunted them to extinction. Same with the Desert Sheep, but when they brought their sheep in here their diseases carried over to the wild sheep and killed those.

MH: What kind of diseases?

CM: It was like a distemper that the sheep carried that they passed on to the wild sheep, the Desert Bighorns.

MH: Isn't there some of that in buffalo?

CM: They have brucellosis; the cattle can carry it, that's why they try to keep them separated.

MH: There's a problem with it in the west right now.

CM: They have that and then they also have CWD, that Chronic Wasting Disease that's now in the elk and the deer. It hasn't got into our state yet, but...

MH: That's what I was thinking of; Chronic Wasting Disease. It's in Colorado now.

CM: It's in Colorado; they think a lot of it came from these private ranches that have elk because they have this breeding program and they're in captivity that they have contacted that disease somehow.

- I think they're having that big endurance ride right now. There's Crockett Dumas. That's their camp right there.
- MH: What are they here for?
- CM: They have that endurance race. They start on the Great Western Trail and ride clear to Kanab.
- MH: Do they come through our area, Tropic?
- CM: Yeah, they'll come right through Tropic.
- MH: There's Criss Lake road.
- CM: Yeah, have you ever been up there? It's kind of a steep hike but it's pretty.
- MH: Can you drive up there?
- CM: You have to walk from right there. But, up above that is where I pack old Jeff Parker in and his fishermen in, up under the rim. There's another lake that's not even on the map, there's two lakes.
- LM: Does it have a name?
- CM: Mooseman, above Criss Lake.
- MH: Do you think the fishing is any good up there?
- CM: Oh yeah. You can see them. I don't know how the catching is but you can see the fish.
- MH: And you come up here for hunting?
- CM: Right down on the other side is where I darter myself.
- MH: This is the darter story.
- CM: Yeah.
- MH: That was when you were working for the state?
- CM: Yeah.
- MH: So tell me the story.
- LM: Utah State University was who he was working for.
- CM: You really want me to tell you this?
- MH: Yeah. You were tagging the lion...

LM: I thought you would tell them when we hit the point in the road where Tom dug up the asphalt.

CM: Where the horse tracks were going down the blacktop for two years?

LM: They finally fixed it.

MH: You were out here with a helper right, who was kind of a greenhorn?

CM: Yeah. (Laughs) He was a technician. We had lion treed and he climbed up the tree and was going to dart the lion and he missed. So he tied the rope to the gun and lowered it to me to put another dart in it. In the mean time the lion is hopping through the limbs and I think he cocked the gun because sometimes we would cock it just to make a popgun sound to scare 'em. Anyway the gun came down cocked; I didn't know it. I loaded the dart, put the bolt down and went to tie the rope to the trigger ring and when I touched the trigger with the rope it went off and shot me in the leg.

MH: So how much tranquilizer was in that dart?

CM: Well, I had it loaded for a hundred and sixty pound lion.

MH: And how much did you weigh?

CM: About a hundred and thirty-five. It took me two minutes to go to sleep and about seven hours to regain consciousness.

MH: Is there a chance that it could kill you?

CM: Yeah.

LM: Tell them the part about the lion still in the tree.

CM: I told Tom, I said, "Don't worry about it. I'll probably go to sleep for about an hour; when I do we'll collar this lion." We had a big tom treed. So I says, "When I go to sleep, cut this dart out of my leg." Because it has a barb, so you can't just pull it out, you have to make a little cut to get it out. He says, "I don't think I can do that." I said, "Sure you can, here I'll cut my chaps and my pants right now." And I had no more done it and I said, "I'm going out." I went to sleep. So he set there and got nervous because your eyes are open all the time. Lion's eyes are open; my eyes were open so it made him nervous. He couldn't take it so he got on the horse and he rode down to the Garkane hydro-plant and called the

EMTs to come and get me. He was giving them directions and they told him to call poison control and see what they should do because they weren't sure. So he called poison control. They said, "We don't know". It's never been used on people other than the ketamine, which at one time was used from hyperactive kids. But they don't use it anymore because it caused them to hallucinate. They said as near as they could tell, rompum, the xylazine is a large animal tranquilizer and that a certain amount could stop my respiratory system. It causes you to salivate a lot. They said, "How did you leave him?" He said, "He's on his back." They told him he should get back as quickly as possible because I might be choking.

MH: How far away was he from you at that point?

CM: Oh, probably three miles up here, through the mountains.

MH: So probably a good thirty or forty-five minute ride.

CM: Yeah. So they finally got the EMTs; they were on the wrong road. They gathered them and when they came back up, we had the dogs all tied up and when they got back, the lion jumped the tree and lit right by my horse. The horse jumped and stepped on the side of my face. It took all the hide off my face. That's where I hurt the worst when I woke up the next morning I thought, "What in the world happened to my face?" Tom said, "Well the lion jumped out right by your horse and she jumped and stepped on you". I guess it was better on the side of my face than in the middle. And anyway when they got to me, they thought I was dead. Larry Davis probably saved my life. He got a tube down my throat. He was trained, but I was the first person he had ever done it to.

MH: He intubated you?

CM: He did, and got some oxygen going to me. They had to carry me by hand out which I'm sure they were cussing.

MH: What about the lion?

CM: Why didn't he take off?

MH: Why didn't he go after you?

CM: Because all the dogs were tied up there.

LM: That's what I wanted him to tell you. Tom decided to tie the dogs around him so the lion wouldn't bother him.

MH: And so they were tied to a tree around you? So they were basically keeping the lion treed while you're on the ground salivating too much?

CM: Slobbering.

MH: So you've probably had a number of adventures out chasing lions?

CM: Yeah, I'm a little more cautious with the dart gun now.

LM: He made the Paul Harvey show.

CM: Yeah.

MH: Have you ever come across one that is quite wily and did you ever feel like it was stalking you?

CM: I had one that was real close to me right close to your house last winter. I don't know if it was following me but I know it was probably within fifty yards of me because I walked around and found its tracks and found it had got right on my tracks five minutes after I was there. There were a couple of lions on this project over here, on this study that made me a little nervous. We'd worked with them several times and if we had to change a radio on them they would, they acted a little differently than others. They would usually meet me half way down the tree when I was climbing up. I don't know if they would do anything but they had my attention whenever I was up in the tree with them.

MH: What is the purpose of the lion study?

CM: The one that was done here on the Boulder Mountain had a lot of different purposes but population estimates, predator/prey relationships, survivability of kittens, home range sizes, habitat selection, things like that.

LM: DNA

CM: We'll get DNA samples.

MH: What does that show you?

CM: They just wanted to see what relationship there was among the lion population, how closely related they might, or might not be.

LM: Didn't they do a stress test too?

CM: Yeah.

LM: When the dogs would chase them and then they would wait so long and do another blood test.

CM: They done that because there were some special interest groups that wanted to discontinue pursuits, training season. They said it was harassing and stressing the cougars so part of our project was to take six individuals. We caught all of them, took blood on all of them. Three of the six I treed or at least chased twice a week for three weeks and then at the end of the three weeks we caught them all again and took blood again. Of course we injected them with cortisol, which raises their adrenaline level, [until] it peaks out so we had to take blood every twenty minutes for two hours. That was a project in itself, learning how much these lions need to keep them down for that period of time without them jumping on their feet and wanting to take off. That was an interesting thing we done. Then we also took a percentage of the lions off of this area to see without killing the them... we just took them and caught them and relocated them so we could see how long it took to have another lion replace the missing individual. It took about ten to eleven months and every lion was replaced.

MH: Would any of the lions come back?

CM: We had one male lion that we hauled off of there by Boulder to the very southern boundary of the unit. It took him fourteen days to come back. I caught him again; he was over here towards Blind Lake. We hauled him a little further. It took him ten days the second time to get back.

MH: That was like the story of the bear that got into Cannonville. They drug him off and he came back.

CM: Which one.

MH: The one that they...

CM: The one that's on the wall? (Reference to bear hide hanging in Cannonville Town Hall.)
No, actually I chased him. We didn't actually ever tranquilize him and move him but I

chased him twice. The last time I chased him I caught my dogs out by Bull Valley Gorge, that's how far I went. He wouldn't tree but he kept coming back. It was just that the gardens were good.

MH: Good apricots.

CM: Yeah, lots of apricots.

MH: What about the lion that came through there? (Cannonville)

CM: There's been several. There's one that Jim Clark's son killed there in the chicken coop. It had killed all of his chickens, ducks, and geese. There was one that Monty shot on the back porch of his house and then there was the one that killed Bob Ott's dogs that Dad and McLain got.

MH: Bob Ott mentioned that his dog was chained to a weight, a chunk of cement and the lion just drug the dog off over its shoulder. Have you ever heard of that?

CM: Yeah, until the collar comes off. I've seen one time where a lion took a calf over a fence.

MH: How did it do that?

CM: I've watched them, just looked at their tracks where they've drug something to see if it's under them or to the side of them and I think it depends on what kind of animal they're dragging as to how they do it. But I think this calf; it was just straddle of it and it just jumped right up on the fence.

MH: And so the cougar study you're doing now, which is over in the Richfield area, what are those mountains called?

CM: Monroe Mountain.

MH: Is that just a population study?

CM: It started out as a predator/prey project and also population. They want to know how many lions are there but they have a real quality elk herd over there and they're very protective of it. They wanted to know what percentage of elk lions were killing versus deer. So we did that for a while which we found to be close to probably forty percent elk, sixty percent deer. But as the project progressed they were issuing more harvest permits each year and so it really changed the dynamic of the cougar population there to where

we weren't getting any solid numbers because it was changing so drastically every year. So we started another little part of the project, which was similar to what we had done here. We know that we've over harvested this population real bad. How long is it going to take for this population to recover to be a real healthy population where we have some breeding age females raising young, that are established residents here? So far, not yet. We're going into the third year.

MH: What is their migration pattern like? Do they just have their territory and they stay there?

CM: When they're fifteen to twenty months old they'll disperse; males usually quicker than females. Most of the time the females will stay and overlap their mother's home range. Males will leave. We had two little guys back on Deer Mountain, two males and a sister. The sister stayed, she actually lived down into here, clear down to Happy Valley, back around toward Boulder. But the one brother went west and was killed over around Kolob by Zion Park. The other brother was killed a year later in Colorado. So he left and went that way and the other one went west. And we had these little guys collared since they were a couple of months old.

MH: So you've seen this area and access to the area change over time. What are you forty-five, forty-two?

CM: It depends on who you're asking. Lorie thinks I'm twenty-nine.

LM: He's forty-two.

MH: So you've spent a lot of time hunting because your dad hunts, and your grandpa did. What do you think about the hunting and how things have changed?

CM: I think it's gone up and it's gone down. I think it's coming back up again but one of the main problems is the access as you mentioned. Twenty years ago, even fifteen years ago there weren't ATV's like there are now. There's ATV's everywhere. Anywhere there's a trail people are pushing further and further and making it harder and harder for these animal just to be left alone. We see deer cross the road, that's one thing if they're walking from up here down to the creek. But when they have constant harassment...

MH: Because they can't find somewhere to go where...

CM: Where someone in a vehicle is not going to get. There are so many accessible areas.

MH: It affects their breeding and feeding...?

CM: It does.

MH: Even if they're not being hunted?

CM: I think so. The past few years the elk population has got so good that they've issued more and more cow tags and I've noticed just being in the hills that these cows are breeding later and later in the year. If you go in the summer months and you see these little tiny calves that are maybe three or four weeks old that should be six to eight weeks old, that tells me that with all of this pressure they're getting from the hunting, and weather conditions as well, that they're calving season is being moved back and so when they go into the fall or into the winter they're not as big as they need to be. Their survivability starts going down and I think a lot of those elk probably abort their calves when they get hunted so much. They start hunting in September and they don't quit until the end of January. There has got to be a time when they've got to be left alone.

MH: So the hunting practices have changed?

CM: They have but a lot of us do because there's so many more animals and the Forest Service and the Game Department have an agreement with the livestock industry as to how many animals are going to be on the mountain and when it exceeds that number they have to hunt them down to keep a balance.

MH: Do you think that balance is correct and appropriate or do you think it is something that is dynamic, that needs to be always reviewed?

CM: I'm not very objective when it comes to that because I like to hunt. I'd like to see more wildlife, less livestock but I know people in this country, a lot of them make part of their living with livestock. So I think there's definitely a balance.

LM: I think it's constantly reviewed isn't it?

CM: It is every year but it's generally who has the stronger voice that gets their way.

MH: So you think the cattle interests up in these mountains, its leased land, because not a lot of it is private, has changed on the Boulder? I know it has down on the [Grand Staircase-Escalante National] Monument.

CM: Yes

MH: The lease land is...

CM: They're losing their permits.

MH: Do you think that's the future here too or is it just a different area?

CM: I don't think so. I don't think it will happen on this Boulder, I hope it doesn't. I hope it doesn't change. I hope these guys can still run their cows up here in the summer and complain about the lions and the bears eating their calves. (Laughs)

MH: Is that what it is?

CM: And then they complain because...

LM: And then they can hunt more.

MH: It's not a new phenomenon. There's been domestic livestock out here from quite a long time so how would people have handled it seventy years ago?

CM: They would have handled it themselves. There's usually a guy that lived in the area that had dogs or they had the government hunter and trapper. They've always been around, ADC.

LM: When did they implement 'hunting season'?

CM: Oh, back in the twenties. There was actually a time when they had first settled in Utah, they'd only been here a few years when they closed all the hunting because they were killing everything. They closed all the deer hunting season and once the herds built back... Of course after people came with their livestock then they were hunting and trapping all the predators, which allowed for the game populations to really thrive.

MH: The land was used a lot differently in the twenties and thirties. There were sheep and cattle and that had to have an effect on the balance, and goats.

LM: There were a lot more sheep and cattle than there were people, now there's a lot more people.

CM: Well, they say that because of all the sheep they had, they just worked that ground down to nothing. When it got to that point, when they pulled them back and reduced the numbers they grew back into shrubs and browse, not the native grass that was once there. What that is is deer food so that made the deer population jump, plus you had people eliminating predators.

MH: So the browse is what the deer are eating?

CM: Yeah. But now when you see all these burns that they're doing; that's making for elk habitat. That's grass coming back, that's eliminating the browse. So the one thing the sheep and cattle overgrazing did is, after the land kind of recovered, although the foliage wasn't the same, it was better for deer than it was for livestock or elk. But if you go look at where they've burned you'll see within a year or two that the grass is back but you don't see the browse or brush. It's grass that comes back.

MH: Yeah it's all a big cycle and we're definitely a part of it.

CM: Oh yeah, we are.

MH: That's interesting; I haven't heard anyone mention that the accessibility to the land with ATV's, motorized vehicles has had an effect on the animal populations.

CM: Well, you figure, back in the fifties when this was probably a pretty hazardous road in snowy condition during the deer hunt, how many people do you think come over here and hunt some of this? They didn't come because they couldn't.

MH: So it really is roads.

CM: It is and a lot of that came from logging. I'm not against logging but I would like to see them close their roads permanently, [turn them] back when their finished so people don't keep pushing in.

LM: They've tried to do that. They'll berm a road but the ATV's just go over it.

CM: You can stop a regular vehicle but the ATV's can go over it.

MH: This pine over here looks like it's diseased.

CM: You mean like this one?

MH: They all have yellow on the interior of...

CM: I've seen some going down the canyon going home through Bryce.

MH: It's from the drought I think.

CM: That is my opinion. I would say it's from the lack of water. Look at the manzanita bushes; I've never seen them just yellow.

MH: The sagebrush is as dead as I've ever seen it.

CM: This Mountain probably picks up a lot more moisture than we do. I don't think there's a prettier place, this and Teasdale. I love Teasdale.

MH: What's this area called right through here?

CM: I think we're down by Pleasant Creek now. This is the Creek that runs down through Capitol Reef.

MH: Did we already pass Bown's, Lower Bown's?

CM: Bown's is back there. Now we're starting off this side so if you go up, you've got Fish Creek, Blind Lake, what else is up there?

LM: Is Donkey Lake up here?

CM: Donkey's a little more around. I haven't hunted up here a lot.

MH: Mostly on the other side?

CM: Yeah, we usually stay on the Garfield County side, on the (Cougar) Study. This was part of a buffer zone of our study area.

LM: So people couldn't hunt here?

CM: No, nobody could hunt; it was closed. I would come over here if I had a lion that left and came over here and I had to change a collar or something. I went up here and killed a bear a few years ago that was getting real aggressive at the campground at Blind Lake.

MH: Was it just going in to people's camps?

CM: Yeah. First it was coming in at night and then...

MH: A bad bear?

CM: Yeah, it was a bad bear. He got in to the Boy Scouts' camp the night before I caught it and I got in there and they were all standing there with their milk jugs, holding them up and the old bear had punctured holes in them and sucked all the milk out of about four

gallons and they had a case of soda pop and it would just bite the cans and suck all the soda out of 'em. After I killed it I thought I'm going to gut it just to see what's in it's stomach and make sure I got the right one. I chased it out of that campground but that thing had pieces of plastic in it, bread wrappers...

MH: It just ate the whole thing?

CM: Yeah, just eat the whole thing, bag and all.

MH: So in each area there's always been a government hunter?

CM: Yes.

MH: And they take care of the wild one's?

CM: Yeah, they basically work for the USDA, the government. They're subsidized by livestock owners. They pay a certain amount when they pay their permit fees, goes into this fund so if they're having problems with a predator then they have these guys come in.

MH: How long has that been going on?

CM: Forever, I don't know. My grandpa Bushnell was one. That's how we got into the dog business.

MH: Where did he hunt?

CM: He started in Meadow, up in Millard County, was a trapper up there and then later when he came to Henrieville he trapped with Sears Willis who got the last wolf in Utah. You know the story on that one.

MH: No, I never heard that.

CM: They got it down on the Escalante desert.

MH: They got the last wolf in Utah?

CM: It used to be in the State Capitol. I remember when I was a little kid, Mom and Dad took us up there to show it to us. Grandpa wasn't with him when he caught it but Sears Willis caught it. Do you remember Bob Willis?

MH: No he died right before we moved to Cannonville.

CM: He was their dad.

MH: What was it doing down on the Escalante desert?

CM: That was a winter range for the cattle so it would go down there and eat calves. I don't know where they caught its mate, I never heard that part of the story but it would run from most all of the Boulder Mountain clear down into the Escalante desert. That and the last grizzly bear. I hadn't heard that story until this year and I read the history on that and that bear was... It's that book you let me read.

MH: Which one? The Escalante Story?

CM: Yeah, they killed that bear on the Canaan Mountain.

MH: That was the last grizzly bear?

CM: That was the last grizzly bear.

MH: At that point no one cared that the wolf population was being eradicated?

CM: No and nor do a lot of the livestock people today; it's just something they grow up with. Their mentality has not changed in fifty years. They still think that every lion and every bear should be killed and you're not going to change their mind.

LM: Well, they have no use for them.

CM: They don't, and they really don't cause them a lot of trouble. They talk about their losses but I was talking to a friend of mine this year that used to be a government trapper and he was telling me about some lions and bears that were being killed just because they were near a sheep herd.

MH: There was no actual kill?

CM: That's just what he called preventative maintenance. He says basically those guys have a free license to kill anything that's walking right there. And we thought there ought to be someone from the Wildlife Department or another entity that has some expertise in predator kills to be with that person when they go identify that kill as to what killed it, if it was killed by a dog or if it was killed by a lion or it just laid down and died so we're not going to hunt this predator unless we know that's who done it.

MH: Did you ever go out with your Grandpa Bushnell?

CM: I trapped with him quite a bit and I was only able to go on one lion hunt because he had a heart condition.

MH: What would he trap?

CM: Coyotes and fox and bobcats.

MH: Where would he trap?

CM: He trapped from Henrieville clear to Lake Powell.

MH: That's an interesting area, very rugged.

CM: Yeah, down on the Kaiparowits Plateau down towards Warm Creek.

MH: Totally wild area.

CM: Oh yeah, it's wonderful. So when I decided to go trapping after I got out of high school I went down and talked to him and of course he hadn't trapped for several years and I was talking to him about going down there and he said, "Ah, don't go down there, there's nothing left." I wondered why he would have discouraged us and we went ahead and trapped and we did really well. I knew where all his old sets were and wondered why he said that. As I got older I thought he just didn't want me to go down there. He didn't want me to go down to his old trapping grounds without him. But after I got to trapping then he was OK with it. I thought that was funny. "Oh, there's nothing down there, don't go down".

MH: Why do you think that is, Clint?

CM: We, as hunters, are a bunch of crazy people because we're very protective of our own little spot that we think is ours. So whenever I see somebody with dogs going on the mountain whether it's on the Dutton or the Boulder my temperature goes up because apparently somebody didn't tell them this was my spot. But they're very competitive and we all like the same thing but we don't like each other in our back yard.

MH: Well, Malen didn't do any of that stuff, Stan kind of got involved in hunting.

CM: Dad and his brothers all like to hunt. Grandpa never cared much for it.

MH: Where did their interest stem from? Who helped them out?

CM: I don't know.

LM: I think Malen and my grandpa had to feed their families so it wasn't a sport really.

CM: It was just something you grew up doing. Everybody done it but some people were passionate about it.

LM: So when they started doing seasons and limiting it then that's when I think the sport came into it.

MH: Yeah, because you don't go out lion hunting to feed your family.

LM: No, but if you're a cattleman you go out lion hunting to save your cattle.

MH: Or maybe someone would pay you to go lion hunting to save their cattle.

CM: I've made part of my living hunting lions.

MH: Besides you.

LM: I mean long ago.

CM: Long ago, no. And even now in Arizona most all of the cattlemen down there have their own pack of dogs. They have more of a problem there than we do because their cattle are on the range year round and they calve out on the range. In our area they bring them in, around town to calve.

MH: We hope.

CM: This year they will because there's no feed on the range.

End of Interview