

Glen Heryford

1/98, T1, S1

JG: ...an interview with Glen Heryford of La Grande, Oregon January 7th, 1998. [tape pause] Maybe starting, Glen, with a little bit of just brief information, your background, as far as when you were born, where you were and then how long you've been in the valley here and that.

GH: Okay. I was born in Cove in 1916, September the 29th.

JG: And you lived in Cove...

GH: And I've lived... I've lived in the valley all of my life with the exception of the...of the about eight years that I put in the military service.

JG: And as far as your, oh, like your parents or relations like that do they...were they in the valley quite some time before then?

GH: Yeah. My father was born out on Cricket Flat and my mother was born here in La Grande. And don't ask me when 'cause I can't remember. [laughs] It was a long time ago.

JG: It's been a while ago, anyway.

GH: Yeah. Gosh, Dad was born, I think, in...I shouldn't say this 'cause it's got recorder on...but I...it was a long time ago.

JG: What did they do? Pretty much farming and ranching?

GH: Farmed, yeah.

JG: Yeah.

GH: Ranched.

JG: Yeah. I'd like maybe to start with would be dealing with the Grande Ronde River system itself and with that I'm looking mostly, you know, on the waterways as far as vegetation changes and wetland areas or anything dealing, you know, the early days like they had the splash dams with the logging up there, you know, from Perry on up the Grande Ronde.

GH: Yeah.

JG: Of anything you could recall on that, but maybe start with up in the upper reaches of the Grande Ronde itself, not in the valley, but from, you know, La Grande on...on into the headwaters.

GH: My grandfather, J. J. Conley, owned the Tony Vay ranch, as they call it today.

JG: Do you remember about what dates or when that...what period of time...?

GH: No, but you could get it. You can go to the courthouse and get that.

JG: Do you have any idea about when Tony Vay bought that out?

GH: Tony didn't buy it. His dad, Antone Vay, bought it from my granddad. And this was...this was...well, this had to be in the early 1900s when he bought that. I can remember my mother talking about it, that they wouldn't even fish the Grande Ronde River when they lived up there. They'd go over up the...to...that creek as you take the left-hand fork. Instead of goin' up around to Tony's you take the left-hand fork and there's another stream comes in up there. And that's...

JG: There'd Limber Jim.

GH: Limber Jim!

JG: Oh, uh-huh.

GH: That's where... That's where my mother and the kids would go up there and fish.

JG: What were they fishing for?

GH: Trout.

JG: Oh, for trout?

GH: Yeah, lots of trout in there at that time. And just a little more history on that, Antone Vay put in the...in the deed and recorded at the courthouse that as long as Grandfather's kids and their immediate family was alive we always have huntin' and fishin' rights on the part that Antone Vay bought from my grandfather.

JG: That goes a long ways back.

GH: That goes a long ways back, see.

JG: What was...was he ranching up there?

GH: No. He farmed out here in the valley, but he bought that and run cattle and stuff up there.

JG: That's what I meant, he was running cattle...

GH: Yeah. He run cattle and sheep both.

JG: Oh, uh-huh. Do you recall in your lifetime as far as any change in the meadows up there of, you know, the vegetation and...or ___?

GH: No. I don't. As far back as I can remember it looked just like it does today outside of maybe for a few years in there maybe they pastured it a little bit heavier than what I can first remember. And the old...the old Antone...or the old Conley house burnt down, oh, I can't remember the date or when, but I remember Mom and them talkin' about it. And the house that's up there now, not the new house, but the little house, is the one they rebuilt in its place.

JG: I'll be darned. 'Cause I picked up an old survey that was I think 18--...oh, either '74 or '82 when they did the original land survey and they showed there there was a cabin just after you get into the meadow there a little ways, oh, down towards where you take off up the Grande Ronde and split back to the air strip. I think that...that was on their notes...field notes anyway on that, but at that time supposedly just one settler in ___.

GH: When Granddad lived up there he was the only one up there.

JG: Yeah, so that's probably... 'cause they had one in Fly Meadow and one...

GH: Yeah, they had one up Fly Creek up to Fly Meadow. And then... Then Granddad also used... as you start on over toward Ukiah from there and you get up on top the mountain there where you start to break down Camas Creek, where all that meadow and stuff is up there now, that's where my granddad put up hay and kept his horses, a lot of his horses, in the wintertime.

JG: I'll be darned.

GH: I don't think he owned that, but he had it rented maybe from the government or something or maybe...I don't know what it was, but then that's where he used to keep a lot of horses in the winter.

JG: Do you remember, Glen, like going up from La Grande here on up into the Vay Meadow area there of any change or conditions like the cottonwoods or willow brush or that over the years?

GH: You know, Jerry, that's a pretty hard question to ask because you know these cottonwoods they only live about so long and then they die and the willow brush is the same thing. And a lot of that up through there is alder, if you notice.

JG: Yeah.

GH: You know, that stuff is the same way. About so many years and then it goes to pot. So this is...I don't know how to answer that question. I mean, you know, everybody's...get one person to guess just as good as the other on that.

JG: I remember... The thing is I've never ran into any type match, or anybody ___ there's still a lot of remnants, you know, through there and in all these meadow areas there's quite a few cottonwoods, you know, ___, you know, like that.

GH: Yeah. And now I'll tell ya, when I first can remember goin' up there there was a lot more of...well, we call 'em black pines out in the meadows than what they are today.

JG: That's the lodge pole, you mean?

GH: Yeah, the lodge pole, but we...see, we called 'em black pine way back there and then they changed it to lodge pole. But that's where...that's where Granddad and the family used to cut their firewood was out there in the meadows from them black pines.

JG: Oh ___ of course after the beetle hit up in there that, you know, went in and took a lot of that stuff out of there.

GH: Oh, sure.

JG: It changed stuff greatly.

GH: But then that's only been a few years back really when the beetle hit.

JG: Yeah, it was about '70s so that's relatively recent in comparison.

GH: Yeah. But see, we're talkin' back...way back. I imagine the first time I went up there that I can remember I suppose I was...I suppose I was somethin' like four years old, five years old when I...first time I went up there and can kind of re...vaguely remember what was goin' on up there. 'Cause I know us kids went out and played in the creek, in the old Grande Ronde River, so...which kids always do that.

JG: Oh yeah. What about as far as, oh, the quality of the water at that time and the beaver and fish? Did you see any of that in that area?

GH: Now, when I first went up there I wasn't big enough to remember much about the beaver and the fish, but ___ there was some there because in later years when I started goin' up there they was a lot of beaver, a lot of salmon and a lot of trout.

JG: Do you remember about when that...what period of time that would've been?

GH: In the later years you mean?

JG: Yeah.

GH: When I really started goin' up there was after World War II so it had to be...I got discharged from the military service in '45 so it had to be from '45 on up this way, you know, toward today. I remember my mother talkin' about when she was a little kid up there that you could pretty near walk across the salmon in the Grande Ronde River there was so many of 'em.

JG: I'll be darned.

GH: Yeah.

JG: Was that right there at the...at the meadow?

GH: Right there... Right there in the meadows, yeah.

JG: What about... Did they use or can 'em or anything, do you know?

GH: I don't know. I never heard 'em say, you know.

JG: But there's a lot of 'em up there.
GH: I imagine they eat all they wanted.
JG: Oh yeah. ___
GH: Yeah.
JG: It'd be a good supply. Did they ever say what kind of trout?
GH: Rainbow.
JG: Rainbow.
GH: Rainbow and bull trout.
JG: Both of 'em were up there?
GH: Lot of bull trout.
JG: What about like since 1945 what you've seen up there? Do you recall like any, oh, as far the numbers there of the changes over the years?
GH: In the fish?
JG: So like the salmon, yeah.
GH: Oh yeah. Yeah, you don't hardly see a salmon up there anymore.
JG: Mm-hmm. Do you remember, was there anything significant as far as like a time when that changed drastically, or it just kind of...?
GH: No, it just started dwindlin', you know, from year to year and then the same way with the steelhead. Right after World War II I fished a lot of steelhead up there. Never clear up there, but up...well, we fished up as far as Beaver...not Beaver Creek, the next one above there...Meadow Brook.
JG: Meadow Creek.
GH: Yeah. We fished up as far as Meadow Brook. And I think that was the closing line at that time, ever since I can...since World War II.
JG: Did you ever fish for salmon up in there?
GH: No, never did.
JG: Just the steelhead.
GH: Just the steelhead. But seen a lot of salmon when we was up in there at different times.
JG: Do you remember like what time of year that was that you're...you're seein' 'em?
GH: The salmon?
JG: Yeah.
GH: Oh, it'd be along in August. That's when you'd see 'em...you could see 'em out on the ripples makin' their nest for spawnin'.
JG: Was that just on the main Grande Ronde or were there the other branches that you got on?
GH: That's the only one I had anything to do with was just the main Grande Ronde was all.
JG: But that was about pretty much then up to there in the mouth of Meadow Creek or up to that...?
GH: Up to as far as Meadow Brook, you know.
JG: Meadow Brook.
GH: Yeah. No, I'd seen salmon way on up above there when we'd drive through there just monkeying around, just drive on up there, you know. A lot of Sundays we'd take off and drive up there, we'd picnic lunch and drive up there and fish a little

bit and you'd see the salmon up in there. You'd get a Sunday off from harvest, we would, and that's...we'd take and go someplace.

JG: Glen, can you clarify that for me... 'cause now they call it like Meadow Creek and McCoy comes into Meadow Creek, as far as that and Meadow Brook? Didn't that used to be called Meadow Brook?

GH: It used to be. That's what I call it yet today is Meadow Brook.

JG: That's what I thought.

GH: Yeah. It runs in right there at the bridge just before you turn to go up to Starkey.

JG: Oh, okay. That's what I thought, 'cause I know...

GH: Comes in on the right.

JG: ...the old maps there they had Meadow Brook and then, you know, since then somebody changed it to Meadow Creek. I don't know __ on that.

GH: But, Jerry, you want to remember they've changed this whole valley.

JG: Oh sure.

GH: To all the names and everything. That's why the old-timers don't know where they're at anymore.

JG: Can't find your way.

GH: They're lost anymore because they don't know where the places are.

JG: Oh, I know it, yeah. Just like the road names, you can't find...figure out where you're at, you know.

GH: That's right. Just like out goin' to Cove out there at what they call Carter Lake now. That was my great-granddad owned all of that in there, A. B. Conley. And that was...that was always Carter Lake, see.

JG: Or Conley Lake, wasn't it?

GH: Conley Lake. It was always Conley Lake to me.

JG: I didn't know they changed it.

GH: Oh yeah. It's Carter Lake anymore, yeah. That was our good bunch that we had in our county commission that did all that.

JG: No sense to it.

GH: I won't name any names, but I can sure name you some names. [laughs] Mike Conafloriat.

JG: What about, again, going up from just out of La Grande up that direction of any beaver dams that you...on the main river?

GH: Used to be quite a lot of beaver dam on the main river. Now I used to go up to Five Point...Weimer he used to own Five Point Store and the cabins and all there. Now they're pretty near all gone now. Stole Weimer worked for the Forest Service and he had a heart attack a few years back and they found his pick-up and him goin' up from the Imanaha River when you go from that White Horse Campground or whatever it is where you cross and go on up and come out over to Pine Creek. They found him down in that canyon there. And Stole and me was the same age and he was born and raised over to Cove and so I used to go up there quite a lot. Stole and me'd run up and down those creeks. We'd run up and down Five Point Creek and the river. We used to do a lot of gold pannin' and stuff just for stuff to do, you know. And to give you an idea, now this has been years ago, I used to ride up there on...there used to be a bus line come through here called the New Brunswick and I'd ride up there from...from the bus depot which was in the

building in La Grande there now where the Eagles Lodge is. It was on the corner, on this corner, on the south corner of that. And it cost twenty-nine cents to ride from there up to Five Point. [laughs] But I'd go up there.

JG: The cabins and that were they pretty much where the freeway is now right close to the river?

GH: No.

JG: Or were they back up?

GH: The road was over a little farther toward the railroad track and then they put the freeway in and, see, the cabins went on...they was kind of a horseshoe people, they wasn't any down off the creek, but they was on both sides. And the little...the service station and the little store and stuff was right out by the highway.

JG: Oh, uh-huh. But goin'...right along the old highway.

GH: Yeah, it was right along the old highway there, Highway 30.

JG: Oh yeah.

GH: Yeah.

JG: But there's quite a few beaver then back up Five Points?

GH: There was a lot of beaver up Five Point at that time.

JG: There's still...I was in there this year photographin' and they're still in there cutting.

GH: Are they?

JG: Yeah. They're eatin' on some of the cottonwoods in there.

GH: Yeah.

JG: They'd been in there early and cut a bunch that went down the river and then went back in, you know, workin' some more.

GH: Too bad Howard Kensils is gone from us because Howard Kensil was born and raised up there at Hilgard. He's been gone now for several years and Howard and me was real close friends. And Howard could tell you how many beaver there was up there, in fact. [laughs]

JG: What about farther up along some of those meadow areas?

GH: I never went way up that Five Point Creek.

JG: No, I mean up the Grande Ronde goin' back up toward Meadow Brook?

GH: You know, all those places up there you could see where beaver had worked. Like there where the park is today, Red Bridge Park I think they call it...

JG: Right.

GH: You could see all along through there where the beaver worked.

JG: Oh yeah.

GH: They... The beaver seem to like those...that alder wood. And they just seem like they work on that to beat the bat.

JG: Did they have dams right in the main river there?

GH: Not very...not very far across. They'd have some little dams out there.

JG: Yeah, on the edges there.

GH: Yeah. Right there where the...where the park is now where you turn to go to Five...or up to Starkey area there, right down in the lower end of that flat now there's a little creek comes in down there and don't remember what the name of it is, but they used to be a pretty good dam right in there for quite...quite a long

time. 'Cause Stole and me used to...we used to go up there and fish some, you know. That's...you know, you can remember these things from you's a kid.
[laughs]

JG: Yeah. Did you get up into, oh, Meadow Brook itself and, you know, towards where McCoy comes in, those meadows in there?

GH: No, never did at that time. Now I have...I have in the last, oh, ten, fifteen years I went clear around through there and go up to Spring Creek and take off. And then you can hit some other roads up in there. I was with different people, I never did it by myself because I didn't know where to go. But then you'd come out...after you'd get up there you'd go over on top of the hill and then come down Meadow Brook. That road's still there, they tell me.

JG: Yeah, 'cause when I was flyin' this last year, did some aerial photography, it looked like there at the, you know, down at the mouth of Meadow Brook there's quite a bit of swamp area, marsh area in there.

GH: I think there is from the way I recall just goin' through there, drivin' through there, you know.

JG: What about the...oh, do you remember any of the splash dams that...of course those were from way back before the turn of the century...of locations? 'Cause there's one there in...just as you get into the meadow up there, you know, you're granddad's, that big rock wall.

GH: But then, you know, I don't know too much about that big rock wall. I've heard two or three different stories on that and I don't ever remember my folks talkin' much about that, or my mother, I should say. I've heard that Granddad started to build a dam across there and he was gonna float the water back up the meadow for irrigation, but that's about all I can tell you on that.

JG: There's a lot of remnants of it ____.

GH: Oh yeah, there's a lot of rock there.

JG: ...somebody's moved a lot of rock. [laughs]

GH: Yeah, there's lots of it there.

JG: Do you recall anything at Perry...of course that was...

GH: Yeah, I remember when the mill as at Perry, but I don't...I don't remember anything about it.

JG: What about the dam that was there ___?

GH: At Perry?

JG: Yeah.

GH: Where the dam was, yeah. They used that for their mill pond. You know, they had the dam in the river and that's what they used for their mill pond.

JG: Do you recall, Glen, anything... 'cause I had a picture that said a mill...or a dam above Perry and it showed like a trestle bridge goin' across the top of the dam, which wasn't the lower on there, of where or any remnants of that or where that might've been?

GH: No, I don't.

JG: Yeah, 'cause it didn't have...it would've been in the turn of the century before, you know, you were born, but I never...I haven't been able to track...try and track that one down exactly what that was.

GH: I don't remember that at all.

JG: Yeah. What about the main dam there at Perry? Do you remember when they blew that out of there or when they took that out?

GH: I do and I don't. I remember when they kicked it out it was after the mill closed and they started movin' everything out and then they went up and blowed the dam. And so...they said that dam was stoppin' the fish from goin' up and they went up and blowed it. But now that's all I can tell you about that. And I just...I remember that, but that's it.

JG: Yeah. See, in 1926, supposedly, when they took the mill over to Pondosa, when they tore it out. And I haven't ever seen, you know, a specific date of when they blew the dam and how long that would've been after that...after they moved.

GH: Oh, a person...a person ought to be able to find that out pretty easy around here from somebody. Somebody has got a picture...

JG: John Turner...we've got one when they show a little flume goin' up when they were shooting the thing. But the only thing I could find out in that picture it said early 1930s.

GH: Somebody got a picture around here and I looked at it not long ago, and I can't think who had it, that has got a picture of the bunches of workers at Perry at the mill and it shows the mill, front of the mill and all. It shows the green chain and one thing another. But I can't think...I can't think who's got that now. If I can think who's got that one of these days I'll let you know.

JG: That'd be great.

GH: 'Cause ever who's got it would let you look at it, I know.

JG: Yeah. I've got a lot of pictures that showin' the dam and, you know, the overall, you know, like there, but then there's always some good ones out there that you never know about.

GH: Sure they are. That just like the old Bowman Hicks mill. How many people's got pictures of the old Bowman Hicks mill down there? There's a lot of 'em around probably, but you don't know who's got 'em.

JG: Yeah, you don't see 'em.

GH: No. Now you know where the Bowman Hicks mill was?

JG: Yeah. Evidently...didn't they buy out Palmer?

GH: I don't know.

JG: See, that's the Palmer mill. It's at the fairgrounds, is it, the one you're talkin' about?

GH: Yeah, it'd be right there by the fairground.

JG: Yeah. 'Cause, see, that originally was the Palmer mill and then evidently I think Bowman Hicks bought Palmer out and then, you know, just took over the property there. 'Cause Bowman Hicks supposedly had that mill plus one up in Wallowa.

GH: The reason I can remember Bowman Hicks mill so plain some people from over at Cove...lived in Cove and we went to school together by the name of Petermans. Gerald Peterman, who just passed away here in the last month and a half, and his younger brother Frank, who just passed away just two weeks ago. They got Dan and his wife...and I can't think of what her name was...to go over there and she did the cookin' and all for the crew there at the Bowman Hicks mill.

And Dan he was the caretaker of the stuff around there. I used to go over there and stay, just, you know, just to be with Gerald and then from Cove.

JG: Do you remember where they were getting all their lumber from for that one?

GH: Their logs?

JG: Yeah.

GH: Most all of 'em come from up...up the river.

JG: Oh, was it?

GH: Yeah. Most all of it, as I recall, was comin' from up the river.

JG: I know Mt. Emily they were getting...all theirs was comin' from up...up there, you know, ___ or some up there, but I didn't know about Bowman Hicks. I've never...never been able to run that one down much of, you know, much information on it except that they existed and had the railroad. What about in the valley itself or the Grande Ronde as far as changes of, oh, vegetative types and like, you know, the cottonwood communities. It seemed to me there used to be quite a few, weren't there, along parts of the river?

GH: There used to be a few... I don't ever remember too many cottonwoods after you got past Peach Lane. There used to be some from Island City down to Peach Lane.

JG: That's what I meant. These upper reaches seem, you know, like of course through La Grande here and goin' out that direction quite a few cottonwoods, but then...I talked to Bill Howell the other day and he said, of course, you got a few patches down that lower end of the valley.

GH: Yeah, you have when you go on down lower end.

JG: Yeah. But then most of it in between... Do you remember what kind of brush was in there?

GH: Most all the brush like was on the State ditch and on the river was thorn and willow. I don't know why the State ditch never did grow a lot of thorn 'cause see, see, the old...the old Catherine Creek, see, that was the old Catherine Creek that came down from Union through there and then the Grande Ronde River went through and crossed the highway...what'd it cross...one, two, three times. And they run in...they run together out in...in what now is...belongs to the...it's the Conley place, but at that time it was the Puck...when they...years back it was known as the Puckett place where they run together. And then when the bunch in the valley dug the State ditch...and they dug that with horses, plows and fresnos...and they started lettin' a little water through it and it just washed itself out. And then, see, there...you don't...you don't find any cottonwoods on that, you don't find hardly any...any thorn.

JG: There's hardly anything.

GH: It's all willow. What little bit you find is willow.

JG: Yeah. There isn't really too much.

GH: No.

JG: Of course it's a lot wider... Talkin' to Bill, again, you know, he said like high water would saturate those banks...

GH: Sure.

JG: ...and then that brush would cave in, you know, a lot of that so it just kept gettin' wider and wider, you know, over the years there.

GH: It did. But I... My dad helped dig that.

JG: Oh, did he?

GH: Yeah. He was one of the crew that helped dig that with plows with horses and fresnos and all.

JG: Remember about what year that was?

GH: No, I don't. I can remember him talkin' about it, but that's, you know, that's been a long time ago.

JG: By any chance do you know of anyone that's got any pictures of the horses and the fresno, you know, where they're diggin' ditch or scrapin' with 'em?

GH: No. The nearest of anybody that I would know of that might have some pictures of that would be Joe Sparks. Now the way he might have some is his mother married Bill Miller and Bill Miller lived out there on the place that Joe has now, it was left to him, and possibly the Bill Miller family might've had some pictures of that and if they did probably Joe would have 'em. I don't know who else would have 'em. But that would be...that would be my nearest place to tell you who got that.

JG: Yeah. Just it'd be nice to get a picture, you know, just showin' how some of that was done in the early years like that. I haven't run across anything to know it was done that way.

GH: You see a piece in the paper every now and then about somethin' on that river...on the State ditch, that is.

JG: Oh yeah. ___ the...how they used to excavate, you know, build roads like that with the...

GH: And they said... From what I've heard my dad and a lot of 'em say is when they dug that it was...I think they dug it about ten feet wide, as I recall.

JG: Originally, what I ran into, was six feet wide and six feet deep was the information that I got.

GH: It seemed like my dad and some of that I've heard them talk about it they...they dug it about ten feet wide and about six feet deep and then turned the water in it and just let the water a little bit at a time and let it run down and that's what washed it out and made the ditch. I don't know where to...so long back as I can remember it's been called the State ditch.

JG: Yeah. I think it is on the maps you have, you know, still shows it as the State ditch.

GH: So where it got the name of the State ditch, I don't know.

JG: The reason I think the State let the contract is what it...

GH: Was that it?

JG: Yeah. It was...

GH: And it was built for flood control, that's what it was built for.

JG: It's drained a lot of land, you know, for agricultural for the amount of land that, you know, way out along the Grande Ronde there.

GH: Sure. Oh, there's lots of it went out.

JG: Do you remember as far as, Glen, of the Davis dams and when those were built?

GH: No, I don't. They've been there as long back as I can remember. 'Cause ever since I was probably ten years old I used to go out there and fish behind 'em for salmon. You could always fish behind 'em with a hook and line, you know.

JG: What were you using? Mostly hook and line's how you were getting 'em?
GH: That's... Yeah, it was against the law to use anything else at that time.
JG: Oh, uh-huh.
GH: Now you could go on up above Union and use a grab hook or a gig or a spy glass to locate salmon with down in the river. And that wasn't against the law then.
JG: I'll be darned. How plentiful were the salmon in there at that time?
GH: There was lots of 'em. Lots of salmon in the Catherine Creek at that time. They was right...you could go up there and... When I first started fishin' salmon with a grab hook and all up there I think you's allowed four salmon a day. And they...you could go up there any time and just fish a little ways up the creek and look in them old drifts and stuff and you could get four salmon, it didn't take you but a little while.
JG: Do you remember about what year that would've been?
GH: Oh back...I started in in the '20s, you know. And the Indians used to go up there and have their...they had their dryers and stuff in the old Miles' place. And their teepee poles and everything and that's...for years and years and years they've went up there with their horses and wagons and their stuff, you know. And that's where they got a lot of their salmon for...for their winter food was out of Catherine Creek.
JG: Do you remember how they used to catch 'em up there?
GH: They caught 'em with grab hooks. Long poles and they'd be eight or ten of 'em Indians get together and they'd start up and down the creek and they'd poke back underneath the banks with sticks, the young ones would, the young ___, and then they'd kick the salmon out and they'd...it always seemed like, you know, in the book...the creek and they'd let out a war hoop out of 'em and then the old Indian just stand up there on those ripples and when they'd come by, why, they'd catch 'em with those grab hooks and them long...they had poles that was probably, oh, they had to be twelve to fifteen feet long and a grab hook on the end of it tied onto the pole with a rope, see. And that way they could reach way out there.
JG: Yeah. Do you remember about how far up they used to fish?
GH: The Indians?
JG: Yeah.
GH: They used to fish up through the Hall ranch. And that was... I never remember seein' any Indians above the Hall ranch.
JG: Do your recall about how many of 'em would...would be up there at the Miles' place?
GH: Oh gosh, they used to be a lot of 'em. I...I...as I remember back now I bet they was twenty-five or thirty of 'em would be up there at a time. And they was all comin' from Pendleton.
JG: Yeah. But they used to come by horse and wagon?
GH: Yeah. Some with their buggies and hacks and what they had on their...bring all their stuff over that way.
JG: Do you remember any change as far as if they, you know, once they went from that to automobile or any other...or numbers of...you know, when that changed up there at the Miles' place?

GH: I don't know. I'm not gonna say because there at the Miles' place the Indians was still comin' over there after World War II, but they wasn't doin' as much fishin', but they were still comin' over there and puttin' up their...their teepees and they'd catch a few salmon. But then they was comin' over in cars at that time, see.

JG: That's what I meant. Once you got better roads and automobiles...

GH: Yeah. And they got a little money to buy with, why, then they started comin' over with cars and their pick-ups and stuff. I bet you can go up there today and see remnants of that there at the Miles' place. Do you know where the Miles' place is?

JG: Not exactly.

GH: I'll tell you where it is. As you start up... As you start up Catherine Creek and where you get to where you can turn off to the left and go up High Valley Road?

JG: Mm-hmm.

GH: Alright, just follow right on up and when you come to where the river is right down below you and the first place you can really see it...

JG: Yeah, right close there.

GH: Right close there. The house and the red barn that sits down underneath the hill before you get there, that's the old Ed Miles place right there. And they camp...the Indians camped right up there in that little flat where you're lookin' down into the river.

JG: Oh yeah.

GH: There's some cottonwood trees there. That's where they camped all the time.

JG: It'd be right there between the river and the road then...or I mean that cottonwood patch.

GH: Yeah. Right there in those cottonwoods.

JG: 'Cause I remember right...doesn't that spread out where there's a pretty good meadow both sides, isn't there, of the creek?

GH: Yeah. See on the...on the mountain...not on the...on the south side that was farm ground.

JG: Oh yeah.

GH: And I think it still is.

JG: Yeah.

GH: But there...there at that one place right underneath the road in that big flat where those big cottonwood trees, that's where the Indians would put up their camp. And they'd have seven or eight teepees put up there and their big dryin' place to dry their fish. It was pretty interesting. I know I remember when I was a kid I used to like to go by there and look and see what I could see.

JG: How about as far as the brush is up through there? 'Cause I think... I talked to Myron Ricker and he said, you know, of course a lot of it's been cleared, you know, and leveled off in there of what it was like before they did that?

GH: You know, as far back as I can remember I can't remember too much difference in that. I know Myron cleaned some of that out and that's up by where the city intake is and all through there. And clear on up through there I think there've been more land cleared up in the old Edvalson place. Do you know what...where...what the Edvalson place is?

JG: Yeah.

GH: That's just this side of the Miles place back in there. I think the Edvalson place has had more land cleared than any place up and down Catherine Creek, that is, after you leave Union.

JG: I think, well, Huffman, Leonard, had some of that cleared, didn't he?

GH: He had the Miles place.

JG: Yeah, that's what I...what I was thinkin' is...I can't remember just how much of that, but that was...

GH: He had... He owned all the Miles place at one time, I think.

JG: Yeah. 'Cause I never saw the, you know, the plats there, but I knew he was in there and had some of that.

GH: And the place is, like I say, just this side of the Miles place and that was the...now what'd I just say?

JG: The Edvalson.

GH: The Edvalson's, yeah. They had a... That was a big family, Edvalsons was.

JG: What about coming back on Little Creek there, you know, just east of the stock show grounds? Do you remember any change or that when...?

GH: No, not really. The...

JG: 'Cause that used to be...I talked to Vic Bonney he said, you know, used to be a lot of beaver and a lot of brush in there.

GH: It was.

JG: Of when that might've been changed up?

GH: No. I don't remember 'cause I've never had no case to be right over in there.

JG: Yeah. I didn't know if you got over to that creek or not.

GH: No. You know, I'd go on up the creek, but I wouldn't get...I wouldn't...

JG: It's kind of out of your way unless you go back around the old road.

GH: Yeah. See, there where the gun club is now that was the old fish hatchery. See, Dick Bonney's folks run that.

JG: Mm-hmm. Did you fish much up Catherine Creek?

GH: Oh, yeah, quite a lot.

JG: What about as far as numbers of fish and species and like that?

GH: You caught...you caught lots of rainbow, you caught a quite a lot of bull trout and you caught a few eastern brook, which we always wonder...used to wonder where the eastern brook come from. Your guess as good as mine. I've caught eastern brook up the Grande Ronde.

JG: I'll be darned. Uh-huh.

GH: So where do they come from? Out of some of them lakes or what?

JG: Yeah, 'cause of course they transplanted a lot of things over the years, but yeah.

GH: I never did know put any eastern brook in the streams.

JG: Yeah, I don't know on that.

GH: The only stream that I ever knew of in this country that had eastern brook in was the North Minam and that's way up the Big Minam River above Red's Horse Ranch, you know, and up in them meadows. And Roy Shafer from...lived in Wallowa and had ___.

JG: Oh yeah.

GH: He's the one that packed the eastern brook trout and put it in the...in the meadow.

JG: Do you recall, Glen, on the Minam River that splash dam that was in there of about when that might've been put in?

GH: It was put in when they started loggin' up there and they...the last load of logs went down the Minam River in 1919. So ever how many years they logged that. Now, I suppose...I know a lady that would have all of that information if a person could get it and that's Lola Ogden. She lives in Weizer, Idaho and I can't remember...her name isn't Ogden now. She's about...well, she's gettin' way up in her nineties and I talked to her, oh, three, four years ago and...see, they used to own Red's place. She wrote a letter to The Observer when all this stink was goin' on about Red's place that said she wanted to set the world straight on that place in there. 'Cause they owned it and let it go back for taxes I believe it was in 1906 or 19--...I shouldn't say 'cause I'm not real sure on the date. But they...they let it go back for taxes. So she could tell you, I'll bet you, when that splash dam was put in up there. And see, there was no salmon got above that splash dam and then finally the Game Commission went up there and blowed a hole in it. Well, they didn't either. I shouldn't say that. They couldn't get up over the falls. See, the falls...the reason they put that splash dam in there there was a meadow there and then rocks and all this thing was right there at the gorge where the...where the falls is on the Big Minam. They had to blow a hole in the falls for the salmon to get up over the falls and they burnt the splash dam out, they burnt it out.

JG: Do you recall about when that was...when that would've been?

GH: When they burned it out?

JG: Yeah.

GH: It was in the '50s. It was after World War II was over.

JG: When they were floating those logs down the river whereabouts was the mill?

GH: Minam town.

JG: At Minam campground.

GH: They did the same trick at Minam town as they did up at Perry. They had their pond and the Minam River down there. It's there where the flat is just before you cross the Minam and Wallowa on the right down in toward the river.

JG: Do you remember who had that mill or who's that...who that belonged to?

GH: No, I really don't. I want to say from some place or another in the back of my mind that Fleecer from Minam town had that deal, but I could be...but you could find out real easy if that's right because she's still alive, the Fleecer girl. And I think maybe she lives there at the motel at Minam town, but I'm not real sure. I was tryin' to think of what her first name was and I'd be darned if I could think what it is now.

JG: I was talkin' to somebody from Mt. Emily that said that if, you know, if he didn't own it I know he hauled logs in there, or lumber, you know, just planed and that 'cause there's that other mill down there at Looking Glass that he had, evidently.

GH: Yeah. But I don't know who...now wait a minute. The one at Looking Glass I don't think Fleecer had that.

JG: Or he might've hauled in there. I'm not real sure 'cause somebody talked about workin' for him and they were down in that...that country at one time, but I don't know the whole, you know, background on that.

GH: I don't either. That was... That was kind of out of my jurisdiction, too, goin' down in the...into there.

JG: What about as far as the flooding of the valley? Do you remember any during your lifetime?

GH: The worst flood that I can remember of in the valley was in 1963 or '4, whenever that big flood was in the valley.

JG: That was December '64 and then slopped over to '65 there.

GH: Alright. That's the worst one I can remember in the valley. And it happened in...in February is when it happened 'cause the... I come in to the Elks in La Grande and they was havin' the Ladies' Elks Crab Feed at the Elks for the ladies. And I went home and my wife and a bunch more of the girls from Cove was...was over to the crab feed and they was...didn't want to come home very early and I went home. And when I got out the other side of where Hamann's...or...I can't think what...Willy Hamann lives now.

JG: Willy Hamann, yeah.

GH: Got across that bridge out there goin' on toward Cove the water was comin' across the highway and it was...[end tape]

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GH: ...and that in the valley, but then that's the most I can remember. I can remember when they had little floods, but it didn't amount to much. Down say on...down on Booth Lane some of the ground down there, some of the Miller ground and some of that ground right through there it used to flood every year and it still pretty near floods every year, so, you know, there's nothing unusual in there.

JG: Oh yeah. Anytime you get that rains on top of heavy snow pack there's a lot of water comes down through there.

GH: Yeah, and you know what? They... Right after World War II was over we had several meetings and we tried to explain to the Army engineers...that's when they build them...them wells up Catherine Creek and got the artesian well up there by the ice caves. We tried to explain it to them, that they would never gonna put a dam across Catherine Creek. "Oh yes we will." We tried to tell 'em, "oh no you won't. Not as long as there's any Indians left." But you couldn't tell 'em and we tried to explain it to 'em at that time that you'd have to go down toward Elgin there where...where Indian Creek comes in down there and go a little below that and start dredgin' your river out and get that dam out there by Rinehart's. That's where it's high and that's what floods everything back. But oh no, they couldn't do that. And they still don't do it. So you see, your...these people...Jerry, these people that's got these big long sheep skins that says they're smarter than anybody else in the world, you know, you don't tell 'em anything. I don't care... I don't care who they are, you just don't. And they're not gonna believe you if you take 'em out and show 'em because they didn't learn that out of that book. And I've got the privilege of tellin' several of them that, too. [laughs] 'Cause I've lived here quite a while and I've seen a lot of this. And I'm pretty plain spoken when I get about half mad.

JG: Do you recall any of those floods, that one or some of these others, back up towards Willow Creek and...not down at the mouth, you know, that always flooded in there, but back up the creek?

GH: No.

JG: Did you ever get in there?

GH: I never had any occasion to go up in there. Never had an occasion to. That...we'd always called it Dry Creek that crosses there at Elgin, you know. It's dry nine months out of the year. [laughs] And then look how it floods all the way from up to the mouth of canyon on down through there. So there you are again. Then go over across to Clarks Creek and it's about the same thing.

JG: Yeah. Last year Clarks Creek come flyin' out of there.

GH: Yeah. You see...

JG: What about Mill Creek there as far as fish and that?

GH: You mean in Cove?

JG: Yeah.

GH: Oh yeah. When I's a kid I could go over to Mill Creek...see, that's where I lived was just darn near on Mill Creek. That's where I was born and raised. And I could go over Mill Creek any day and catch a good bunch of fish and they was all trout. Very seldom catch anything but a rainbow. When you got up toward the power plant once in a while you'd catch a bull trout up there, but not very often.

JG: Did you ever see any steelhead up there?

GH: Oh yeah. Oh yeah. I've caught a lot of steelhead up there.

JG: 'Cause I saw some of the, oh, research there, you know, documentation was that up to the power plant where I guess it stopped 'em that they used to get up...up that power level.

GH: There wasn't nothin' to stop 'em up there at the power plant.

JG: Oh was there?

GH: No. There was never anything up through there to stop 'em. They could go up... They could go just as far up that creek as they wanted to go.

JG: Yeah, 'cause I've never been up in there to know...or see that.

GH: Now you're gettin' my country. See, when you get...

JG: Good. You can clarify it now. [laugh]

GH: When you get over that country you're gettin' into my country.

JG: I can't remember where it was, but I thought I read someplace where supposedly the power plant, you know, they couldn't get beyond that. I don't know who wrote that.

GH: I don't know either because there was never nothin'... Now when they used to run the power plant and they had the forby up on a hill up south of it for the pipeline to come down to run the turbines. Why, when them turbine'd start...they had that chute that went out and that water went out and goed clear across Mill Creek. But there was no dam of no kind in there. It just went right straight up through there right on up past where Larry Campbell is now, that's the old Ubal place. Bob Price used to own that when I was a kid. And go right on up there and you can go clear to the forks. Now that's when you get up...where you crossed through the first cattle guard above where Larry Campbell lives now, the canyons fork. One of them they call Bridge Creek and the other 'n' is Mill Creek, I guess

- is what they call it yet today. Bridge Creek is up to the left, Mill Creek goes up to the right. And you could catch trout...a lot of...I'd guess from what I've heard some of the kids say around Cove the last few years they still go up there and catch some nice trout in the summertime. They probably fish it a little more now than we used to when I was a kid 'cause there wasn't very many people around to go up there and fish when I was a kid.
- JG: What about the beaver out in the valley, Glen, as far as seein' 'em, you know, location wise and abundance of 'em?
- GH: Yeah, they was lots and lots of beaver in the valley, lots of beaver. I...at least I can remember a person might go to Calbert Bennett and find out from Calbert how many beaver...Alvin, that was his brother, worked for the Game Commission...Alvin Bennett and Stuart French helped him and I'd like...the least I can remember how many beaver it was they caught one winter, but, boy, I'll tell you, it was a bunch of 'em.
- JG: Whereabouts were they?
- GH: They...all along. All the way down the State ditch and down through Conley's, all up and down through there. Up in the Woodruff's, all up through there. They just...they fished everyplace...or they fished...they trapped beaver everyplace. 'Cause they was gettin' lots of complaints. In fact, I got a thing from the Game Commission the other day back...I wanted to know when this Zone 4 was put in here. There was a picture in there that shows Alvin Bennett in it, Don Bradshaw, who just passed away, and a bunch of 'em and it tells in that picture...under that picture that Alvin Bennett was a beaver trapper for the...for the...
- JG: Remember about what year that would've been?
- GH: When they... Well...
- JG: When they're doin' that? Or about what date?
- GH: Let's see, that was put in in '59 I think that came here. I haven't got that with me. It's down on my desk. But I want to say '59.
- JG: Around in the late '50s anyway.
- GH: Yeah, it was in the '50s. And it...it's a pretty good little article about the bunch that worked there and all. It didn't used to be anything to go out there and monkey around the river, say in the fall or buck season maybe, and see...oh, if you wanted to walk very far along the river you could probably see eight or ten beaver. A lot of 'em.
- JG: What about change? Has there been...where that's...after they trapped 'em out there that kind of brought it downhill, did it? Or is it been cyclic or that since then?
- GH: Jerry, I don't know what to tell you on that because I don't really get out in there that much anymore. But if you get out in there anyplace you still see where beaver works so possibly there still...there still must be a quite of few beaver up and down the river, up and down Catherine Creek and the river. I don't know what you want to say. There used to be a lot of beaver way up...way up Catherine Creek, way up in the Hall ranch and on up into the Miller property up by where the Mormon campground and stuff is. Used to be a lot of beaver way up in there.

JG: Yeah, that's...you know, of course I haven't been out there a lot either, but knows where there been much sign of them, you know, back up that...that area in recent years. Do you recall, Glen, on the...as far as mining activity, you know, there's the upper Grande Ronde there, of any dredging or any of that? Did you get up in there at all in the upper Grande?

GH: I wasn't up there when they was doin' any of that. No, I've fished up in there in later years, you know, up around the...what do they call it, Carson Mines or somethin' in there?

JG: Yeah, Carson Mine.

GH: Yeah, I fished up through them old dredges here, oh, in the last, what, fifteen years. I'm just monkeyin' around and two or three of us would get in a pickup or somethin' and drive over there just to go fishin' or somethin' to kill some time.

JG: I think in the late '30s was when they actually dredgin' that. I always...for some reason I always took it that it was a lot earlier because that stuff over at Sumpter, but it was about 1939 when they actually were in there dredgin'.

GH: In up the river?

JG: Yeah, the upper Grande by Carson there.

GH: And see, they dredged most of that at Sumpter after World War II.

JG: Oh, was that in there?

GH: Yeah.

JG: I never did know the dates on that.

GH: I don't know the dates, but I know...

JG: Or period of time.

GH: I know it was... See, the people from Sumpter, Hudspath, owned...also owned Red's Horse Ranch. And we was good friends. After World War II was over and all, why, I went up and stayed up at the Spud Hudspath up at Sumpter...now that's right at the head of the...of the...where they's dredged...and hunted elk back up in there. At that time they was...the dredge was goin'.

JG: I'll be darned. I didn't know that.

GH: See, that was after World War II was over. So that...I got home in '45 so, you know, that might give you a little...

JG: Yeah.

GH: Now they've got all that to what the Sumpter, I'll bet ya.

JG: That or the...I'm sure because they, you know, they've really done a lot of work on the history, you know, of that one.

GH: In fact, I wouldn't be surprised in that book that I got that Ernie Hudspath wrote about Sumpter Valley...I wouldn't be a bit surprised if what the dates wouldn't be in it. 'Cause I remember there's something in there. I haven't read it now for quite a little while. I'll have to read it again one of these days. [laughs] See if I can get my memory ___ again on it.

JG: Do you remember on the...going back to the cottonwood all throughout the valley of where they took those out was they ever used for anything when they cut 'em?

GH: Not that I ever knew of. No, I never did know of any use for anything at all.

JG: 'Cause I talked to Bill Howell he said, you know, some place down lower parts there I guess they bunched 'em up, you know, and just burn 'em ____.

GH: That's what they did to most all of 'em.

JG: Another guy said they buried 'em out there in some of those, you know, sloughs and pushed, you know, dirt over 'em.

GH: I think that's what they did with most of 'em, just cut 'em down and pushed 'em over and buried 'em.

JG: Yeah. I guess about the only other thing, Glen, any other thing you can think of, you know, just major changes you've seen, you know, within the valley here of just the vegetation or water, the amount of water or quality or anything? Just any trends, you know, over the years?

GH: See, when I was a kid they didn't do any irrigation out there.

JG: It was all dry land farming.

GH: It was all dry land farming. In fact, all of my land was dry land farmed. But now they've got all these wells drilled and then they're...they're, you know, they're doin' real good on...on that irrigation on them. And now I can't remember it, but years back along, oh, I think it was in the early 1900s they raised a lot of sugar beets in here. And the old sugar beet mill was down by where the old county shops is down in there. And then they quit that bit 'cause it took...they didn't have the water flow. But now you see they're raisin' sugar beets again. So when they raisin' these sugar beets it isn't a new, it's...they did that years ago. The only thing that you're raisin' new in here now is...as far as that kind of stuff is concerned is mint.

JG: Yeah.

GH: 'Cause, gosh, way back they was raisin' a little bit of spinach and that kind of stuff for seed, you know. They've tried lots of different types of seed out here in the valley.

JG: Yeah, a few years back, oh, between Hot Lake and Union they was doin' some onions there, but I haven't seen anything...

GH: They've... They had onions out here the other side of Island City last year.

JG: Oh, did they?

GH: Up there on Shorty VanBlockin's place. And now they've got some this year on...just as you start...go through Island City and start toward Cove and make the first bend there, between that bend and the next bend there's a patch of onion there that they'll take the seed from this summer. That belongs to that...remember what they call that outfit over there as you go...make the next corner out there and the house sits back in there. That's some...some seed outfit or somethin' in there.

JG: Do you remember any...one other thing that comes to mind on the, oh, like the wintertime you see a lot of, you know, the soil movement there. I talked to Bill and he said since they've irrigated it seemed like it was down a lot where they've been able to keep water on it, or, you know, the crops and like that compared to, you know, earlier years, of any changes in your lifetime of...?

GH: I'll tell you what I think happens there. It used to be that people wouldn't seed their grain...their fall grain out here until late. Now, the few people that seeded their fall grain early their...their property didn't blow near like the others did. You've gotta let that grain get up high enough to take that...to that that...to stop that dust and that dirt from blowin'. And then when they started usin' these deep furrow grills that helped a lot too, made a big difference. I have...in my own

mind and my theory I started seedin' on Labor Day, that was the day I started seedin' always. And I...mine...and I had some ground out there, you see, I farmed all that ground out there where we's talkin' about a while ago about Conley Lake, see. That all belonged to me in there, eight hundred and eighty acres of that belonged to me. And that's a good spot to blow, but I never had any...very much damage to me.

JG: Was Conley Lake...was that just a natural lake out there?

GH: Yeah.

JG: 'Cause it...

GH: Yeah.

JG: Some of the earlier maps...of course I didn't into survey and everything, I didn't see it on some of the, you know, real early ones, but there's...they showed Tooley Lake down there at Hot Lake, that was on the real early one. It was kind of funny the one thing up there at Island City they showed that as a lake, but I think it was just...when they made that it must've been just high water.

GH: I think that's what it was is just high water when they...

JG: Yeah. 'Cause that used to go from stretch to stretch in there, the whole thing.

GH: See, I remember...I can remember my own granddad talkin', that was A. D. Conley's son, about Conley Lake out there that one time it went dry early and they went out and plowed it up and seeded oats in it. He said he'd never seen such a crops of oats come off a piece of a ground in his life as come off of that darned old ground, see. [laughs] So there you are.

JG: It was probably pretty rich in there.

GH: Yeah. So...

JG: I think that pretty well fills in some of the stuff...questions I had, Glen.

GH: Okay, good.

JG: I sure appreciate it.

GH: I hope it helps you.

JG: Yeah, well...[tape interruption]

GH: ...War II was over. And it was some time in the '50s when we seen the first elk on this side of the mountain, seen them up in High Valley. Now I'm talkin' about there...they was a few elk back over in this Indian Creek country about the same time, but you didn't see 'em come out on this side of the hill. I've seen elk out there on the...out there at the lake we's talkin' about, you know, in the wintertime and gobs of deer. So I don't know. They do those things so funny sometimes and then they wonder why they get in...I'm not gonna say trouble, but they wonder why they get in hot water with the people.

JG: __ yeah.

GH: You know. 'Cause that's just like me comin' up here and tellin' you that you've got to get out of this house because there's gonna be some game come in here. No difference. Or I can't see the difference, anyway.

JG: Yeah. The it's the other house over there...

GH: Same thing.

JG: Yeah. Used to feed those things out. We had, I think, about the most about 125 head just to keep 'em out of town and off the neighbor's haystacks we were

feedin' out that many there right at, you know, the house there. Kind of devastated the house, but I said, we're in their in habitat, so...

GH: Sure. But then you see... When did you build that house there?

JG: It was '72 when I finished up.

GH: '72?

JG: Yeah, started in about '70.

GH: Now when you first started that house, though, you didn't see near as many deer then as you did after...

JG: What you had, Glen, was...you had the residents in there which is probably, oh, generally ran about fifteen head that just stayed in that valley area.

GH: Yeah.

JG: But then when you had the hard winter like '80...what was it, '88, I think?

GH: Yeah.

JG: You had everything from up the high country all came down...

GH: All through high valley came down.

JG: ...everything came down from there all the way up.

GH: Sure.

JG: You know, 'cause nothing could survive up high.

GH: That's right.

JG: They either died up there or they're down in the valley and we counted right there at the house 132 head. But we fed 'em out there till March and everybody's tellin' me that we're gonna have 'em here all the time. As soon as that drained up and the snow went they're gone.

GH: They're gone.

JG: Yeah, they never came back until you have another heavy winter and then they'll be back down.

GH: Yeah. And I...see, I try to read up on some of this stuff and I've been for years tryin' to read up on the elk or the wapiti, whatever you want to call 'em. And see, all I can read up on is an elk is not a mountain animal, an elk is a prairie animal.

JG: It used to be prairie, yeah.

GH: It's a prairie animal. So when they turned these elk loose over in Wallowa County over there and all they was in the mountains. Now many, many years ago I remember old Brody Bates and some of 'em talkin' about...now he lived up High Valley. They would go someplace over the other side of Bald Mountain along in the fall and kill two or three elk and that was...that was way back in the early 1900s. But they was a few over there and there was a few elk over on the Minam, see, but that's all they was. And then they started comin'... Now we've got... Jerry, I'll bet you that we've got ten elk now to what we...what we had one in '33 when they opened the elk season. But one reason I say that is from what I can find out. Now, you go to Minam elk country in the fall like up...you was talkin' about that dam a while ago and up to the burn and way up in there you find very few elk because they've all come this way. As we just said, they're a prairie animal so they moved out of the mountains, see. Now there was two bunched up here in High Valley this past fall. One bunch had about seventy-five head in and the other bunch had about forty head in it. But that was two different bunches. That's a quite a lot of elk for that little area that's through High Valley there.

JG: See, back in the '50s you'd never...rarely see elk down on the Eagle Creeks, too.
GH: I know.
JG: And, you know, the same thing, they've all ___ from there.
GH: Very few. There was one now and then.
JG: Oh yeah.
GH: And they was up high as a rule, up in Hudson Bays and that's the first elk I ever seen in the...up Eagle Creek country.
JG: That's it. Up east Eagle and up ___ Peak and all through that country.
GH: Yeah. There was a few, but not many.
JG: But when you spooked 'em they went clear to the Minam, I mean, in one night they were gone.
GH: They was gone.
JG: They run it back.
GH: They was gone. But they might be back the next night.
JG: Oh sure, yeah.
GH: You know, an elk will travel a long ways in nothin' flat.
JG: Travel an awful long way.
GH: Yes, they will. Jerry, I better get out of here. You...
JG: One...just one thing while you're on that, the white tail, do you remember as far as any white tail in the country at all, Glen?
GH: Not when I was a kid. Wasn't any.
JG: 'Cause now they're, you know, there...well, right under the ___ here they all camped.
GH: Yeah, there's gettin' to be quite a bunch of white tail through the valley. Now my neighbor Ed Bloom that used to have a store over to Cove, he killed a white tail last fall up High Valley.
JG: Oh, I didn't know if, you know, much goin' over that way or not 'cause it seemed like they came around Mt. Emily here and workin' their way around this way ___ much over your way, you know, or ___ there.
GH: There's gettin' to be... Now Sunny Johnson tells me that there's quite a few out in the valley now along the river, white tail. I see Sunny every now and then and we set down and have a big...big bull fest for a while. But if people like him had been tellin' me about the last few years goin' to ___. Now they love to go over there and they hunt right where us old guys used to hunt. But like he said, I think they killed one elk in there this year and they didn't kill any last year. You know, and they're right in their prime to go.
JG: ___ yeah.
GH: Yeah. But he... Just like Sunny says, they just isn't any elk in there anymore. They're move out. They're gone. And Gene Hartley who works for...out to Eagle Truck Stop in there for Scotty Baker he told me they went up to...up to...what do I want to say...it's the old guard station that's up Big Minam and then way up on top the hill...Stanley.
JG: Oh, Stanley.
GH: They went up to Stanley last year in elk season and he said they killed one elk and that's the only elk they seen was the one.
JG: That used to be pretty prime in there.

GH: Oh, years ago when us guys used to go in there and stay at the Horse Ranch and then we had at the Pier place down below and we...why, that was some of the best elk huntin' there was up in there around Stanley and through there. Of course, we had all that ___ cabbage patch and what have you...[laughs] But it was...that was a long time ago. It was after World War II, but it's still been a long time ago.