

The Chase

Volume 6

Chapter 4

Pinedale

July 2019

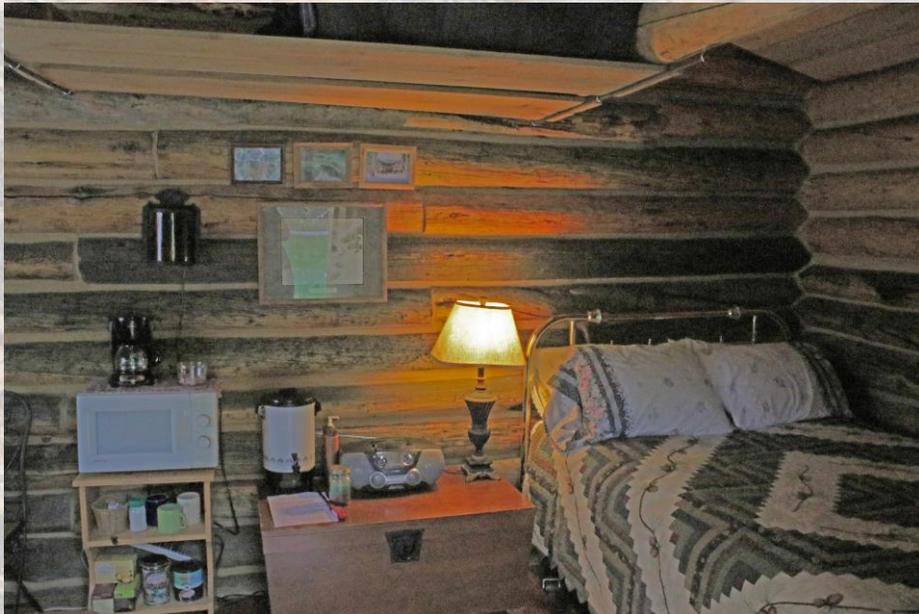


John, Pat & Hank





We arrived at Prairie Creek Cabin on 12 July 2019. Later we went into Pinedale for dinner at the Wind River Brewing Bar and Grill.



Prairie Creek Cabin is completely off the grid. It is situated directly across the creek from the site of the original Green River Rendezvous.

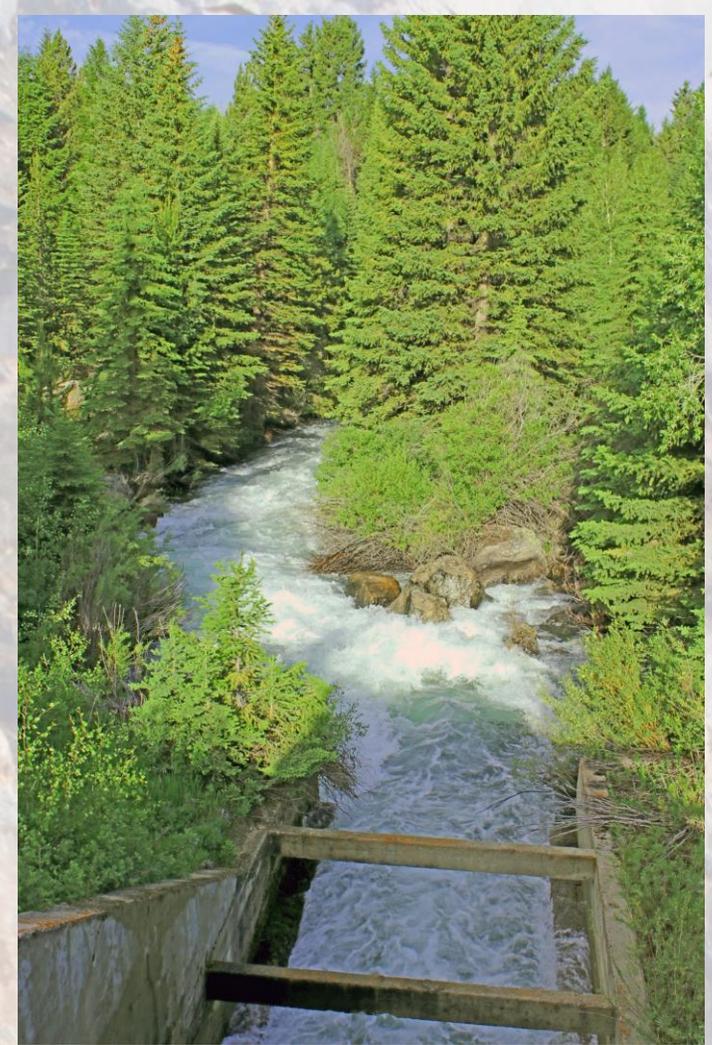


GREEN RIVER RENDEZVOUS

From the first big beaver season in 1824 to the last Rendezvous in 1840, the Green River Valley was the center of the Rocky Mountain fur trade. Six of the 16 summer Rendezvous (1833, 1835, 1836, 1837, 1839, 1840) were held here at the confluence of Horse Creek and the Green River. For mountain men who trapped during the long cold months for the best fur, the summer Rendezvous provided an opportunity to sell beaver hides, re-supply for the coming year, meet old friends, and celebrate. Rendezvous lasted up to a month and were attended by as many as 3000 trappers, traders, visitors, and Indians coming from hundreds of miles in all directions.

The Green River Rendezvous provided a stage for the first Catholic Mass performed in the West by Father DeSmet, the arrival of the first white women to cross the Continental Divide, the sketches of artist Alfred Jacob Miller, the adventures of Scotsman William Drummond Stewart (Wyoming's first tourist), and colorful stories about men like Jim Bridger and Kit Carson.

Since 1936, The Green River Rendezvous has been commemorated each year with a celebration the second weekend in July. The Museum of the Mountain Man in Pinedale is dedicated to interpreting and preserving the history of this colorful era.



In the morning, 13 July 2019, we drove to New Fork Lake. The road ends at New Fork Lake and a trailhead leads into the Wind River Range Wilderness. The outfall from New Fork Lake originates New Fork Creek which flows to the Green River.

We drove up Green River Road to Jim Creek to have a look around. Hank gets carried across the cattle guard. A survey marker down by the creek.





Further up Green River Road we visited Kendall Warm Springs. A young bird was enjoying the grasses around the spring.



A view of Stinking Creek from Green River Road. We looked across the river to see two men unaware that a deer was watching them. The deer eventually bolted down the river and the men never knew it was there.

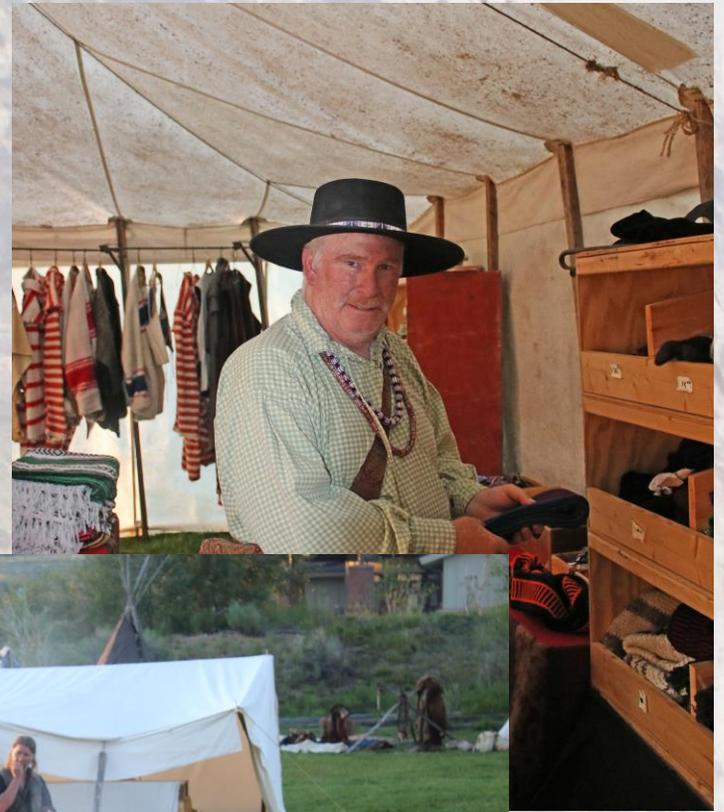


Then to Pinedale for the Green River Rendezvous. There were lots of booths with items for sale. The Chief posed for a quick picture and the dancing started.





We watched the Indian dancers as the Chief narrated the proceedings. Then we went to the Museum of the Mountain Men.



It was late in the day and the Mountain Men were gathered for a Chat which included stories, songs, whoops, hollers and some musket fire. There was a vendor or two on hand as well.



Back at the cabin we noticed these flowers and another view of Prairie Creek.





July 14, 2019

Jason,

Wonderful stay on
the Prairie Creek in your
rustic and quaint cabin.
Enjoyed meeting the horses,
dogs and yourself. Many
outstanding recreational
features in the area. We
had fun at the Green
River Rendezvous in Pinedale.
Hope our paths meet
again.

John, Bob & Mark

P.S. - Your soap is lovely!

That evening we had drinks at the Green River Bar in Daniel. It was a friendly place and the bartender bought our third round. The next morning we said our goodbyes and drove toward Houston.



On the way back we stopped in Dallas for a family get together at Katy Trail. Then on home.



