

# Acknowledgements

---



I owe thanks to many organizations and people who made this work possible over the years. The American Peace Corps first sent me to Nepal as a Peace Corps Volunteer in 1974 and provided me with an opportunity to live and work with yak herders, learn the Nepalese and Tibetan languages, and roam the rangelands of Nepal. Wilderness Travel gave me a job as a trek leader that got me back into yak country again after too long in the USA. The U.S. Agency for International Development in Nepal sent me out into the mountains to check on livestock, wildlife, and grasses on numerous occasions. The Padlock Ranch, Ranchester, Wyoming, let me herd cows when I was not herding yaks which enabled me to keep some skills honed. Assignments with the Asian Development Bank, UNDP, and FAO provided me with the opportunity to explore the grazing lands of Bhutan. The University of Montana and the Robert M. Lee Foundation allowed me to study wild yaks and the Tibetan wild ass in pursuit of a higher education. The Wildlife Conservation Society provided funding for two excursions to Tibet's Chang Tang Wildlife Reserve. The International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development gave me one of the best jobs I ever had and enabled me to fill in blank spaces on the map and prepare this publication.

## **Special thanks are due to the following people.**

Donald Bedunah helped me understand rangeland ecology. Cai Guiquan showed me where wild yaks could be found. Douglas Chadwick inspired me to go for it and provided coffee for the doughnuts. Brot Coburn walked the trails with me in Mustang. Alex Dickie gave me a job and shared the same thoughts on rangelands. Charles Gay, despite his full schedule, made coffee in the morning, prepared maps, and kept the fleet running. His steadfast companionship helped keep the project rolling along.

Jim Gingerich believed in me and let me off work on two occasions to go to Tibet. Melvyn Goldstein offered me a rare opportunity to work with him in Tibetan nomad country. Frances Howland kept us all healthy. Frank Jette showed me how to keep a load on a mule. Sushil Joshi took my ideas and creatively turned them into reality on the pages. Asha Kaji Thaku helped with the mapping. Robert McColl provided hard-to-get maps. George Miller travelled many of the trails with me early on and brought me to Montana. Bart O'Gara first asked me to study wild yaks on the Tibetan Plateau and without his guidance I would never have come this far. Egbert Pelinck realised the importance of grazing lands in the Himalayan region and gave me an opportunity to find out more about them. Greta Rana gave me literary advice, editing, and encouragement. Andrew Roberts provided many good tales and much laughter. Pam Ross read the early manuscripts and dispensed wise counsel. George Schaller first asked me to accompany him to the Chang Tang Wildlife Reserve in Tibet and I am grateful for his continued friendship, encouragement, and advice. Dr. David Schlim gave me medical advice. William Thompson gave invaluable suggestions and help on photography and photographic equipment as well as encouragement. Bob van Grevenbroek was always at the head of the table to dispense refreshments and suggestions. My wife, Ai-Chin Wee, gave me continuing support and encouragement. Edward H. Worcester has been a solid pillar of support for 20 years. Without his friendship, edifying encouragement, and scholarly advice none of this would have happened.

Kevin Bubriski, Sienna Craig, John Frederick, James Giambrone, and Nancy Jo Johnson helped edit the photos. Their vision, advice, and encouragement were invaluable.

Others who helped in one way or another, or provided advice and encouragement, over the years were as follow.

Bill Abbott, Nigel J.R. Allan, Ian Alsop, Zafar Altaf, Tony Archer, George Archibald, Cynthia Beall, Mark Behan, Frank and Sussane Bessac, Lee Birch, Peter Bodde, David Breashears, Bruce Bunting, Mark Burgman, Alton Byers, Gabriel Campbell, Margaret Carpenter, Peter Carroll, Hank Cauley, Lisa Choegyal, Graham Clarke, Monte Dolack, Dan Donaghue, Rinzin Dorje, Karma Dorji, Kinzang Dorji, Ian Eakins, Lindsay Falvey, Joe Fox, K. Garnay, Wilbur Garrett, Trevor Gibson, Molly Gingerich, Tom Glenn, Tsering Gyaltshen, Pema Gyamtsho, Tenzin Gyatsho, Rodney Jackson, Barney Jette, Mani Joshi, Rich Harris, Brian Hedley, Arthur Holcombe, Hu Zhihao, Hu Zizhi, Huang Wenxiu, Marc Koehler, Mani Lama, Fred Lane, John Langmore, John Leake, Tashi D. Lek, Liu Wulin, Om Lobsang, Carroll Long, Long Ruijun, Lu Zhi, Michael Malinowski, John McKay, Ed and Ednae Mae Miller, John Mock, Mary Ellen Miller (Mother), Leo and Maureen Parde, Dinesh Pariyar, Scott Pearson, Pei Shengji, Penjor, Eryl Pitt, Dan Pletscher, Fred Pollock, Dala Ram Pradhan, Thomas and Margot Pritzker, Tod Ragsdale, Reeta Rana, Cleve and Anna Lea Redding, Pema Rinzen, Alan Robertson, Patrick Robinson, Walter Roder, Andy Rogers, Mingma Sherpa, Addison Smith, Sonam Pelmo, David Steane, Heather Stoddard, Sun Honglie, Hugh Swift, Tang Ya, Kesang Tashi, Dawa Tsering, Sandy Vogelgesang, Elsie Walker, Kinzang Wangdi, Per Wegge, Susan Welchman, Earl Willard, Cathy Worcester, David Workman, Wu Ning, Drolma Yangzom, Yeshe, and Ze Bai.

