

## 1: Andy Russell's Adventures With Wild Animals - The Edmonton Book Store

*Andy Russell was born into a pioneer Alberta family - his father was the first white baby born in what is now Lethbridge - Andy left high school in the Depression to become a trapper, cowboy, bronco buster, and trail guide.*

Early life[ edit ] Russell was born in in Lethbridge , Alberta , Canada. His parents ranched on the prairies southwest of the city until , when they moved to the foot of the Rocky Mountains near Drywood Creek, north of what is now Waterton Lakes National Park. Russell attended the rural Drywood School; later he boarded in Lethbridge to complete tenth grade and part of the eleventh grade. Later in life would describe his schooling as "limited formal variety, considerable Rocky Mountain variety. But unlike other trappers, Russell was not simply interested in making money; he was curious about the animals. He read everything he could about the habits of the animals of the Rocky Mountains. As a local outfitter, Riggall had been leading hunters and tourists into the Rocky Mountains of southwestern Alberta and southeastern British Columbia since Together they had five children: Dick, Charlie , John, Gordon, and Anne. During the years that Russell operated the Skyline Saddle Horse and Packtrain Company, he developed a solid reputation as a guide and outfitter. At the same time, he continued providing outfitting services to private clients, including several families from Minneapolis who had first hired the outfit decades earlier when Riggall was still owner. The construction of all-weather roads made the mountains of southwestern Alberta and southeastern British Columbia increasingly accessible to automobile travel. Human pressures upon the environment increased as more and more people were competing to use the same land for various, often incompatible, purposes. The inevitable land-use conflicts that arose ensured that provincial officials figured more prominently into the overall management of the region. Reflecting on those years, Russell would later lament that he was "regulated out of business. He began to write articles and books, create films, and give public lectures. His goal was to bring people around to the understanding that humans "are only a part of nature, a portion of a vast ecosystem. The mere fact that most of what he sees or touches are manufactured things does not change the picture by even a hair. For all the raw products used by man are supplied by nature. At least since he had been submitting articles on hunting, "outdoor life," and natural history for publication in popular magazines. In an article published in in Natural History Magazine, for example, Russell argued that wildlife behaviour was not solely an instinctual response as was often assumed , but rather was in part, and even primarily, the result of reflective thought processes made possible by a "well-developed brain. Russell was particularly motivated to present the "true character" of an animal that, in his opinion, had been unfairly maligned by public opinion. Sales from the book provided the financial resources that allowed Russell to finally edit and produce the film footage that he, Dick, and Charlie had collected between and In Russell began publicly presenting Grizzly Country, a narrated silent film that he presented in lecture halls throughout North America. When asked about his purpose, Russell explained that the film and the accompanying lecture were not only about wildlife habits, but also about "driv[ing] home a message that much of the wilderness area of Canada In the process he sometimes explicitly entered the arena of politics. Although unsuccessful in his election bid, he was perhaps the first candidate in Canada to run on a platform that was "totally environmental. Trails of a Wilderness Wanderer [21] was published in and was followed by Horns in the High Country [22] in In both books Russell continued to advocate on behalf of wildlife and to give moral prescriptions that outlined how humans might develop a more virtuous relationship with their environments. Beginning in July and continuing until November , Russell contributed articles to the Lethbridge Herald as part of his "Ecological Series. In , for example, he was successful in persuading officials in British Columbia to reconsider plans to grant timber harvesting licences in the Akamina-Kishenina region, an area with which Russell was intimately familiar as a result of the decades he spent guiding and outfitting in the area. For example, when Shell Canada in put forward an application to divert additional water from Drywood Creek, Russell monitored the proceedings to ensure than no more water was taken than necessary, and that the resulting effluent was properly treated. Memoirs of a Mountain Man, [30] which was part memoir and part autobiography, was published Despite the corporate sponsorship, he occasionally took advantage of the opportunity to promote "ecology," in one instance pointing out that "people throughout the world are

## ANDY RUSSELLS ADVENTURES WITH WILD ANIMALS pdf

worried that Man, his technology outstripping his horse sense, is quickly converting his environment to one vast garbage dump. However, he did continue to express interest in land use in the foothills region of southwestern Alberta. His influence among conservationist and environmentalists continued. Their purpose was to combine their resources and influence to ensure that the surrounding area would not be subdivided into recreational residential properties. As an indication of his influence in Alberta and beyond, one of the speakers at his memorial was fellow maverick and then- Premier of Alberta , Ralph Klein. As noted by the Castle-Crown Wilderness Coalition, the proposed protected area is desirable because it "would give generations to come the chance to experience the western wilderness Andy and Kay loved [as well as] a place to imagine the pioneer outfitting and ranching heritage they typified. The Andy Russell Fonds contains six lineal metres of textual records, photographs, 29 films, and five sound recordings. Governor General of Canada Archives. Retrieved 13 December The MacMillan Company of Canada, , 48â€” Mountain Guide Extraordinary Hanna: The MacMillan Company of Canada, , The MacMillan Company of Canada, , â€” Russell, "Can Animals Think? Knopf, , Trails of a Wilderness Wanderer. Horns in the High Country. UBC Press, , 44, 64, McClelland and Stewart, Macmillan of Canada, The MacMillan Company of Canada, The Life of a River. Stories of Cows, Cowboys, and Cayuses.

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*About the Author. Andy Russell was born in into a pioneer Alberta family â€” his father was the first white baby born in what is now Lethbridge â€” Andy left high school in the Depression to become a trapper, cowboy, bronco buster, and trail guide.*

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### 9: Andy Russell's Adventures with Wild Animals by Andy Russell

*Nose upwind and stalking peaceably, Russell returns to Grizzly Country () and the Trails of a Wilderness Wanderer () for more firsthand glimpses of rare events: river otters playing water polo, a grizzly frolicking down a snowdrift, a great horned owl enjoying hide and seek with Russell's.*

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