



STANLEY HATHAWAY  
He's confident

## It's Official --Ford Picks Hathaway

By Dale Champion

President Ford announced Stanley K. Hathaway, former Republican governor of Wyoming, yesterday as his choice for secretary of interior.

If confirmed by the Senate, he will succeed Rogers C. B. Morton, who has been nominated as secretary of commerce.

Hathaway, who served as governor from 1967 to last January, faces opposition from conservationists, who have charged that he has a "dismal environmental record."

Several national organizations including the Sierra Club and Friends of the Earth, both based in San Francisco, vowed to fight against Senate confirmation of Hathaway.

"From Hathaway's environmental record, it looks like the president has picked a man who is committed to pushing energy development at all costs, regardless of the environmental consequences," said Michael McCloskey, executive director of the 140,000-member Sierra Club.

Tom Garrett, conservation director of Friends of the Earth, which has 23,000 members in the United States, characterized the nomination of Hathaway as "a misguided attempt by Mr. Ford to assuage the right wing of the Republican Party."

McCloskey and David Brower, president of Friends of the Earth, forecast a Senate confirmation battle comparable to that of 1969 over installing Walter J. Hickel, governor of Alaska, as interior secretary. Hickel won confirmation, but only after a series of bitter Senate hearings.

Hathaway and Ford were attending a luncheon here with governors of Western states in the Borgia Room of the St. Francis Hotel when White House press aides distributed releases announcing the interior post nomination.

Hathaway said he was confident he would be confirmed as secretary of the interior.

"Some in the environmental field think it's wrong to develop our resources," he said.

White House Press Secretary Ron Nessen put up a spirited defense of Mr. Ford's nomination of Hathaway.

"The President," Nessen told newsmen, "believes former Governor Hathaway compiled a distinguished record (in environmental affairs) in the state of Wyoming."

Hathaway has drawn fire from conservation groups because of his strong stand in favor of strip mining for coal — currently a highly controversial issue nationally and especially in Rocky Mountain states, which have enormous untouched coal deposits.

He also has been criticized for advocating the expansion of an airport in Grand Teton National Park for large jet aircraft, as well as for his opposition to wilderness areas and wildlife protection.