While my subjects did not gossip about other women in the valley, for example, people had opinions about how certain women handled animals—from cats to cattle. Virginia Bennett told me that some people thought she treated her horses like pets—very well-trained pets. Virginia could stand on the back of her stock-still horse with her boots on... Sheryl Cairns also knew that people were so mellow. I don't like a horse I can't catch. Up here people say the vets down in Twisp described my horses as poodles because they are so mellow. I don't like a horse I can't catch. Up here people say 'You don't touch that horse until he's three!' Yah break him rough. If ya gotta have a board meeting with him, ya get yourself a two by four! Sure, if you want broken bones, do it that way! Yeah, then you can prove yourself and just how strong, etcetera, you are. It's all in the approach. I think women are different. I think women take less of the conqueror attitude and more of a cooperative attitude with horses.
Wrangling Women