



# ZEROED

Newsletter  
of the  
Idaho Chapter  
of the

WILDLIFE SOCIETY

Number 1. September, 1964

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## McCall Meeting a Success

Cannons boomed, traps sprung and discussion was lively during the first field meeting of the Idaho Chapter. Held at the University of Idaho Forestry Summer Camp at McCall, August 1, 1964, the meeting was attended by about 25. Unseasonably cool and overcast weather may have dampened some spirits and attendance but the group didn't seem to notice.

## Big Game Marking and Telemetry

Sessions started at 10:00 a.m. After a short business meeting Dr. Ken Hungerford, President discussed current radio-telemetry and deer marking experiments and demonstrated radios, blinker lights for night behavior observations and newer neck bands.

A connibear trap was shown for general interest. Mr. Jack Gwynn, biologist, Virginia Game Commission supplied an autopsy kit and field forms used by the Southeastern Wildlife Disease Study personnel.

## Mist Nets

Mist nets now in use in ruffed grouse predator studies by Dr. Hungerford were demonstrated.

## Tranquilizers

Tranquilizer guns including the new "powder projector" and the older gas projector, and equipment were demonstrated and many participated in target practice for the "newest sport."

## Chase Misses

Dr. Warren Chase, University of Michigan visiting with the Chapter for the day took his turn at the terminal end of a deer (target) but we all agreed the CO<sub>2</sub> cartridge had run out when he missed.

## Cannon Net

Mr. Ed Schlatterer, U. S. Forest Service who worked on sage grouse at the Idaho Cooperative Research Unit demonstrated and discussed the cannon net traps and radio controlled firing apparatus used by him trapping sage grouse. The Chapter scored a "first"; the net functioned properly for a demonstration. Ed sets a high standard.



### Dopey Quail

John Ormiston, University of Idaho graduate student working on a Mountain Quail M. S. thesis discussed his experiments using the tranquilizer TRANAMUL on Coturnix quail. The drug may have some utility in "guzzler" type water supplies for capturing a number of birds for marking.

### Fisheries

In a wetting rain the group watched Bill Platts, Idaho Fish and Game Department, haul in seines from Upper Payette Lake. He discussed fisheries problems in the lake and efforts of the Idaho Department of Fish and Game to improve the fishery. We saw pounds and pounds of squawfish and suckers but no "keepers." Another demonstration "worked." Unprecedented!

### Next Meeting

Ideas were batted around about coming meetings. A prominent one was that the Chapter should meet at Moscow to discuss computer and radioisotope techniques. Another (Elwood Bizeau's) was that we meet at Coeur d'Alene prior to the Northwestern Section of the Wildlife Society meeting in April. The Chapter could then proceed to Missoula for the conference. Hugh Harper, Vice President wrote to Ken Hungerford that he favored the McCall Location.

Those present weren't too anxious to vote for the entire chapter membership so we are taking a poll and asking for more ideas from you.

There may not be an either/or decision involved since, as expressed at our organizational meeting, we ought to have local meetings. We have not had enough communication as a group to know which way the Chapter should move. Help us out by returning the enclosed post card.

### Technical Writing

Those present did decide to purchase a few of Werner Nagel's excellent booklet Make Your Technical Writing Useful from the Wildlife Society and American Fisheries Society for sale to members. The cost is \$1.00 and is available from your secretary-treasurer Robert H. Giles, University of Idaho, College of Forestry, Moscow, Idaho. Sale is a Chapter project. We hope you will purchase a copy and encourage others to do so.

### Notes from your Secretary

I'm of the opinion that a Newsletter is one of the glues that can hold our neat-octopus organization together as we wiggle embryologically.

I hope you will jot bits and pieces of information down and send them to me to put in here. This is the way all newsletter editors (usually writers) start. That's where I will stop. The newsletter's always open; I won't keep telling you; if you're not pleased with what's in it or think it ought to be junked, say so and we'll change. 'Till then.....



An Idea

I'm always disturbed by the passing of common men. How much knowledge, experience, and untried ideas do they take with them? How many are left unborn because they sensed no environment in which they dare allow them to emerge? Most wildlifer's have pet ideas, research goals, and little pieces of observations which they love dearly, wouldn't throw away even under wife-attack, but yet don't really know what they're good for. They're good for the keeper--mind you, I'm not an advocate of "if it can't be used, it's no good." I think there are a lot of ideas around under bushes. This little newsletter seems like a good place for them. Besides being of interest they may be the spark, stimulus, or open door to some graduate student, researcher, or may solve a management bottleneck. I have some such ideas but I'll save them for the next newsletters. I hope you will send me your ideas before I have to use mine. How far out can we get and still stay Zeroed in?