

# ZEROED

NEWSLETTER  
of the  
Idaho Chapter  
of the  
Wildlife Society

Number 39, January, 1978

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## Election Results

Nearly 100 members cast their ballots and the final tally was close. Newly elected officers for the 1978-79 biennium are:

President - Dean Carrier, Wildlife Biologist, U.S. Forest Service, Coeur d'Alene

Vice-President - Lloyd Oldenburg, Wildlife Research Supervisor, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Boise

Secretary-Treasurer - Jim Nee, Wildlife Biologist, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Boise

The new officers will assume their responsibilities immediately following the annual meeting on January 24. Congratulations to those elected and a hearty "thank you" to all candidates for your willingness to serve.

## Update on Annual Meeting

General Chairperson for the annual meeting, Steve Peterson, reports on the approaching event. This is your meeting and your attendance will add substantially to its success.

1. It will be held in the Borah Theatre of the SUB on the University of Idaho campus in Moscow.
2. Program will start at 9:00 am on the 24th of January and be titled: "Improving Your Visual Aids."
3. Tentatively, the morning session will consist of five or six speakers covering:
  - a. Word and data slides
  - b. Overhead transparencies
  - c. Video-tape
  - d. Automated tape-slide presentations
  - e. Selection of good scenic slides
  - f. Types of equipment available to improve visuals
4. The afternoon session will consist of a workshop-discussion session that will show how to make the graphics illustrated in the morning.
5. The business meeting will be held in the afternoon after the workshop.

We are planning to have a banquet on the evening of the 24th at the Elks Club but need to tell them how many mouths to plan on. We also need to choose one of four different meals:

Please fill out, clip, and return the following form if you plan to go to the banquet:

I \_\_\_\_\_ plan to attend the banquet. I prefer the following type of

(name  
dinner: (Check one)

Swiss Steak (\$4.95) \_\_\_\_\_  
Ham & Chicken (\$5.95) \_\_\_\_\_  
Roast Beef (\$6.95) \_\_\_\_\_  
Seafood (\$7.95) \_\_\_\_\_

Return this form by January 17 to: Steve Peterson, Idaho Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit, University of Idaho, Moscow, Idaho, 83843.

### Make A Barrel of Cash

Well---maybe a dollar or two anyway. The University Chapter and the Idaho Chapter of the Wildlife Society are cooperating in a project which, if successful, will benefit our organizations and add interest to the annual meeting. The University Chapter has lined up a display area adjacent to the meeting room and will provide salespersons to handle the sale of items you may wish to make available. These may include: photos, sketches, sculptures, paintings, craft items, etc. The only restriction is that the merchandise be related to our wildlife heritage in some shape or fashion. You set the price for your merchandise and 10 percent of the proceeds will go to the Idaho Chapter TWS and 10 percent to the University Chapter TWS. The project needs your participation. If you have items to sell, please write: Tom Leege, Box 398, Kamiah, Idaho, 83536.

### Committee Chairpersons

As the end of our term nears, the officers would like to thank the chairpersons of the various committees for their efforts on behalf of our organization during the past two years:

Awards - Jim Peek  
Publicity - Royce Williams  
Resolutions - Dean Carrier

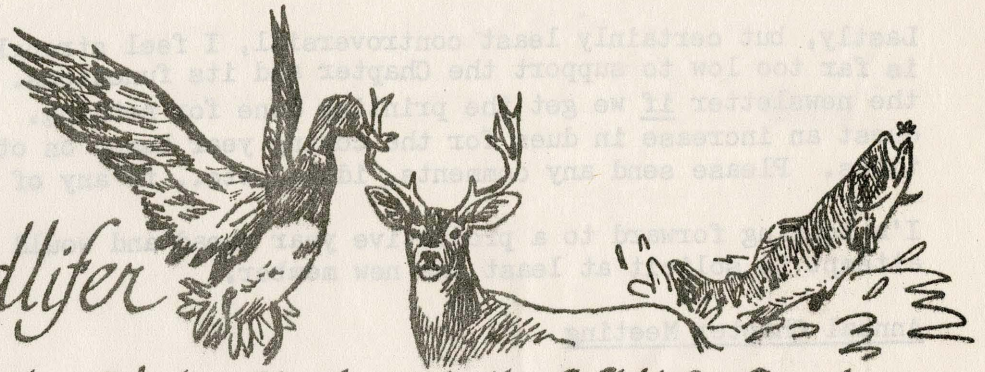
1978 Annual Meeting - Steve Peterson  
Nominations & Election - Elmer Norberg

We are also grateful to members who recently accepted responsibilities: Levi Mohler - State Coordinator for the Building Fund and Scott McLean - Head of the Environmental Action Committee.

### Your Officers:

President - Tom Leege, Box 398, Kamiah, ID 83536  
Vice-President - Jerry Thiessen, P.O. Box 25, Boise, ID 83707  
Secretary-Treasurer - Sam McNeill, 1540 Warner Avenue, Lewiston, ID 83501

# Idaho Wildlifer



## A Publication of the Idaho Chapter of the Wildlife Society

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May 2, 1978

### President's Notebook

Beginning my Idaho Chapter officership with the Presidency is a great honor, however a dubious one. I hope you all know what you were doing! I'll try my best to continue to build the Society's image and to serve the membership in a professional manner. Thanks for your confidence.

I attended the NW Section Board Meeting in Vancouver and part of the TWS Council Meeting at the North American Wildlife Conference in Phoenix. Certification, the building fund and changes in the by-laws were the major issues discussed. By now you all should be aware of the proposed by-law changes. It would provide for membership which would vary in cost as to the amount of publications you receive. One of my greatest concerns is lack of professional participation in TWS by Idaho biologists. I hope this new fee structure allows us to bring in more members.

The parent society has reduced its goals on a building, cutting the space in half and therefore considerably lowering the cost. Still, the building fund is in sore need of contributions. Levi Mohler is the state coordinator for this program. Please contact him for information as to how you may participate.

There are several concerns in Idaho that we should become familiar with. These include the Northern Tier Pipeline which will bisect the Panhandle region of the state; Rare II; herbicide treatment of forest lands; etc. Please become fully knowledgeable about these subjects prior to making public statements as a chapter member.

There has been increasing concern that in certain aspects the Wildlife Society has not fulfilled its role to society as a professional organization. Many special interest groups having varying members in the professional field have taken the lead in public advocacy of wildlife enhancement and preservation. To fulfill our role as a professional society, it is important that the public recognize us as the principal organization of professional wildlife biologists. For us to meet this goal it is of necessity that we provide the public with factual biological data regarding wildlife. Please read the write-up by Scott McLean regarding the Environmental Action Committee and the proposed by-law changes which address this subject.

Lastly, but certainly least controversial, I feel strongly that the \$1.00 dues is far too low to support the Chapter and its functions. It can barely support the newsletter if we get the printing done for nothing. We are hoping to request an increase in dues for the coming year based on other chapters and associations. Please send any comments, ideas, etc., to any of the officers.

I'm looking forward to a productive year ahead and would urge each of you to attempt to solicit at least one new member.

#### Annual Chapter Meeting

The Idaho Chapter meeting was a success as far as the program was concerned but disappointing as far as the attendance of Chapter members. Those who attended certainly profited from the excellent presentation on "how to make presentations". Steve Peterson is to be thanked for his efforts this year.

An art sale in conjunction with the meeting grossed \$180. A twenty percent commission was split between the U. of Idaho Student Chapter and the Idaho Chapter. Both donated their profits to the TWS building fund.

At the annual business meeting, the Secretary-Treasurer reported that the treasury balance was \$460.72 and that there were 97 paid members. This didn't include those who paid through the parent society. So, as yet, we do not know how many members we have.

Tom Leege, outgoing President, introduced the new officers:

President: Dean Carrier

Vice-president: Lloyd Oldenberg

Secretary-treasurer: Jim Nee

Thanks should certainly go to Tom for his outstanding contributions as President these past two years.

New business included a run-down on the Elmer Norberg scholarship fund by Jim Nee. The particulars are attached to this newsletter.

#### Chairpersons

In addition to the elected officers, the following chairpersons have been appointed or reinstated:

Building fund: Levi Mohler

Publicity: open (any takers?)

Ecological Action: Scott McLean

Resolutions: Brent Frazier

I would like to solicit volunteers for next years Program Chairman position. Since the next meeting is to be held in the eastern part of the state, someone from that area would be best. Any volunteers....nominations....?

FLASH OMB (Office of Management & Business) and the present Administration has come out as strongly opposed to the non-game Fish & Wildlife Conservation Act. Your Chapter has written letters to the President and Idaho legislators indicating our support of HR 10915 which provides funding through excise taxes on bird feeders, optics, etc. It is a self-sustaining program much like the Pittman-Robertson and Dingle-Johnson Acts which have proven very successful.

#### Certification

As you all are probably aware, the Wildlife Biologist Certification Program is now operational.

I am convinced this is a valid and necessary program to assist in upgrading our profession, both within and in the public's eye. I am attaching some recent correspondence regarding this program. More detailed information and application forms are available from the National office. The fees are presently \$40/year for society members, \$80/year for non-society members for full certification. An associate program is available for those not yet qualifying in education and/or experience.

We are living in a world of certified engineers, silviculturalists, etc. I urge all members to strongly consider the increasing value of a certification program and support this effort of our Society.

#### Fall Barbecue & Get-together

It has been said that many major world problems have been solved over a mug of golden liquid. Whether this gives us ideas of grandeur or just loosens the tongue and dulls the brain is of question, however, I'm a firm believer in its medicinal benefits.

I am also concerned we don't get together as a group often enough. (I overheard someone say "who the hell's Dean Carrier!") Certainly the logistics of travel have to be taken into consideration but we should try for a couple of informal get-togethers a year even if they are on a regional basis.

Steve Peterson, University of Idaho Professor and land baron in Troy, Idaho has offered the facilities of his ranch for a fall barbecue. A moderate fee will be charged to cover the costs of the roast pig and beverages. Donations of legally taken fish and game products will also be appreciated for sampling by those of us less fortunate in our annual endeavors. More on this in the next newsletter.

#### Publication/Film Reviews

Since the wildlife field is constantly saturated with publications and films, both good and bad, it would be of help if those reading or viewing these could send me a short note regarding the subject, factuality, functionality and some short comments on them. These will be printed in future newsletters.

We Can Save the Eagle (film) National Wildlife Federation: A 30-minute film concerning history and status of the bald eagle. Good footage of eagles and a well-presented message, a positive one for a change. Available on loan free to environmental organizations. Good for school-age children from 6th grade on.

Elk Habitat Coordinating Guidelines by North Idaho Biologists A combined effort by the Idaho Fish & Game Department, University of Idaho, Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Forest Service has resulted in a publication entitled "Habitat Requirements for Elk in North Idaho"

Following the procedure developed by Black, Thomas, & Scherzinger, this publication is meant to provide data as to the habitat needs of elk in forested areas, especially as applicable to actual or potential changes in vegetative cover and human access.

Anyone interested in receiving a copy, please write:

Dean Carrier  
Idaho Panhandle National Forest  
P. O. Box 310  
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83814

"WHATS AN ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION COMMITTEE?" (by: Scott McLean)

The subject of the Wildlife Society involvement in environmental matters has been discussed and debated during many past meetings. The discussions and debates have ranged from mild concensus for involvement to an occasional blast at membership apathy, indifference and acquiescence.

Some members are actively involved. Others complain and criticize the Society for inaction or failure to meet or respond to an individual's professional needs or concerns. Others may wish the Society to remain an exclusive membership of professional integrity not to be classed as another radical or outspoken environmentalist organization.

Yet, we can all generally agree that the Society must strive to reach the goal set forth in the preamble of the Society's bylaws, Article I, Section 2, which states the principal objectives of the Society: (1) "to develop and promote sound stewardship of wildlife resources and of the environments upon which wildlife and man depend; (2) to undertake an active role in preventing man-induced environmental degradation; (3) to increase awareness and appreciation of wildlife values; and (4) to seek the highest standards in all activities of the wildlife profession."

The role of the Wildlife Society is dynamic; gradually changing from wildlife professionals working within wildlife-oriented groups and agencies to an expansion of the profession into numerous government agencies and industry. The new membership of the Society are often wildlife biologists representing environmental expertise. Many of these new faces holding positions that represent new and unexplored (or ignored) areas of concern that agencies or companies have never been exposed. Usually, the agencies or companies are seeking approval or support for time-entrenched practices that generally tend to exploit commodity natural resources; often to the detriment of wildlife resources. To their employers, these newcomers express seemingly radical ideas and concepts. It is these new faces that have begun to look toward their professional affiliation for support and encouragement.

It was the increasing need to become involved in environmental affairs and to meet the concerns of the expanding profession that the parent Wildlife Society initiated the "Guidelines for Environmental Affairs Activities," presented in the June 1976 Wildlifer. These guidelines ultimately filtered down to Sections and Chapters for implementation; which brings this brief writing back to the original question.

The Environmental Action Committee is viewed as the vehicle for Society involvement in environmental affairs. It is viewed as a forum for wildlife professionals to collectively express their concerns and/or positions, based on ecologically sound principles, about activities and actions that would affect wildlife resources. The EAC is the point of emphasis for which the objectives set forth by the Society's bylaws can be accomplished. The EAC is also the vehicle which will be geared to actively involve all of the Wildlife Society membership if they so choose.

Enclosed with this article is a draft proposed amendment to the Idaho Chapter The Wildlife Society Bylaws which would set forth the guidelines, functions and operation of the Idaho Chapter EAC. It is the intent of this newsletter to make the Idaho Chapter membership aware of the EAC and to solicit ideas, opinions, comments and criticisms about the guidelines, concepts and/or functions of the EAC. Other chapters have initiated programs but few have attempted to structure the EAC into an effective ongoing and workable program. We need your expression of interest in this matter. Send your correspondence to: Scott McLean, 421 Wagon, Soda Springs, Idaho 83276.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT

Idaho Chapter The Wildlife Society  
Bylaws

ARTICLE VIII Committees

Section 2. Duties of Standing Committees

Clause F - Environmental Action Committee

Objective - The Environmental Action Committee (EAC) will provide a forum for professional wildlife biologists to actively address actions by government, private and/or other entities that would significantly affect wildlife resources. All actions of the EAC will be based on professional, scientific and ecologically sound principles in standing with the bylaws and guidelines of The Wildlife Society, Northwest Section of The Wildlife Society and the Idaho Chapter of The Wildlife Society.

Structure

1. The Chapter President shall appoint the chairman of the EAC to serve a three (3) year term consistent with the Northwest Section guidelines.
2. The EAC chairman will represent the Idaho Chapter on the Northwest Section Environmental Action Committee.
3. The EAC chairman will act as liason with the Northwest Section EAC and the Idaho Chapter Executive Board on environmental matters having regional or national significance.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT

4. The EAC chairman will respond directly to the Chapter Executive Board on all environmental matters and will provide an annual report to the membership at the annual business meeting.

Duties - The EAC will:

1. Maintain a current and comprehensive list of resolutions and position statements for use as source material for prompt replies concerning the Chapter's position on environmental issues.
2. Maintain a current list of Idaho Chapter members willing to serve as expert witnesses on a variety of environmental issues.
3. Solicit Chapter members with expertise in various fields of environmental concern to respond to ongoing and future environmental issues. These issues may include resource/land use plans, pending legislation which members were invited by legislatures or their staffs to draft or testify, environmental statement review or other government or private entity actions affecting wildlife resources.
4. Establish data-bank on foreseeable future activities or actions affecting wildlife resources for the purpose of developing resolutions or position statements.
5. Initiate and seek relevant resolutions from the membership if no resolution is in effect for some environmental issue of importance for which Chapter members have volunteered to act as expert witnesses.



PROPOSED AMENDMENT

6. Receive requests for action or response initiated by any Chapter member. All requests will be acted upon and recommendations for specific actions will be forwarded to the Executive Board for final approval for which a resolution or other expression of support has been formally approved by the Chapter membership.
7. Comply with the approved Northwest Section guidelines relating to environmental actions.

July 15, 1978

### President's Notebook

It seems it's time to get out another newsletter although you've probably just received the belated one. If I myself didn't work for a government agency, I would not have believed the problems associated in obtaining a permit and mailing under the bulk permit rate for non-profit organizations.

To begin with, it is cheaper in the long run to buy a permit and mail at 2.4¢/letter than to mail 1st class. So....we applied for a permit at the local P.O. The first three hang-ups were that we didn't provide the proper documents (non-profit status, by-laws, etc.) Then, the application got lost somewhere between Seattle and Coeur d'Alene. Finally, after four weeks we decided to re-apply at the Boise office and all the newsletters were shipped down there. Two days after shipping our permit (less the check) showed up in Coeur d'Alene. So, we shipped the newsletters back to Cd'A. Then, the permit went up from \$30 to \$40; then the rate went from 2.4¢ to 2.7¢; then the mailing was submitted and it was noted they had failed to tell me I needed a bulk permit number printed on it so we had to order a rubber stamp and stamp each of the 261 copies sent out. Finally on June 29, 3½ months after it was completed, the newsletter went out. Hopefully, future newsletters will be easier!

Lots of mail received by this office recently on everything from RARE II to atomic energy plants. It seems the Department of Energy expends more energy keeping us informed on upcoming activities than the activities themselves will provide.

Actions taken by the Society in the past months have been:

Support of the Florida Chapter's stand on restoration of the Oklawaha River - letter to Senator McClure.

Support of non-game legislation - letters to Senator McClure, Senator Church & President Carter.

Request to President Carter to veto bill giving 6,000 acres at INEL to Teton farmers. Carter signed bill anyway.

### Board Meeting

On May 17, 1978 a board meeting was held in Moscow. All members of the board were in attendance. Briefly, here is a run-down of the subjects discussed:

Discussed & agreed upon need for a bulk mailing permit. Permit now active, cost of \$70. Each mailing costs 2.7¢/piece.

Nee sent 133 letters to non-TWS members inviting contribution to Norberg Scholarship fund. Fund now has \$418.84 in it.

Discussed Idaho Forest Council advertisements on RARE II issue. Decided advertisements are misleading and biased but the Idaho Chapter will not get involved in opposition to them as it is not our position to advocate or oppose wilderness in toto.

Annual Chapter meeting discussed at length. Decision to hold meeting concerning Wildlife & Wilderness. Theme will be timely as RARE II decision to be made shortly after. Martel Morache and Lloyd Oldenburg agreed to co-chair the meeting. Since we are planning much attention and are going to attempt to get big-name speakers, such as John Hendee, we felt it better to by-pass tradition and have the meeting in Boise, agreeing that the 1980 meeting would be held in eastern Idaho. There is a good chance the Association for the Humanities in Idaho will match funding costs with us. An agenda will be outlined by August 10, 1978.

Nee to pursue public service announcement radio spots for the Chapter.

Proposed dues increase to \$3 to be voted on at next annual meeting.

#### Journal Donation

A set of the Journal of Wildlife Management and Wildlife Monographs belonging to Elmer Norberg were purchased by the Chapter and will be donated to North Idaho College library.

#### Dues

There are still a lot of TWS members and other interested people who haven't yet paid their 1978 dues. With all the annual activities we have planned, we need to build up the treasury. Please, if you haven't yet paid your dues and received this news letter, send your \$1 to:

Jim Nee  
410 Fall Drive  
Boise, Idaho 83706

Thanks, we'll make it worth your while.

#### Picnic-Barbecue

The tentative date set for this summer's picnic and barbecue in Moscow is Sept. 9. There will be roast pig and other delicacies plus liquid refreshments. Several activities, including a trap shoot are planned. It will be a family affair.

Contact: Steve Peterson  
c/o U. of Idaho  
College of Forestry, Range & Wildlife  
Moscow, Idaho 83843

The Chapter would like to initiate a fund raising project of some sort to purchase volumes of the J. of WL. Mgt. plus monographs offered by Mrs. Elmer Norberg to donate to the North Idaho College library. Possibly a raffle at the barbecue, and/or an entrance fee for the skeet shoot in combination would do the job.

## HITS & MISSES

The non-game remains in trouble, especially with a major push industry has placed on its defeat plus the Administration's admitted disfavor of it. The Idaho Chapter sent several letters to senators, congressmen and the President in support of this bill.

### Pittman-Robertson Funds

The Committee for Humane Legislation and Friends of Animals filed suit against any current or future uses of Pittman-Robertson funds indicating this funding, being directed for the most part at game species had caused more habitat destruction and loss of ecosystems than the good it had provided. A superior court decided in favor of the Government, however an EIS must be drafted by the USFWS by July 1.

### Walde Salvage

A disputed timber sale in the Pete King Drainage on the Clearwater National Forest was disallowed as the Chief of the Forest Service overturned the decision of the Forest Supervisor and Regional Forester to go ahead with the sale. The decision was based on data provided by the Elk Habitat Guidelines for Northern Idaho and the fact that the sale decreased the elk potential by 19% while not enhancing the silvicultural needs of the sale area. Mort Brigham, a member of the Idaho Chapter, spearheaded the appeal of this sale.

### Endangered Species Act

Problems lie ahead for the endangered species act due to the court decision on Tellico Dam and the snail darter. The Wildlife Management Institute reports that Congress will most probably amend the act to take out some of its "inflexibility". There is a proposal to appoint a committee to make final decisions on conflicts. It's interesting to ponder just who might be appointed to it!

### Cross-Florida Barge Canal

The Florida Chapter of TWS asked our help in their fight to deauthorize the Cross-Florida Barge Canal and restore the Oklawaha River through removal of Rodman Dam. Since Senator James McClure sits on the Water Resources Board, the Florida Chapter asked us to lend our support by writing to him concerning the ecological needs of the area. A return letter did not indicate his stand on this matter.

### Unique Wildlife Ecosystems Program

The USFWS is responsible for development of the Unique Wildlife Ecosystems Program as a part of the National Heritage Trust Program. We have been asked to submit areas of ecological significance, especially those concerning threatened and endangered species; habitats of wide species diversity; or high concentrations of wildlife, for inclusion in this program. Although initially the USFWS wants to focus on private lands for aquisition, other areas may be submitted. Attached is one form for designating areas for consideration. Additional forms are available by writing the USFWS, 4620 Overland Rd., Room 238, Boise, Idaho 83705.

### Book Reviews: Birds of North American Forests

#### Cavity Nesting Birds of North American Forests

by Virgil Scott, Keith Evans, David Patton, and Charles Store. 112 pp.  
A U. S. Forest Service, USDA Handbook (#511). Available through the Supt. of Documents, Govt. Printing Office, Washington, D.C. for \$2.75.

The book is quite complete on all species using tree cavities for nesting purposes. Eighty-five species are covered including color illustrations by Arthur Singer and information on habitat, nest and food of each.

The California Condor, 1966-76: A Look at its Past & Future by Sanford R. Wilbur, 136 pp. A new North American Fauna series publication by the USFWS. This book is a synopsis of the diminishing population of the California condor in California. It indicates present habits, management activities, population trends and probable future (extinction). A summary of past and recent sightings; losses of birds and eggs; chronological events; and an annotated list of literature are included.

!!!!!!!!!!!!!!COME ON, MEMBERS---SEND IN SOME REVIEWS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

#### How's That Again?

Have you ever tried to read an EIS? Have you ever tried to UNDERSTAND one? If not, absorb the following paragraph from a recent U.S. Forest Service publication written for public review a couple of years ago.

Ideas from statistical division theory, along with empirical research on the average effect on various decisions, of errors of various sizes, might provide useful concepts and procedures. Such concepts and procedures are required to provide an appropriate optimality criterion and objective for choosing among the alternative inventory procedures needed, and for determining how far to carry the local intensification of inventory. (Fog Index=152)

#### Philosophical Section

**Never try to teach a pig to sing,  
it wastes your time and it annoys the pig.**

