

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 <u>legally</u> 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

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 Gagon, Soda Springs, Idaho 83276.

PROPROSED 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 consistant 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.



THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY
Idaho Chapter
Dean Carrier, President
3507 Buckskin Road
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83841



`Elmer Norberg
Wildlife Management
Memorial Fund

February 18, 1978

Dear Friends and Associates of Elmer Norberg:

As you may know Elmer Norberg died of complications from heart disease on January 18, 1978. Elmer was a member of The Wildlife Society for over 25 years and a former president of the Idaho Chapter. His biological work in Alaska and Idaho won him many close friends. His views on big game management were highly respected by his colleagues. We believe that you, his friends and professional associates, would like some special way to honor the memory of Elmer's life.

The Idaho Chapter of the Wildlife Society decided at its 1978 annual meeting to co-sponsor a scholarship fund in Elmer's memory. Elmer's wife, Marilyn "Lynn" Norberg, is the other co-sponsor. We have established the Elmer Norberg Wildlife Management Memorial Fund at the University of Idaho in order to create a permanent wildlife scholarship. The Chapter's goal is to raise \$2,000 for the fund.

We believe that Elmer would be pleased to know that his life and work will lead to improved educational opportunities for wildlife students. We hope that you will support this effort in Elmer's memory. Please send your contributions to the Office of the Controller, University of Idaho, Moscow, Idaho 83843. Make checks payable to the University of Idaho Foundation, Inc. In the lower left-hand corner of the check note that it is for the Elmer Norberg Wildlife Management Memorial Fund. Contributions to the fund are tax-deductible.

Thank you for your help.

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Sincerely yours

James Nee Secretary-Treasurer

Idaho Chapter, TWS 410 Fall Drive

Boise, Idaho 83706

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IDAHO CHAPTER

of the

WILDLIFE SOCIETY
DEAN CARRIER, Pres.
3507 BUCKSKIN RD.
COEUR D'ALENE, ID 83814

THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

Idaho Chapter

Dean Carrier, Fresident

3507 Buckskin Road

Dept. of Range & Wildlife Mgmt. Texas Tech University Lubbock, TX 79409

Justin F. Naderman

Bulk Rate
Permit #53
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814

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Thank you for your help.

Sincerely yours

Secretary-Treasurer Idaho Chapter, TWS 410 Fall Drive Boise, Idaho 83706