

Idaho Wildlifer



A Publication of the Idaho Chapter of the Wildlife Society

March 17, 1979

Annual Meeting

The Idaho Chapter Annual Meeting was held on January 12 & 13 in Boise. The theme of this year's meeting, Wilderness & Wildlife, drew much attention with 200 members and non-members attending. The first day's symposium on selected species was of extremely high technical quality. We sincerely appreciate the participation of the out-of-state speakers, Charles Jonkel, Robert Ream, and Riley McClelland as well as the excellent papers from our members, Jim Peek, Maurice Hornocker, Gary Kohler, Wayne Melquist, Brent Ritchie, Lonk Kuck and Don Johnson.

The second day's session dealing with social and political aspects was begun by an excellent review by Dr. John Hendee followed by representatives of private, state and federal organizations and agencies, the Governor's office and the U.S. Senate. An abstract of Dr. Hendee's talk is included with the newsletter. I'm certain that all in attendance were as proud as I was to be a member of the Idaho Chapter as our program rivalled many Section meetings in content and professionalism. Credit lies basically in the hands of Lloyd Oldenburg and Jim Nee who spent many hours getting this program together. Lloyd and Jim, thanks for a memorable session!

Business Meeting - by Jim Nee

Idaho Chapter, TWS, January 12, 1979

The meeting was called to order by President Dean Carrier at 3:45 p.m. in the auditorium of the Idaho Department of Transportation Building, Boise. There were 40 members present.

Jim Nee, Secretary-Treasurer, reported that the Chapter treasury has \$187.97 in it. Expenses totalled \$386.35, due primarily to the purchase by the Chapter of the Elmer Norberg collection of wildlife journals. These journals were then donated to North Idaho State College in Coeur d'Alene for their new wildlife program. The president explained that our depleted treasury hinders us from being as active as we'd like. He recommended an amendment to the By-laws which would increase Chapter dues to \$3.00 per year. Elwood Bizeau moved to raise the dues to \$3.00. The motion was seconded and then approved unanimously.

The President discussed the need for a By-laws amendment to have the president and secretary-treasurer live in the same geographical area of the state. Stu Murrell moved that each new president appoint the secretary-treasurer. The motion was seconded by Karl Holte. The motion passed with 27 in favor and 11 against.

Lewis Nelson explained the TWS certification program and will provide each member with more information soon.

The meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m., following which Karl Holte urged members to review the BIM's Malad Unit Management Framework Plan. Karl was concerned that the plan, as proposed, will cause harm to wildlife resources.

After the meeting, 72 people attended a pizza and beer feed. They joyfully consumed 35 pizzas and drank \$89 worth of beer and soft drinks!

Northwest Section Meeting

On February 13, 14, and 15 I attended the annual NW Section Meeting in Portland, Oregon. The meeting contained various subjects and numerous joint sessions so it was impossible to attend all of them. At the business meeting subjects discussed included certification (more on this later), building fund, next year's meeting and candidates for election. As you may know, both candidates for President Elect are members of the Idaho Chapter, Dr. Steve Peterson and Thomas Leege. Steve is located at the University of Idaho and is currently Chairman of Wildlife Resources. Tom is continuing his elk research in Coeur d'Alene and is past-president of this chapter.

Next year's meeting will be held in Edmonton, Alberta. It will probably be held in April to alleviate some of the problems of sub-zero weather.

Member Wins Award; or Practice Makes Perfect

Wayne Melquist won the J.R. Deming award for best technical paper at the NW Section meeting. His paper on his otter research was quite informative and well done as Wayne had much practice, having given a similar paper at the Chapter meeting. Congratulations, Wayne, it really was the best of the session!

Wildlife Conclave

The University of Idaho is hosting the Western Wildlife Conclave on March 29, 30, and 31st. This year I urge all members to attend and support our student chapter in this endeavor.

Membership List

We have drawn up a current membership list and will mail newsletters only to those members on the list and selected agency heads.

New TWS Dues Structure

With the new dues structure I would hope all Chapter members take advantage in joining the parent society and supporting your only professional organization. The new dues structure is as follows:

- a) Basic Membership dues are \$12.00/year, includes "The Wildlifer" newsletter
- b) If you want the Journal, that's an additional \$18.00/year. It is published four times a year.
- c) If you want the Wildlife Society Bulletin, that's an additional \$8.00/year. It is published four times a year also.

Certification

Dr. Lewis Nelson, Professor of Continuing Education at the University of Idaho has agreed to be our Certification Chairman, a newly appointed post. Lou will be contacting you in the near future on the benefits of certification. Please, consider it as a major step to upgrading our profession.

Norberg Fund - by Jim NeeYour Help Is Needed!

The Chapter sponsors the Elmer Norberg Memorial Wildlife Management Scholarship Fund at the University of Idaho. Our goal is to raise \$2,000 for the fund by March, 1981. As of January 11, 1979 the fund had \$590 in it. Thus, we have two years to raise \$1,410. That's a formidable task which will only be accomplished with much help from our Chapter members. If each member gives \$8.00 in 1979 and the same amount in 1980, we'll make our goal with three months to spare.

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.

AbstractThe Social Relationship Between Man and Wilderness Wildlife - by John Hendee*

The review of data from recent environmental opinion surveys revealed broad public support for the environmental movement. This support crossed all education and income levels, all races, political parties and ideologies. Wildlife appears to be a symbolic element in people's efforts to protect the environment and preserve wilderness. For example, with public input to RARE II, four of the top twenty reasons people gave for supporting pro-wilderness opinions were wildlife-related. The desire to use wilderness for hunting and fishing was one of those four reasons. In contrast, of the top twenty reasons for supporting non-wilderness designation, the only wildlife-related reason given by people was their desire to hunt and fish there. The people surveyed were saying that a wild animal living in wilderness is of higher value to them than that same animal living in non-wilderness.

The challenge to the wildlife professional is to be sure that the public understands the consequences to wildlife of designating wilderness and non-wilderness areas. We should make the public aware that there are trade-offs in the quality and quantity of wildlife when land is managed for wilderness versus non-wilderness purposes. This will improve the credibility of wildlife professionals among all wildlife users, not just hunters and fishermen.

* Abstract of a paper given at TWS symposium entitled "Wilderness & Wildlife in Idaho" - January 12-13, 1979. Abstract dictated by Hendee to J. Nee over telephone and then slightly edited by Nee.

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