



## Idaho Wildlifer

A Publication of the Idaho Chapter of the Wildlife Society

### ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES NEWSLETTER

It is the beginning of a new political year with a new federal administration. We are going to have our hands full in the political arena competing with adversary special interest groups. Over the past four years we perhaps became too complacent due to a Carter administration sympathetic to our causes and concerns. The easy life is over, we are now facing an uphill struggle. We cannot afford to sit back and be uninvolved any longer. Our opinions concerning matters that affect wildlife must be heard by politicians and the public. As professional wildlife biologists we must get the facts to these people.

A statewide TWS telephone network has been established to keep everyone informed. The regional coordinators are listed below. These people are responsible for disseminating information to members in their region. They may need help on occasion so please volunteer.

#### Southern Idaho

Delanne Villegas - Twin Falls  
387 Jackson St.  
Twin Falls, ID 83301  
Home: 733-5011  
Employer: U.S. Forest Service

Carl H. Nellis - Others  
Route 3, Box 231-A  
Jerome, Idaho 83338  
Home: 324-3202  
Employer: Dept. of Fish and Game

#### Central Idaho

Hadley Roberts  
Box 1481  
Salmon, ID 83467  
Home: 756-2163  
Employer: U.S. Forest Service

#### Southeastern Idaho

Ed Loth  
351 Gagen Drive  
Soda Springs, ID 83276  
Home: 547-3986  
Office: 547-4996 (FWS)

#### Eastern Idaho

Bob Jones  
940 Lincoln Road  
Idaho Falls, ID 83401  
Office: 529-1020 (BLM)

#### Northern Idaho (Moscow)

Lewis Nelson, Jr.  
Department of Wildlife  
University of Idaho  
Moscow, Idaho 83843  
Home: 882-3927

Northern Idaho (Lewiston-Kamiah)

Terry Hershey  
General Delivery  
Kamiah, Idaho 83536  
Home: 935-0486  
Office: 476-4541 (USFS)

Southwestern Idaho

Sam Mattise  
306 Hillview Drive  
Boise, Idaho 83702  
Home: 344-5033  
Office: 334-1582

Larry Donohoo  
10466 Kit Fox Court  
Boise, Idaho 83709  
Home: 362-2437  
Office: 334-1055

Northern Idaho (Coeur d'Alene)

Bob Summerfield  
Route 1, Box 206  
Bonners Ferry, Idaho 83805  
Home: 267-5883  
Employer: U.S. Forest Service

Alan Sands  
2812 Columbus Street  
Boise, Idaho 83705  
Office: 334-1582

When your regional coordinator calls he will update you on the issue and suggest the best communication medium to use. Conversely, if you become aware of an issue deserving chapter responses, call your regional coordinator and Signe Sather-Blair (336-9345) or James Gore (362-2325) in Boise. We will then contact the other regions.

KEY POLITICIANS

In this newsletter we have included the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of key politicians that will be making decisions concerning our environment and natural resources. Please keep this newsletter handy for upcoming letter campaigns. We have left a space for you to write in your state representative(s) and senator(s).

Federal Government

Senator James McClure  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, D. C. 20515  
Boise Office: 334-1560

Senator Steve Symms  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, D. C. 20515  
Boise Office: 334-1776

Rep. George Hansen  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515  
Boise Office: 334-1876

Rep. Larry Craig  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515  
Boise Office: 334-9046

Rep. Morris Udall  
Chairman, House Interior Committee  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515

Secretary James Watt  
U.S. Dept. of Interior  
Washington, D. C. 20515

State Government

SENATE RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

J. Marsden Williams, Chairman  
1950 Carmel Drive  
Idaho Falls, Idaho 83401  
Phone: 524-1922

William L. Floyd  
6605 Rimrock Drive  
Idaho Falls, Idaho 83401

David Little  
Box 68  
Emmett, Idaho 83617  
Phone: 365-4821

Kermit V. Kiebert, Jr.  
Box 187  
Hope, Idaho 83836  
Phone: 264-5430

Kenneth Bradshaw  
Box 485  
Wendell, Idaho 83355  
Phone: 934-5915

Ron J. Beitelspacher  
Route 1, Box 45G  
Grangeville, Idaho 83530  
Phone: 983-2535

J. Wilson Steen  
Drawer B  
Glenns Ferry, Idaho 83625  
Phone: 366-7956

John Peavey  
Box 88  
Carey, Idaho 83530

Laird Noh  
Route 1, Box 65  
Kimberly, Idaho 83341  
Phone: 733-3617

#### HOUSE RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

J. Vard Chatburn  
Box 97  
Albion, Idaho 83311  
Phone: 673-6661

Myron Jones, Jr.  
165 W. 300 N.  
Malad, Idaho 83252  
Phone: 766-4935

B.E. Bud Lewis  
Route 3, Box 47  
St. Maries, Idaho 83861  
Phone: 245-3120

Kenneth Stephenson  
Route 5, Box 5629  
Nampa, Idaho 83651  
Phone: 466-4722

Lyman G. Winchester  
Route 1  
Kuna, Idaho 83634  
Phone: 922-5750

Raymond G. Parks  
Route 4, Box 238  
Blackfoot, Idaho 83221  
Phone: 684-4816

Noy E. Brackett  
Box 403  
Twin Falls, Idaho 83301  
Phone: 733-4823

Eugene B. Stucki  
31 W. 2nd S.  
Paris, Idaho 83261  
Phone: 945-2245

Kurt L. Johnson  
Route 6, Box 407  
Idaho Falls, Idaho 83401  
Phone: 522-7959

Rich E. Orme  
Box 32  
St. Anthony, Idaho 83445  
Phone: 624-7650

Wayne E. Tibbitts  
Lorenzo Route, Box 212  
Rigby, Idaho 83442  
Phone: 745-7550

Jim S. Higgins  
Box 234  
New Meadows, Idaho 83654  
Phone: 347-2481

Linden B. Bateman  
Route 1, Box 442  
Idaho Falls, Idaho 83401  
Phone: 524-0927

Martin B. Trillhaase  
Route 4, Box 226  
Idaho Falls, Idaho 83401  
Phone: 523-7281

\*During legislative session, you can write to these people c/o Statehouse, Boise, Idaho 83710.

#### Senate Finance Committee

Senator Dave Little, Chairman  
Statehouse  
Boise, Idaho 83710  
Phone: 334-3532

#### House Appropriations Committee

Representative Kitty Gurnsey  
Statehouse  
Boise, Idaho 83710  
Phone: 334-3531

Your Local Representative:

334-2000  
Legislative Information Center

This is a very important number. By calling this number, you can 1) find out what's happening in the current session, 2) find out who you should contact on specific issues, and 3) state your opinion on specific bills (the service then will route your opinion to the appropriate legislators or committees). Our members in the Boise area should use this number on a regular basis. Other members are encouraged to use it on important issues.

If you are having a difficult time obtaining information you should contact Signe Sather-Blair (336-9345) or Jay Gore (362-2325). We will see to it that you receive the necessary materi( ).

### THE ISSUES - WHAT ACTION YOU CAN TAKE

There are several issues that we must become familiar with. In this and upcoming newsletters we will briefly update you on some of the issues, tell you where you can obtain additional information, and suggest ways you can be effective.

#### Birds of Prey Conservation Area

Update: In the closing months of the Carter administration Cecil Andrus, by executive order, declared 480,000 acres of BLM lands as the Birds of Prey Conservation Area. This area will be protected from further agricultural development only until Congress decides what action to take. The declaration in no way affects existing agricultural operations, livestock grazing, mineral and gas exploration, or National Guard exercises on the area.

The area supports the densest nesting population of raptors in North America and possibly the world. The expansion was necessary to protect the habitat of the Townsend ground squirrel and other rodents which constitute a large proportion of the raptors' prey base.

Additional Information: Write Birds, Box 9303, Boise, ID 83707.

Action To Take: Now is the time to act on this issue. Write to our Washington congressional delegation and Morris Udall. Send a copy of the letter sent to Senator McClure to Secretary of Interior James Watt. It is important that he knows there are Idaho citizens that want this land preserved for future generations.

A petition for the Birds of Prey expansion is enclosed with this newsletter. Please get as many people as possible to sign up. Return the petition to the address listed at the bottom of the page.

#### Sagebrush Rebellion

Update: The incoming Reagan administration with Secretary of Interior James Watt have put new wood into the fire of Sagebrush Rebellion proponents. We have to be vigilant in our efforts to weed out the lies and half-truths of their campaign and let our politicians and the public know the facts. The rally held in front of the Capitol on January 26 was the start of a statewide campaign to do just this.

If BLM and Forest Service lands are transferred from the federal government, 570 million acres in the U.S. would be lost. If only BLM land is transferred, 350 million acres would be gone. There is data to show that the loss of \$10 to \$14 million/year can be expected in Idaho if the 12 million acres under BLM management were transferred to the State (this includes \$3 million/year paid to Idaho counties to make up for property lost on the tax rolls). The state would have two courses of action open to it: 1) raise taxes to cover the loss or, 2) sell the land. Notice this sum doesn't even include the cost of land management or fire control. Sagebrush Rebellion proponents would opt for sale to private interests and the NO TRESPASSING signs would go up.

Additional Information: Write to: Save Our Public Lands, Box 844, Boise, ID 83701.

Action To Take: Write to your state and federal legislators. Let them know exactly how you feel about this blatant land grab scheme. It has nothing to do with state rights! Write to Secretary James Watt, too, he's one of the founding fathers of this rebellion.

We have included a petition to pass around for Idaho citizens to sign. To date approximately 8,000 signatures have been collected. These petitions are important as a show of strength. Please do your part.

#### Fish and Game Funding Package

Update: The Fish and Game funding package includes several key issues. The ones likely to be most controversial are the proposed increase in license fees, nongame funding, and the pheasant stamp. The proposed fee increases would go into effect in 1982 and are necessary to keep the Department of Fish and Game solvent and to maintain its current level of fish and wildlife management. A companion bill would tie future fee increases to the Gross National Product price index. This would allow the Fish and Game Commission to match changes in the rate of inflation. Nongame funding would be supported by an income tax checkoff system. Under the proposal, Idahoans could contribute a portion of their state income tax refund or they could donate a sum after paying their tax liability. A \$5 pheasant stamp will also be proposed. The funds would be used to pay the landowner for development and maintenance of pheasant habitat. The funds could be used on either public or private lands.

Additional Information: Contact Lloyd Oldenburg, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, 600 S. Walnut, P.O. Box 25, Boise, Idaho 83707, 334-2920.

Action To Take: Write to the chairmen of the House Appropriations Committee and the Senate Finance Committee. You may also want to communicate with your local representatives. When the bill is about to be up in the Legislature we will see how our phone network performs. This would be a good issue to use the Legislative Information Center (334-2000).

We're for the birds. We, the undersigned, petition members of Idaho's congressional delegation, the Congress, the Idaho legislature, and members of the Land Board to support protection of habitat for eagles, hawks, falcons and owls in southern Idaho. We ask your support of legislation in Congress to designate 480,000 acres of public land as an addition to the Birds of Prey Conservation Area. We support continued multiple use in the area, including livestock grazing, National Guard exercises, oil and gas exploration and outdoor recreation.

NAME

ADDRESS

PHONE


(Return petition to: Birds of Prey, Box 9303, Boise ID 83707).

We the undersigned petition members of the Idaho congressional delegation, members of the Idaho legislature and the governor of Idaho to oppose the transfer of public lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management or the U. S. Forest Service to the states.

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(Return petition to: Save Our Public Lands, Box 844, Boise ID 83701)

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PHONE

ADDRESS

NAME

James F. Gore  
Endangered Species Wildlife Biologist  
U S Fish & Wildlife Service  
4620 Overland Rd., Room 238  
Boise, Idaho 83705



Justin Naderman  
Oregon State University  
Rangeland Resources Program  
Corvallis, Or 97331

(Return petition to: Save Our Public Lands, Box 844, Boise ID 83701)