



# IDAHO CHAPTER

THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

83(3): September

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

It was only four years ago that Jack Ward Thomas, in collaboration with other biologists, wrote "Wildlife Habitats in Managed Forests". What a fastastic approach to understanding wildlife, its dependence on habitat, and its similarity to other wildlife species and their habitats. The key to the process is a life form classification system that is determined by reproductive and feeding needs of each species. Understanding is further accomplished by calculating a Versatility Index. That is done by determining the number of habitat types and successional stages occupied by each species. For those among you that are less biologically oriented and more romantic, let's express it a slightly different way:

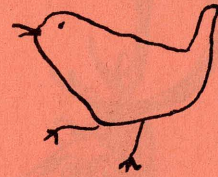
### According to Thomas

According to Thomas, in the book we've been reading you classify wildlife by reproduction and feeding go out in the morning, record the species there seen and when you've finished, there are life forms--sixteen.

Count up the habitats where each species is found sight is important but we'll also take sound successional stages--add to the complex and presto, you have the versatility index.



Robin red-breast, how abundant you thrive  
it's easy to understand--you scored 35  
you follow me every-place that I go  
flexible, adaptable, you change with the flow.



But you, great blue heron, you scored only 6  
if they mess up your habitat, you're in a big fix  
cause where will you go if they destroy your home  
just like the heath hen, you'll live just in a tome.

So now comes the question, what teachers can do  
how to help wildlife--their hard times see through  
teach children ecology, their knowledge progress  
they're smarter than us, they'll solve the distress.

Thanks, Jack, for such a fine system. And, to the anonymous poet,  
silence is bliss.

#### ELECTIONS

It is now time to vote for the offices of President and Vice-President of the Idaho Chapter for 1984-85. The office of Secretary-Treasurer will be appointed by the new President. According to the by-laws, your vote and 1984 membership dues must be received by December 10. Thus, the ballot and dues payment form is included on the last page of this newsletter. Please cast your vote, include \$3.00 for your 1984 dues, and mail as soon as possible. Remember, it's your Chapter. If you care about it, VOTE.

#### Presidential Candidates

Mike Schlegel - My childhood years were spent in western Oregon and Washington. I graduated from high school in 1960, attended Portland State University for two terms, and then transferred to Oregon State University where a B.S. degree in Fish and Game Management was received in June, 1965. From then through April, 1970, I was an Assistant in Veterinary Parasitology at O.S.U. in the Department of Veterinary Medicine. During this time I also completed a M.S. degree in Wildlife Management.

In May, 1970, I moved to Mack's Inn, Idaho, to become a Conservation Officer for the Idaho Department of Fish and Game and was transferred to Grace a few months later. In August, 1971, I moved to Kamiah to become a Research Biologist on the Lochsa Elk Ecology Project and have been there ever since. I am also the Department's representative on the Northern Rocky Mountain Wolf Recovery Team.

I have been a member of The Wildlife Society since the early 1960's and the Idaho Chapter since 1970. During my senior year at Oregon State University I served as President of the Wildlife Club.

To date my activity in the Idaho chapter has been limited and minimal. When the Nominations Committee contacted me about running for President of the Idaho Chapter, it presented an opportunity to definitely get involved!!! If elected President, emphasis will be directed toward:



increasing membership, greater membership participation in Chapter activities, involvement in issues affecting Idaho's wildlife resources, and public information/education programs and projects.

Lew Nelson - It was a difficult decision but I've decided to run for President of the Idaho Chapter one last time. I made that choice because a few tasks had not been accomplished due to time constraints. One more term will provide enough time to complete the work.

The last 18 months have been productive ones for the Idaho Chapter, thanks to the hard work of its members. Some of the things we accomplished are:

- 1) Sponsorship of the Wolf Biology and Management Symposium.
- 2) Sponsorship of the Man, Wildlife, and the Public Lands Symposium.
- 3) A large increase in membership (over 100).
- 4) An excellent annual meeting that emphasized law enforcement, information/education, research, and management.
- 5) An increase in the quality of the Newsletter.
- 6) A public stand on several conservation issues.
- 7) Involvement in Project WILD.
- 8) Completion of the by-laws revision.
- 9) Initiation of the Ted Trueblood Communication Award presented yearly at the annual meeting to the person making the best presentation.

The past, however, is nice to look at but not to dwell on too long. Be proud of what was accomplished but never lose sight of what still needs to be done. The following are my additional goals for 1984-85:

- 1) Increase membership to 250 members.
- 2) Raise an additional \$1500 for the Elmer Norberg Scholarship Fund so that a \$250 scholarship can be offered each year.
- 3) Active support of the Riparian Lands Tax Incentive Legislation.
- 4) Increased involvement in Project WILD.
- 5) Increased attendance at the annual meeting.
- 6) Explore the possibility of a joint meeting with the American Fisheries Society.

It is my sincere desire to continue to further the activities and goals of the Idaho Chapter. With your support and active participation, it can be accomplished.

#### Vice-Presidential Candidates

Chuck Blair - My name is Chuck Blair and I am running for the office of Vice-President of the Idaho Chapter of The Wildlife Society. My educational background includes a B.S. in Wildlife Ecology and Natural Resources from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1974 and an M.S. in Wildlife Biology from South Dakota State University in 1978. From 1978 to 1980 I worked on numerous contracts with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the South Dakota Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit. Since 1980 I have been employed as a Wildlife Biologist by the consulting firm of CH<sub>2</sub>M HILL in Boise.



My job involves conducting biological impact assessments of various industrial developments including large and small scale hydroelectric facilities, irrigation developments, mining projects, and gas, electric, and coal slurry pipe and transmission lines. Specific responsibilities involve the collection and analysis of baseline data, agency consultation, and the formulation of appropriate mitigation plans. My position requires current knowledge of a wide range of population assessment techniques and vegetation sampling methods. I have been a member of the American Ornithologists Union, Cooper Ornithological Society, and Wilson Ornithological Society since 1977 and of The Wildlife Society since 1975.

Since coming to Idaho I have been active in several Idaho Chapter activities. In 1981 I organized the Idaho Chapter phone network to bring pressure to bear on the legislature in support of the Idaho Fish and Game's funding package. I organized and chaired the Wolf Biology and Management Symposium held in Boise last March and have assisted on the Conservation Affairs Committee. Most recently I wrote the Chapter's position statement on wilderness and presented it at Senator McClure's forest wilderness hearing in Boise. I am also involved in preparing a booklet for the Idaho Fish and Game's nongame program on attracting birds to your yard and will be active in the upcoming Riparian Enhancement Bill to be presented to the next legislature.

My reasons for seeking the office of Vice-President of the Idaho Chapter are several. Specifically I would like to work toward an increased level of Chapter responsiveness to state and regional issues affecting fish and wildlife. I would like to see us work more closely with the Idaho Chapter of the American Fisheries Society as most of the issues affecting wildlife also affect fish; e.g. excessive road construction and logging. I would propose to hold a joint annual meeting with A.F.S. at the earliest possible date. I feel we as professionals have a responsibility to present factual information to decision makers where biological issues are concerned. This can be done without sacrificing our credibility or professionalism and I would work to involve more of our members in such activities. Finally, I would like to see the Chapter become very involved in the upcoming Riparian Legislation and will work toward that end.

Dan Herrig - Dan is a native of Iowa who joined The Wildlife Society in 1969 while attending Iowa State University. Dan majored in Fish and Wildlife Biology at Iowa State and, as an undergraduate, participated in summer studies of wetland ecology in the prairie pothole region of northwest Iowa and bull bison behavior at Valentine National Wildlife Refuge in northcentral Nebraska. After receiving a B.S. degree in 1969, he served two years in the Army and in 1971 began a Master of Science program at Oregon State University. His graduate study, located on Hart Mountain National Antelope Refuge, examined the preferences and relative uses of habitat types by pronghorn.

After receiving his M.S. degree in Wildlife Science from O.S.U., Dan was hired in 1973 by the Kansas Forestry, Fish and Game Commission as a District Wildlife Biologist. He returned to the West in 1975 to work for the Bureau of Reclamation in Boise as a Wildlife Biologist in their planning division. Since 1978, Dan has served as a Fish and Wildlife Biologist with Ecological Services of the Fish and Wildlife Service in Boise. Most of Dan's work with the Service involves assessing



impacts of federally-funded projects on fish and wildlife populations and their habitats and formulating plans to offset identified impacts or enhance fish and wildlife resources.

Since becoming a student member of The Wildlife Society in 1969, Dan has been a member of several state chapters and sections and is currently a member of the Idaho Chapter and Northwest Section. His other recent associations and activities include secretary-treasurer and state board member for the Third District of the Idaho Wildlife Federation, board of directors for the Ada County Fish and Game League, and membership in the American Fisheries Society, Idaho Chapter.

#### 1984 ANNUAL MEETING - CALL FOR PAPERS

The Chapter's annual meeting will be held on February 3-4, 1984, at the Idaho Transportation Department auditorium in Boise. This will be another good meeting so mark it on your calendar now.

This announcement constitutes a call for papers.

If you would like to present a paper, contact Chuck Blair as soon as possible and give him the details. Chuck can be reached at 139 East Gettysburg, Boise, ID 83706, 345-5310 (office) or 336-9345 (home). He needs to hear from you no later than October 12. At that time he will put together the final program and it will be included in the December newsletter. As always, students are invited to attend the meeting and present papers. We will also make a determined effort to provide free or low-cost housing for students wishing to attend.

This year we will again present the Ted Trueblood Communication Award to the person making the best presentation at the annual meeting.

#### OUTSTANDING WILDLIFE PROFESSIONAL AWARD

Last year the Idaho Chapter presented the Outstanding Wildlife Professional Award to Jim Peek for his many contributions in the areas of research, teaching and service.

It is time to again reflect on the people in our profession. If you feel one of our colleagues deserves recognition for outstanding wildlife work, please nominate him/her as soon as possible.

Nominees need not reside in Idaho, but the work which qualifies the individual must have been performed in Idaho. Awards can be shared if the accomplishment is the work of more than one person. The Awards Committee will screen the nominations and recommend all highly deserving individuals to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee, consisting of the Chapter president, vice-president, secretary-treasurer, and awards committee chairman, will make the final selection. Nominees not selected this year will automatically be considered next year.

In making a nomination, be sure to include the following information: nominee's name, job title, employer, address, the person(s) making the



nomination, and the reasons for nomination (resume of achievements must be provided and may include other information, such as past achievements, organizational memberships, affiliations, etc.).

Nominations must be postmarked no later than November 11, 1983. Send your nominations to Dan Herrig, 3116 Wagon Wheel Road, Boise, ID, 83702, 334-1931 (office) and 343-9551 (home).

#### INTERPRETIVE NATURALISTS MEETING

Interpretive naturalists from throughout the Northwest will meet in Moscow to attend the Northwest Regional Workshop of the Association of Interpretive Naturalists (AIN) on October 5-7, 1983. An interpretive naturalist is a professional who communicates information on natural and cultural resources to the public through a wide variety of media. Members of the association are park rangers, science writers and editors, public relations and public affairs specialists, photographers, educators, filmmakers, journalists, and representatives of other communication professions.

The meeting will focus on the future, relative to public issues and new technologies. Workshops will demonstrate various techniques, such as holograms, computer applications to interpretation, laser projection, photography, and graphics techniques for enhancing presentations.

Michael Frome, acclaimed conservationist and author, will deliver the banquet speech. His talk is entitled "To Sin by Silence" and will focus on the ethics of censorship by natural resource management agencies.

For more information or a copy of the program, contact Sam Ham, Department of Wildland Recreation Management, University of Idaho, Moscow, ID, 83843, 885-7911 (office).

#### WILDERNESS MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE

Senator James McClure, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, will keynote the First National Wilderness Management Workshop at the University of Idaho October 11-13, 1983.

The initial list of speakers and panelists includes some of the country's outstanding natural resource leaders. Among them are Max Peterson, Chief of the Forest Service; Russell E. Dickenson, Director of the National Park Service; Robert Jantzen, Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; Joyce Kelly, Chief of Recreation, Cultural and Wilderness Resources of the Bureau of Land Management; Arnold Bolle, vice-president of the Wilderness Society (formerly Dean of Forestry at the University of Montana); Rupert Cutler, senior vice-president of the National Audubon Society (formerly assistant secretary of agriculture); and Destry Jarvis chairman of the Alaska Coalition. Others will include wilderness resource managers and spokesmen from mining, grazing, recreation, tourism and outfitting industries.

Five optional pre-workshop weekend field trips are being offered to wilderness areas within reach of Moscow. Backpack trips will be conducted



to the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness, Seven Devils in the Hells Canyon Wilderness, and the Eagle Cap Wilderness. The Lower Salmon River will be featured on a float trip. A fly-in will head for the Taylor Ranch in the heart of the 2.2-million-acre River of No Return Wilderness.

Additional information is available from Ed Krumpe, Wilderness Research Center, University of Idaho, Moscow, ID, 83843, 885-7911 (office).

MY OPINION--"WILDLIFE ENFORCEMENT RESEARCH NEEDS"

by

Frank NeSmith

Enforcement Special Operations Officer  
Idaho Department of Fish and Game



Today's wildlife enforcement officers are faced with increased human population pressure on the resource, plus an increased sophistication of equipment and methods used by the modern poacher. A more mobile population and a developing commercial market for illegally taken wildlife have put demands on conservation officers that sometimes stretch their enforcement efforts to the limit.

As a result of these factors, a need for research to develop methods to effectively counteract the efforts of contemporary poachers has emerged. These research needs range from improved forensic methods to developing reliable violation rates and establishing the detection rate of poaching by wildlife officers.

With respect to forensics field research, new methods to establish time of death of an animal or bird is often valuable to an enforcement officer. A good example is the wayward big game hunter who likes to "jump the gun" and get his animal the day before the season opens. Using developed techniques, an officer can determine if a questionable animal hanging in camp on opening day was in fact killed the day before. A similar case was made in an elk camp last hunting season in Idaho.

Research has provided field test kits for officers to detect chemically the difference between bullet and arrow wounds. Tests are also being conducted to determine methods to ascertain whether an animal was shot while alive or dead. This technique will help counteract the efforts of those who shoot a big game animal with a firearm and then later stick it with an arrow to disguise the method used.

Besides the forensics realm, one of the greatest research needs is in the area of determining violation detection rates, and a method to determine deterrent effects of enforcement efforts.

Some pioneer work in detection rates was done by James Vilkitis, a graduate student at the University of Idaho in 1968. However, the study is now dated and needs follow-up work. Other states have since utilized his methods and duplicated the study. Canada is presently conducting a similar determination. Low detection rates have generated programs, such as Citizens Against Poaching, that solicit citizen input to aid wildlife enforcement.



From forensics to management of personnel, the field of research in wildlife enforcement has often been neglected or shelved. With an awareness of present and future needs, modern research may help solve some of the problems faced by conservation officers and benefit the resource by increasing their efficiency.

#### CONSERVATION OFFICER OF THE YEAR

Doyle Reynolds of Kellogg has been named Conservation Officer of the Year by the Department of Fish and Game and recipient of the annual Shikar-Safari award for "consistently outstanding performance." Shikar-Safari International will also send a contribution in his name to the National Foundation for Conservation and Environmental Officers, a fund maintained to benefit survivors of wildlife enforcement officers who lose their lives in the line of duty.

In nominating Doyle for the award, department personnel noted that, in addition to his enforcement duties, "he puts great emphasis on management and the biological aspects of our job. He cares about the wildlife resources and works diligently and effectively to help ensure their perpetuation in Idaho and he has performed with excellence in virtually every phase of conservation officer endeavor."

Doyle joined the department in 1977. He holds B.S. and M.S. degrees from the University of Wisconsin and University of Idaho, respectively.

Congratulations, Doyle. The Idaho Chapter is proud of you and the job you're doing. Keep it up.

#### "THE TURTLE" by Ogden Nash

The turtle lives 'twixt plated decks

Which practically conceal its sex

I think it clever of the turtle

In such a fix to be so fertile.

