



# IDAHO CHAPTER

THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

1986(3) : Sept.

Down here in the so called "Banana Belt" summer is rapidly giving way to winter, having apparently skipped over fall. That's kind of the way things have been going for me lately, hence the tardy nature of this newsletter. But it's finally here, I know you have all been awaiting its arrival anxiously, so settle in next to the fire and read on (before you use this to start the kindling). Inside you'll find questionnaires, ballots, nomination forms, calls for papers, announcements, humor, and a little disappointment.

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## 1987 ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting will be held February 20, and 21 of 1986. It will be held at the Red Lion Downtowner, whose excellent facilities were shared with AFS in 1985. The meeting will run for 1-1/2 to 2 days, depending on the number of papers selected for presentation. We will again hold a social gathering and auction on Friday evening. Those of you who felt we can't throw a party compared to the AFS, now is the time to get involved in planning (these things don't just happen on their own). Karen Steenhof is the program chair and can use help with the meeting. A call for papers is included at the end of this newsletter. Also give some thought to Auction items and contact Signe Sather-Blair at 334-1931 or 343-8028 about your donations.

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## PROFESSIONAL WILDLIFE AWARD

The Awards Committee is soliciting nominations for the Professional Wildlife Award. This award is given on an irregular basis to deserving Idaho Chapter members. Rating criteria for the award include: 1) contributions of the nominee to Idaho's wildlife, 2) commitment of the nominee to the wildlife resource, 3) contributions of the nominee to the wildlife profession, and 4) contributions of the nominee to public understanding of wildlife management and the problems involved in managing wildlife. Nominations must be submitted by November 1, 1986, for consideration. Please use the attached form as the cover sheet for your nomination.

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Idaho Chapter - The Wildlife Society  
Professional Wildlife Award  
Nomination Form

Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

Employed by: \_\_\_\_\_

Present Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Present Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Recommended by: \_\_\_\_\_

Address and Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Reasons for nomination: (resume of achievements must be provided, nomination may also include past recognition, pertinent memberships, supporting letters, etc.)

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Submit nomination to: Bill Mullins, Idaho Chapter Awards Committee, 2254 Independence Drive, Boise, Idaho 83706.  
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IDAHO TWS SUPPORTS WOLF PUBLICATION

The Idaho Chapter of TWS has donated \$200 to the Idaho Humanities Council on behalf of the Committee on Wolves in American Culture. The committee, located in Boise, is preparing a book on North American wolves to be sold as a supplement to the impressive Wolves and Humans museum exhibit, which is touring the U.S. and was in Boise last winter. The book's chapters have been authored by folklorists, professional writers, and biologists, including Dr. David Mech of Minnesota. Idaho Chapter members Jay Gore and Jim Nee have been active in getting the book prepared. Professional wildlife artist Erica Craig of Leadore did an original painting of wolves for the cover. This autumn Jim Nee will be sending you a publicity brochure and order blank for the book. The Idaho Chapter's donation will be matched by an additional \$100 from the Humanities Council and will supplement the nearly \$7,000 they have already donated to the projected. Submitted by Jim Nee, Project Director, Committee on Wolves in American Culture.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor:

It seems the members of the Idaho Chapter TWS are suffering from a collective case of apathy.

No comments were received in response to questions or proposals in the last newsletter on the topics of:

- o Improving the annual meeting and social
- o Alternate locations for the annual meeting
- o The prospects of a summer meeting/campout/party
- o Changes in the chapter bylaws
- o Establishing several meeting registration categories
- o Volunteers for committee chairs
- o Requiring speakers at the annual meeting to join the Idaho Chapter if they are professional biologists employed in Idaho
- o Increasing chapter dues by 66.7 percent

I know we are all busy but this chapter needs more than 3 or 4 active members. I encourage you all to take a greater interest in chapter activities, starting with voting on bylaws changes you will read about later.

Chuck Blair

Send Letters to the Editor to Phyllis Kochert, Idaho TWS Newsletter Editor, 10230 West Amith Road, Boise 83709.

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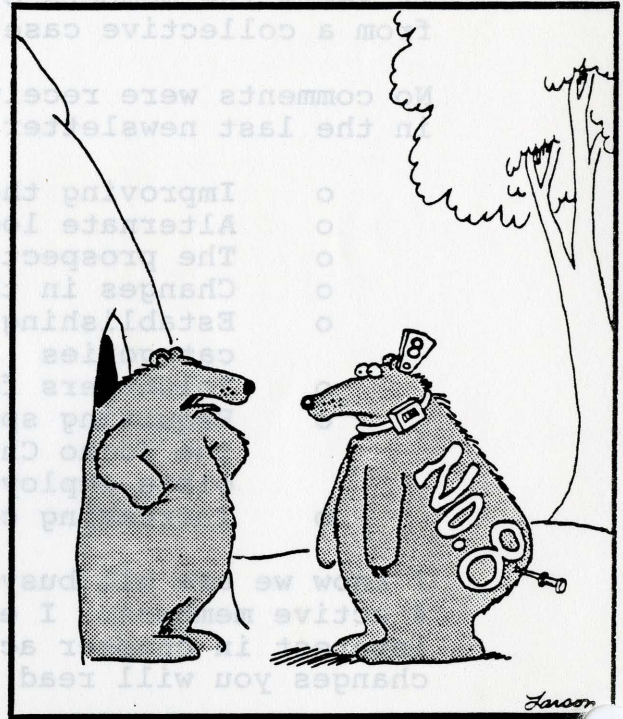
## RESEARCH NOTES FROM IDFG

### FISHER STUDY

Jeff Jones of the Forest Service has agreed to take over the fisher study on the Nez Perce Forest and use the data for a masters degree while still employed by the Forest Service. Actual field studies will commence July 1, with Jeff's wife Deb working for the Department as a biological aid to assist in data collection for the project, she will radio track and conduct required habitat analysis on a full-time basis. For this study, the original objectives have been narrowed to document fisher habitat use with an emphasis on the importance of old growth. Prior to actual field activities, two aerial tracking flights were completed to determine the status of the nine fisher trapped and instrumented with radio last winter. A total of eight fishers were located with six remaining within the Newsome Creek drainage where most of the intensive field activities will occur.

## GRIZZLY BEAR STUDY

The grizzly bear study was in full swing this month. The trapping crew of Don Young and Kyran Kunkel successfully trapped and instrumented five bears. Currently we have six bears with functioning radios. Four of the five bears trapped were retraps and the fifth was a yearling of the sow originally trapped in the Selkirks. The high percentage of retraps may suggest that the Selkirk grizzly bear population is not as "robust" nor numerous as our first year's trapping operations suggested. More trapping effort will be directed into previously untrapped areas to better understand or estimate the true bear population size for the Selkirks. The weather has allowed Steve Knick to maintain a flying schedule of three flights per week to monitor movements and document habitat use by these marked bears. Dave Volson, a University of Idaho graduate student, is conducting intensive analysis of aerial relocations on the ground to generate a detailed description of grizzly bear habitat.



"Late again! ... This better be good!"

## CARIBOU STUDY

A caribou technical committee meeting was held to plan and discuss the upcoming transplant program. It was decided at this meeting to seek caribou from two sources in British Columbia, the Revelstoke herd that was originally targeted by the Caribou Augmentation Plan and the Itchas and Ilgachas mountain herd near Williams Lake. The Williams Lake situation comes as close to being a sure thing as there is, which substantially increases the potential for successfully moving caribou this winter. It was agreed to set an objective to move 12 animals from each area. By using this strategy there will be some assurance that animals will be transplanted in the preferred early winter time period, there will be a better mixture of animals for genetic and behavioral consideration, and the chances of obtaining an adequate number of animals will be enhanced. By shifting the transplant strategy to two sources the chances of successfully moving caribou this year is substantially enhanced.

Representatives from the IDF&G, USFS, USFWS, WDG, B.C. Fish and Wildlife, and University of Idaho met in Canada on June 4, to review plans for moving caribou from B.C. into the Selkirk Mountains later this fall. Agreement was reached to attempt to capture 10 to 12 animals from both the Revelstoke and Williams Lake areas for the transplant. The group believes this strategy presents the best chance to insure that some caribou will be moved into the Selkirks this year, considering that they may have difficulty capturing animals at Revelstoke. Gregg Servheen, project leader for IDF&G, is responsible for coordinating the capture program and monitoring the success of the transplant.

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#### QUESTIONNAIRE FOR NON-MEMBERS

This statement and questionnaire was developed by Paul Moroz and Bill Mullins. It is intended to solicit from nonmembers the reasons for their lack of participation in the Idaho Chapter, TWS. If you are reading this it is obvious that you have paid your 1986 dues. Please pass this along to someone you know who should be a member of the chapter, but is not, and encourage them to respond.

#### YOUR MEMBERSHIP IS IMPORTANT TO THE IDAHO CHAPTER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

Why would the Idaho Chapter of the Wildlife Society like to have you in our membership?

The Wildlife Society is the professional society for you, the wildlife biologist. Our Society, indeed any professional society, is only as strong and effective as its membership.

The Idaho Chapter of the Wildlife Society is seeking information from non-members in an effort to (1) learn why working wildlife biologists and those working in closely related fields are not chapter members, and (2) learn how to make the Idaho Chapter more responsive to the needs of members, both present and potential.

Idaho is a large state with great ecological diversity. Biologists working for a variety of agencies, educational institutions, and private companies represent a vast wealth and diversity of knowledge and experience. The Idaho Chapter can serve as an excellent forum to share this knowledge with others, to learn from others what is going on in this diverse state, and provide a united front in solving wildlife related problems. The greater our active membership, the stronger and more effective our voice.

Why is this an important time to become a member of the Idaho Chapter?

This is an important time to establish your new membership with the Idaho Chapter of the Wildlife Society or revitalize an old membership because Idaho is changing in many ways. These changes are bound to affect our natural resources, including wildlife.

For example, every national forest in Idaho is preparing a forest plan that will determine how that forest will be managed over the next decade or two. This process involves resource allocations and management trade-offs. Once these plans are drafted and sent out for public review, a lot of misinformation is bound to be generated by special interests seeking to sway public opinion. Since wildlife is a key resource to many Idahoans, wildlife is likely to be wedged in the middle of any confrontation. The Idaho Chapter can serve as an accurate source of information from Idahoans seeking the "straight story" regarding wildlife resources on public lands. Your membership and participation can add to our source of credible information.

Another change involves our economic base. For much of Idaho's history, farming, logging, and mining have been the staples of our economy. Projections indicate that these industries will continue to be important in Idaho, but not to the same degree that they have been in the past. Tourism is expected to rise along many fronts, including hunting and fishing. Future impacts to wildlife from economic changes in Idaho may be much different than we are used to. The human presence may become a greater effect in coming years, possibly greater than habitat alteration. The Wildlife Society can help make such transitions more acceptable for wildlife, and your active membership can be important in that process.

WHY ARE YOU NOT A MEMBER OF THE  
IDAHO CHAPTER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY NOW?

We've discussed a few of the reasons by the Idaho Chapter would like you as a member. Please consider and share with us your reasons for being a member at the present time. Feel free to list any frustrations, problems or concerns that cause you to decline membership below.

It may be that the reasons that caused you to decline membership until now still apply and you wish to decline this invitation for membership by checking NO below. We still want you to respond so maybe we can change those features you dislike.

We sincerely hope that the reasons you declined membership in the past no longer apply and you now wish to become a member by checking YES below.

Please return the questionnaire below to: Bill Mullins, 2254  
Independence Drive, Boise, Idaho 83706.  
.....

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

NO I do not want to become a member of the Idaho Chapter  
of the Wildlife Society at this time.

YES I do want to become a member and submit \$3.00 annual  
dues at this time.

If you checked NO above, please give us your reasons for not  
joining the Idaho Chapter.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

MEMBERSHIP

Dan Herrig has compiled some interesting statistics about  
the Idaho Chapter membership that you might find  
interesting. We had 191 paid members in 1985 and 175 in  
1986. We had 37 new members in 1986 meaning that 53 of our  
1985 members did not renew their membership. There are also  
many working "professionals" who were not members in either  
1985 or 1986.

We now have 359 past and present members on our database.  
We will be updating and asking for some new information when  
you pay your 1987 dues--namely, your work phone number, your  
employer, and your certification status. Please let us know  
if our mailing label for you is incorrect.

I hope your will help us reach out to those people who have  
chosen not to join the chapter, and we all know some, by  
giving them the questionnaire Paul and Bill have put together.  
If you don't do it, who will?

While we are on the topic of membership I would like to clear  
up an apparent misconception. A long standing member who  
had not paid his 1986 dues recently told me that he didn't  
belong to the national TWS and therefore could not belong to  
the Idaho Chapter. That is false. While membership in the

parent society is advantageous, it is not essential for membership in the Idaho Chapter. The resolution that would have required national TWS membership for State Chapter members was defeated. No one can use that excuse anymore. . . .

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#### EGIN-HAMER ROAD PROPOSAL

As many of you are aware, Freemont and Jefferson Counties are proposing to build a road across the Ninemile Knoll Area of Critical Environmental Concern. The area is so designated because of the large elk herd that winters in the area and other wildlife and botanical resource values. The BLM prepared an EIS on the project and rightfully concluded that construction of the road would have a devastating affect on the elk herd, significantly reduce hunter days in eastern Idaho, and result in a substantial monetary loss to the local economy. In the face of political pressure the BLM then ignored the facts and recommended that the road be built and closed in the winter.

The Idaho Chapter along with numerous other organizations responded to this fiasco at the public hearings and in writing. Mike Anderson presented testimony prepared by Jerome Hanson and other Chapter members. Our conclusion was that the road should not be constructed and that the Ninemile Knoll ACEC should be enlarged to include the remainder of the winter range not already included in the ACEC, an alternative not considered in the DEIS. Barring adoption of this scenario we recommended adoption of the No Action alternative.

Thanks to those members who helped put these comments together.

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#### RAPTOR SYMPOSIUM AND WORKSHOP

The Idaho Chapter, TWS, has agreed to serve as a co-organizer, along with the National Wildlife Federation, of the Northwest Raptor Management Symposium and Workshop. This meeting will be held in Boise during the fall of 1987 following the national meeting of the Raptor Research Foundation. Mike Kochert, is spearheading this effort. Mike, you will remember, was the unsuccessful Vice Presidential candidate in the last Chapter election. Mike has assured me he is not beginning his campaign for the 1987 election, but I'm not so sure.

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#### BYLAWS CHANGES

The Bylaws changes I outlined at the Annual Meeting and described in the last newsletter must now be put to a vote.



The process of changing the Bylaws is described in Article X. Amendment to Bylaws.

ARTICLE X. AMENDMENT TO BYLAWS

Section 1. PROCEDURE - These Bylaws may be altered or amended by a majority of the Chapter members voting at any annual or special meeting if due notice of the proposed changes (Article VI, Section 1B) is followed. A member who will be absent from the meeting may file an absentee ballot (Article V, Section 2B).

Section 2. CONFORMANCE - No amendment to these Bylaws shall be enacted that results in a conflict with The Wildlife Society Bylaws. If these Bylaws are revised, the new revision must be approved by The Society before becoming effective.

Article VI, Section 1B - MEETING NOTICE - requires that members must be notified at least 1 month prior to annual and regular meetings and at least 10 days prior to special meetings.

In accordance with the Idaho Chapter Bylaws, I, as president of the Chapter, am calling a special meeting for the purpose of voting on the proposed Bylaws changes described below. The special meeting shall be convened at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, October 23, 1986. The meeting will be held at Louie's Restaurant, 601 Main, Boise. Members who are unable to attend the special meeting may cast a vote on the proposed Bylaws changes by returning the absentee ballot provided below. Absentee ballots must be signed by the voting members and received by the Secretary no later than November 15, 1986.

The proposed changes are described briefly below. A more detailed description appeared in the April newsletter.

Item 1 - Split the office of Secretary/Treasurer into two positions, both to be elected by the Chapter membership.

Item 2 - Require that the Executive Board hold at least two meetings each year, including one at the annual general membership meeting.

Item 3 - Increase the Idaho Chapter dues from \$3.00 to \$5.00.

Plan to attend this special meeting and have a few beers together. Husbands and wives are certainly welcome! There will be a brief introduction, a vote will be taken, and the special meeting will be adjourned. Please RSVP on your attendance to Chuck Blair at 345-5310 by October 15, 1986.

ABSENTEE BALLOT TO AMEND  
THE IDAHO CHAPTER BYLAWS

Please vote once on each item below by circling your choice.

Item 1 - Split the Secretary-Treasurer YES NO  
into two positions elected by  
the membership

Item 2 - Require at least 2 Executive YES NO  
Board meetings annually

Item 3 - Change annual dues from YES NO  
\$3.00 to \$5.00

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Return to Dan Herrig, Secretary Idaho TWS, 3116 Wagon Wheel  
Road, Boise, Idaho 83702.

Ballots must be received by November 15, 1986.

BOP303/009

# CALL FOR PAPERS

IDAHO CHAPTER  
THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

20-21 February 1987  
Boise, Idaho

Members and non-members are encouraged and invited to submit papers on the biology and management of Idaho's game and nongame wildlife species for the scientific program of the annual Idaho Chapter of the Wildlife Society Meeting. THE DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF ABSTRACTS IS 31 DECEMBER 1986.

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR PREPARING THE ABSTRACT:

1. Type everything within the box below. The copy you submit will be used in the meeting's program. Letters crossing the line will not be printed, so practice typing the abstract before doing your final submitted version.
2. Do not fold across the abstract since this form will be photocopied.
3. Use a typewriter or word processor with clean, 10-pitch Elite print. The copy should be dark enough to duplicate clearly.
4. Put the title and author names in caps, and use single spacing except between the title/author lines and text as in the example below:

THE NESTING STATUS OF COMMON LOONS IN IDAHO.

T. FITCH, and C. TROST. Department of Biology, Idaho State University, Pocatello, ID 83201.

Surveys of loons were conducted in eastern Idaho during the summers of 1985 and 1986.....

4. Send 2 copies of the abstract to: Karen Steenhof, Program Chairman, Boise District BLM, 3948 Development Avenue, Boise, Idaho 83705.

LOWER SNAKE RIVER COMP PLAN OFFICE  
4696 OVERLAND, ROOM 560  
BOISE, IDAHO 83705



CALL FOR PAPERS

OCT - 1 1986

IDAHO CHAPTER  
THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

20-21 February 1987  
Boise, Idaho

Justin Naderman  
1515 Lincoln Road  
Idaho Falls  
ID 83401

Members and non-members are invited to submit papers on the biology and management of wildlife species for the scientific program at the meeting. The deadline for submission is December 1986.

- INSTRUCTIONS FOR PREPARING PAPERS
1. Type everything within the box below. The copy you submit will be used in the meeting's program. Letters crossing the line will not be printed, so practice typing the abstract before doing your final submitted version.
  2. Do not fold across the abstract since this form will be photocopied.
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