

The Wildlife
Society

IDAHO CHAPTER



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PAUL MOROZ

PRESIDENT
VICE-PRESIDENT
SECRETARY
TREASURER

1992 (1) Winter

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

In April I will be turning over the reins to my successor, thus this is my last newsletter as the Chapter's President. The last four years have gone by very quickly: I guess time does fly when you're having fun. Perhaps "fun" isn't the proper adjective to describe my tenure, but I did enjoy myself. My enjoyment came largely from seeing new people become involved with the Chapter, as well as from efforts the Chapter took to recognize the contributions of its members. I will always remember and treasure thoughts of people receiving awards for best presentation at a meeting or wildlife professional of the year. Certainly, honoring Edson Fichter with a scholarship in his name was a high point for me during my tenure as president. So, I leave with lots of good memories and few bad ones. Most of all, I leave with the knowledge that I had the privilege of meeting and working with a group of very talented and dedicated biologists.

I want to thank all of the Chapter members for allowing me to serve as President as well as for taking an active role in Chapter affairs. Over the last four years, I cannot recall even one instance where a member declined "volunteering" when I asked for their help. I also want to acknowledge the tremendous support I received from Chapter Officers-Jerome Hanson, Bill Mullins, Signe Sather-Blair, Dave Koehler, and Paul Moroz. Perhaps most important, I want to thank Phyllis Kochert and Cheryl Hardy for typing these newsletters and putting up with my poor hand-writing and constant corrections.

This brings me to the third and final part of this message-our election results. The Chapter appreciates the efforts of all the candidates and we extend our congratulations to the following newly elected officers: Paul Moroz-President; Alan Sands-Vice-President; Justin Naderman-Secretary; and Geoff Hogander-Treasurer.

MEETINGS OF INTEREST

March 27-April 1, 1992. The Wildlife Society Annual Mtg. (incl. Annual Council Mtg.), Radisson Plaza Hotel Charlotte & Charlotte Convention Center, Charlotte, NC. (Harry E. Hodgdon, Exec. Director, TWS, 5410 Grosvenor Lane, Bethesda, MD 20814-2197. 301/897-9770).

March 27-April 1, 1992. 57th North American Wildl. & Natural Resources Conf., Radisson Plaza Hotel Charlotte & Charlotte Convention Ctr., Charlotte, NC. (L.L. Williamson, Wildlife Manage. Institute, 1101 14th Street, N.W., Suite 725, Washington, DC 20005. 202/371-1808).

April 7, 1992. A Teleconference on Wildlife Conservation and the Hunting Tradition. The Univ. of Montana, Missoula, MT. (Contact-Jeffrey Gritzner, Public Policy Research Institute, Univ. of Montana, Missoula, MT 59812-1018. 406/243-5626).

April 22-25, 1992. Joint meeting of the Northwest Section and Idaho and Washington Chapters, The Wildlife Society. University Inn, Moscow, ID. (Contact-Kerry Reese, Dept. of Fisheries and Wildlife, University of Idaho, Moscow, ID 83843. 208/885-6435).

April 27-May 1, 1992. The 8th Biennial Wild Sheep and Goat Council Symposium. Holiday Inn, Cody, WY. (Contact-Kevin Hurly, Wyoming Game and Fish Department, 932 Arapahoe, Thermopolis, WY 82443-2115. 307/864-9375).

June 9-11, 1992. 15th Biennial Pronghorn Antelope Workshop. The Inn, Rock Springs, WY. (Contact-Phil Riddle, Wyoming Game and Fish Department, 351 Astle Ave., Green River, WY 82935. 307/875-3223).

July 13-17, 1992. Management for Biotic Diversity Workshop. Colorado State Univ., Fort Collins, CO. (Contact-Luke George, Dept. of Wildlife,

Humboldt State Univ., Arcata, CA 95521.
707/826-3430. or Richard Knight, Dept. of
Fisheries and Wildlife Biology, Colorado State
Univ., Fort Collins, CO 80523. 303/491-6714.

CALL FOR PAPERS

Idaho Chapter/Northwest Section,
The Wildlife Society

The annual meeting of the Idaho Chapter of The Wildlife Society will be held April 22-25, 1992 at the Best Western University Inn in Moscow, Idaho, in conjunction with the Washington and Northwest Section Chapters. Professional and student papers relating to topics of interest to Wildlife Society members are invited. The theme of this year's conference will be Crises in the Northwest. Papers concerning land management actions affecting wildlife, wildlife ecology and management, or wildlife laws and policies are especially invited. There will be several concurrent sessions dealing with topics not directly related to the conference theme. Please submit Abstracts (JWM format including title, author (s), and presenter; no longer than one page, typewritten and double-spaced) to: Dr. Dale Towell, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, P.O. Box 25, Boise, Idaho 83707 (telephone 208-334-2599) by March 25. Proceedings will not be published.

NEWS AND NOTES

Sam McNeill (Idaho Dept. of Fish and Game) has accepted a position as Regional Wildlife Habitat Manager with the Department of Fish and Game in Lewiston.

Rich Winstead has resigned from the Idaho Dept. of Fish and Game and moved to Arizona.

Wetlands Conservation

The Wildlife Society and several chapters presented comments concerning the "Federal Manual for Identifying and Delineating Jurisdictional Wetlands" to the Environmental Protection Agency.

The Society supports programs and practices designed to enhance the retention of surface water in its watershed of origin, to conserve natural reservoirs of underground water, to maintain high standards of water quality, and to conserve wildlife habitat. TWS encourages the enactment of legislation and regulations that promote the maintenance and wise management of wetland habitats. The Society opposes programs of alteration or use that cause permanent damage to the physical and biological resources of wetland habitats.

The Wildlife Society commented that the Delineation Manual, as well as the entire Section 404 program, must operate efficiently and in consistent manner, so those seeking permits c have a clear understanding of the program's objectives and how it operates.

A review of the proposed revisions indicates that the administration's proposed changes would add confusion and create an even larger problem for resource managers, developers, and regulators. The revisions indicate a great lack of understanding of wetlands. The Society presented comments on many individual concerns with the proposed revisions including inappropriate criteria for wetland delineation, and the agencies' failure to use professional judgement of qualified wetlands scientists and biologists for making wetland identification and delineation decisions. The Society stressed the need for regulatory agencies to hire and maintain qualified, suitably trained personnel. The Wildlife Society asked that the proposed Manual revisions be withdrawn, and that the original 1989 Manual developed by the EPA, Corps of Engineers, FWS, and SCS be followed.

CRP Proposed Rules

The Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS) published the proposed rules for the Conservation Reserve and Swampbuster Programs of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation and Trade Act of 1990 (Farm Bill). The Wildlife Society submitted comments urging clarification of the eligibility of wetlands in the Conservation Reserve Program. The proposed rules apparently would exclude all wetlands from enrollment in the program. However, according to the 1990 Farm Bill, all wetlands on lands otherwise eligible for the CRP may be enrolled in the program. It must be made clear that wetlands are eligible for enrollment in the CRP in addition to the wetlands easement program or millions of acres of wetlands may go unprotected.

Funding the North American Waterfowl Management Plan

The Wildlife Society urged members of both congressional appropriations committees to support the Administration's request for full funding of \$15 million to support the North American Waterfowl Management Plan in FY 1992. During FY 1991, 47 wetland conservation projects were funded with \$15 million in federal appropriations, and more than \$20 million in matching state and private donations. The President's FY 1992 budget received no appropriations, however the program was

funded with \$12 million through revenues generated by fines, penalties, and forfeitures, particularly from payments resulting from the Exxon Valdez oil spill.

FEDERAL FY 1992 BUDGET

President Bush's FY 1992 proposed budget requested increases over FY 1991 appropriations for the US Fish & Wildlife Service and wildlife and habitat management programs in the Bureau of Land Management. Unfortunately these increases were not sufficient to ensure the needed protection and conservation of fish and wildlife resources. The Administration's budget proposed to decrease funding to the Forest Service's wildlife and research programs.

The Wildlife Society submitted written testimony on the proposed budget to the House Subcommittees on National Parks and Public Lands, Fisheries and Wildlife Conservation and the Environment, and Interior and Related Agencies, and the Senate Committee on Appropriations. The Society commended the Administration for requesting full funding for several critical programs, and urged that adequate funding be appropriated to all wildlife habitat and endangered species management programs. TWS also supported increased funding for the USFWS and USFS Research budgets, the USFWS Maintenance budget, and the BLM Rangeland Management program. Approved budgets for The Fish and Wildlife Service, Forest Service, and BLM wildlife programs all received funding increases for FY 1992.

The Wildlife Society submitted comments prepared by TWS' Wildlife Damage Management Committee on the proposed FY 1992 budget for the Animal Damage Control (ADC) division of the USDA-Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service to the Senate and House Appropriations Committees. The Society recommended appropriating \$26.6 million for ADC, to finance the equipment, maintenance, and personnel needed to meet expanding demands, and current programs.

IDAHO CHAPTER FINANCIAL REPORT

The Idaho Chapter's funds are held in a non-profit premium checking account at the First Interstate Bank in Boise. The most recent statement of account showed a balance of \$5,155.00 as of October 31. Approximately \$26.00 will be earned as interest on this account through April.

Several ideas have been submitted for the use of some Chapter funds for special projects. The best way to promote the approval and implementation of your idea is to submit the

proposal in writing to Paul Moroz. He will forward the information to the Executive Committee. Submitting the proposal in writing ensures that the proposal is fully described and understood by all. Please submit your written proposals to Paul at:

2081 NW 8th Street
Meridian, ID 83642

This is the time to consider if you would like to contribute an auction item for the fundraiser to be held during our annual meeting. If you would like to submit one or more items, please indicate if items should be auctioned or raffled. If you contribute an auction item, please indicate if a minimum bid should be asked during the auction. If you would like to contribute an item or would like to volunteer to work on the 1992 fundraiser, please contact Paul at home at 888-6482 or at work at 364-4260 or at the address shown above.

IDAHO CHAPTER 1992 BENEFIT AUCTION AND RAFFLE

The Idaho Chapter of the Wildlife Society will again hold a benefit auction and raffle as part of the activities planned for the night of April 23, 1992. The proceeds from this event go into the Chapter's budget to help cover meeting expenses, scholarships, education and other activities.

If you would like to donate an item for auction or raffle, please fill out the enclosed form and return it to Paul Moroz by January 15, 1991. If certain provisions apply to your donation, please state them clearly in the "SPECIAL CONDITIONS" portion of the form. All donated items that are not specified as auction items may be offered during the raffle drawings. This year, we can not auction any hunting, fishing, boating, photography, biking, or hiking trips unless provided by a licensed Idaho outfitter and guide. Field outings associated with your work duties may be auctioned, such as big game transplants.

If you would like to donate your help during the auction or raffle, please return the form as well.

Name of Donor _____ Date _____

Address _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Donation Authorized by _____

Name of Item _____

Description _____

Special Conditions (Limitations, restrictions or instructions) _____

Approximate Retail Value _____

This donation becomes the property of and all proceeds go to the Idaho Chapter, The Wildlife Society. It will be auctioned during the annual meeting scheduled April 23, 1992. Donor agrees to provide services as described above to the winning bidder. Thank You.

_____ would like to help conduct the auction/raffle.
Name

Fundraiser Coordinator: Paul Moroz, 2081 N.W. 8th Street,
Meridian, ID 83642
Home phone: 888-6482
Work: 365-4382

IDAHO WILDLIFE SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

I want to join the Idaho Chapter of The Wildlife Society, and enclose _____ \$5.00 (1 year), _____ \$10.00 (2 years), _____ \$15.00 (3 years) in payment of dues. This is a new/renewal membership. It is not necessary to be a member of the parent Wildlife Society to be a member of the Idaho Chapter. Membership is by calendar year. Make checks Payable to "Idaho Wildlife Society", and mail to: Idaho Wildlife Society, c/o Paul Moroz, 2081 N.W. 8th Street, Meridian, ID 83642.

Directory Information

Name: _____

Address: _____

Employer, Affiliation, School, or Agency: _____

Home Phone: _____ Business Phone: _____

IDAHO WILDLIFE SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

I want to join the Idaho Chapter of The Wildlife Society, and
enclose \$2.00 (1 year), \$10.00 (2 years), \$18.00
(3 years) in payment of dues. This is a new/renewal membership. It
is not necessary to be a member of the parent Wildlife Society to be a
member of the Idaho Chapter. Membership is by calendar year. Make
checks payable to "Idaho Wildlife Society", and mail to:
Wildlife Society, c/o Paul Moran, 2081 N.W. 8th Street, Meridian, ID
83642.

Directory Information

Name: _____
Address: _____
Employer, Affiliation, School, or Agency: _____
Home Phone: _____ Business Phone: _____

Justin Naderman
Idaho Dept. Fish & Game
1550 Lincoln Road
Idaho Falls, ID 83401