



The Wildlife  
Society

**IDAHO CHAPTER**

J. NADERMAN

# Idaho Chapter

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Paul Moroz - President - 364-7008

Alan Sands - Vice-President - 384-3067

Justin Naderman - Secretary - 525-7290

Geoff Hogander - Treasurer - 236-6860

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

What a glorious autumn we've had this year with great weather, superb fall colors, and snow-free conditions to extend the hiking season. I look forward to white-topped mountains and an abundant skiing season this winter, but it will be hard to beat the last few months here in Idaho. I travelled from south-west to northern Idaho in mid-October and stopped in on Templins Convention Center in Post Falls where our annual meeting will be held from March 3-5, 1994. The facility is located on the banks of the beautiful Spokane River and is nestled away from busy highways. I was very pleased with the friendly staff and impressed with the accommodations. This riverside location in combination with a great agenda and our full attendance will insure a memorable meeting experience for all of us. Alan Sands is coordinating the meeting arrangements with the help of many other Chapter members, but your help is still needed. Please find more detailed information later in this newsletter and offer your assistance to Alan.

I received only a few responses to my questionnaire (in the last newsletter) asking what program areas should be emphasized in this Chapter. A strong effort in conservation affairs remains a priority to those who responded, as did the continuation of annual meeting and symposiums and public education. I can place emphasis in these important areas as President, but your involvement will insure our Chapter's success. Please write or call me with any and all ideas you may want to pursue.

Every member now has the opportunity to become directly involved in the future of this Chapter by becoming a candidate for one of the two-year terms coming open for election - President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. Tom Hemker has agreed to chair the nomination committee with the help of Jack Connelly. Please contact Tom or Jack if you are interested in any of these positions. More specific information is included later in this newsletter.

## CONSERVATION AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORT

Gray Wolf Reintroduction DEIS: The Idaho Chapter submitted written comments on October 10, 1993 to Ed Bangs (USFWS) in response to the Gray Wolf Reintroduction DEIS. In concert with the North Section and National TWS, the Chapter supported the proposed action of reintroducing experimental, non-essential gray wolves into Yellowstone National Park and central Idaho, although some concerns and recommendations were offered. If you would like a copy of the letter, please contact Paul Moroz.

Proposed Air Force Training Range: The Idaho Chapter will review and develop a written response to the draft EIS during the 90-day comment period which begins November 12, 1993 in preparation for the final EIS scheduled for April 1, 1994. If you are interested in working on the Chapter's written response, please contact Jeri Williams. Individual responses can be sent to Brenda Cook, HQ ACC/CEVA, 129 Andrews Street, Suite 102, Langley Air Force Base, Virginia 23665-2769.

Hells Canyon NRA Sheep Grazing EA: The Hells Canyon National Recreation Area is considering options regarding the management of domestic sheep and bighorn sheep within three allotment areas. The initial proposal is to cancel three term grazing permits that authorize grazing by domestic sheep and to require removal of the sheep permanently from the perspective allotments prior to July 16, 1994. If you are interested in working on the Chapter's involvement on this matter during the development of the environmental analysis, please contact Jeri Williams.

## WILDLIFE PROFESSIONAL AWARD

The Idaho Chapter is now soliciting nominations for the 1994 award for Wildlife Professional of the Year. The nomination should include at least two letters of support and a copy of the nominee's resume. Nominations will be accepted until January 14, 1994. Please send this information to: Dr. Kerry P. Reese, Awards Committee, University of Idaho, College of FWR, Moscow, Idaho, 83843. For more information on this matter, please call Kerry (208-885-6435), Jack Connelly (208-232-4703) or Paul Moroz (208-365-7008).

**1994 Annual Chapter Meeting  
March 2 - 5, 1994  
Templins, Post Falls**

Plans are shaping up for the upcoming meeting. Our theme has changed slightly from our previous meeting announcement. Instead of "Preserving Biodiversity: Species Management vs. Ecosystem Management," it will be entitled "Implementing Ecosystem Management." We have lined up most of the panel members and we are currently trying to get a prestigious keynote speaker.

Beside individual papers and the panel session, we are planning a workshop on the identification and ecology of reptiles and amphibians occurring in northern Idaho. (Next year we plan to cover reptiles and amphibians in southern Idaho.) Chuck Peterson, Idaho State University has agreed to lead this session.

## 2nd Call for Papers

Time is flying and the meeting will be here before we know it. I've been contacted by some folks but we still need some good papers. Again, don't be fooled by meeting theme. Although we are encouraging ecosystem research and management papers, we still expect and want our species specific wildlife research and management topics.

We encourage you to communicate your knowledge to the group. Commit to presenting a paper or preparing a poster. Contact Alan Sands (384-3067), Bill Mullins (334-1931) or Michael Gratson (743-6502). Abstracts should be submitted according to the following instructions. Please submit abstracts to Bill Mullins. Don't procrastinate!

### Instructions for Preparing an Abstract:

1. Type everything within the box below or send us a disk with the abstract prepared on Word Perfect 5.1.
2. If you submit an abstract typed in the box below, it will be copied and inserted into the programs as it appears. Letters crossing the line will not be printed. Do not fold across the abstract line since it will be photocopied.
3. Use a typewriter or wordprocessor with a common font (eg. Prestige Elite) and 12 characters per inch (12 pitch). The characters should be crisp and dark enough to duplicate clearly.
4. Be sure to indicate whether your topic is a presentation or poster.
5. Put the title (less than 15 words) and author names in caps, and use single spacing except between the title/author lines and author/text lines as in the example below:

CHEATGRASS INVASION OF SAGEBRUSH-STEPPE VEGETATION: EFFECTS OF BREEDING BIRDS IN SOUTH-CENTRAL IDAHO.

Gregg Servheen, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Lewiston, ID 83706.

Breeding bird surveys were conducted in the vicinity of Shoshone on different seral stages of the ....

# We Could Still Use Help

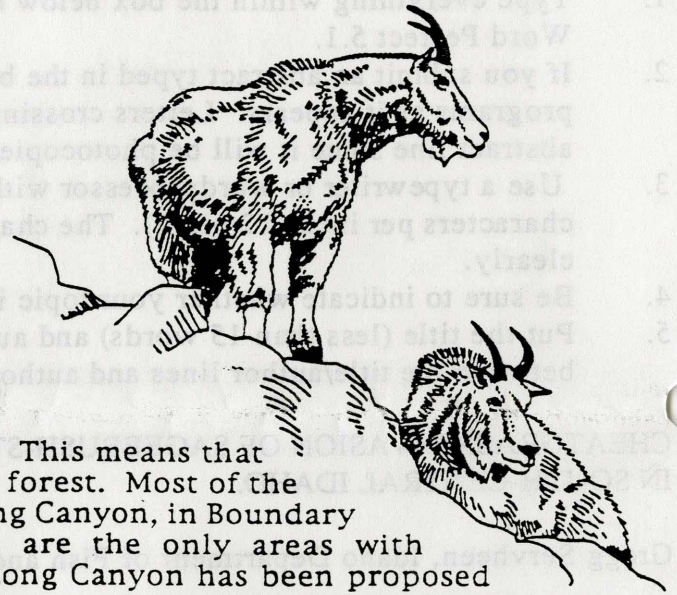
Since my last request for assistance on committees, several members have volunteered to help with the meeting. The following folks are the committee chairman: Program Development, Alan Sands, Jeri Williams, and Michael Gratson; Program Agenda, Bill Mullins; Facilities, Scott Robinson; Fund Raising, Tom Hemker; Transportation and Auctioneering, Sam Mattise; Awards, Kerry Reese (Kerry, Did we forget to tell you this is one of duties of the immediate past recipient of the Professional Wildlifer Award?).

We still need committee leads for Publicity and Entertainment. Don't hesitate to contact the committee leads or Alan Sands (384-3067) and offer assistance. They would welcome the help.

## Wildlife Politics and Legislation submitted by Lisa Lombardi

### WILDERNESS BILL

HR 1570, Congressman Larry LaRocco's wilderness bill, is currently stalled in the House. The bill, covering the First District, contains 1.25 million acres of wilderness, 557,000 acres of special management areas (SMAs), and releases 2.8 million acres to forest planning. SMAs are a new concept, areas where certain specified resources are to be a priority for management. Some SMAs are to be managed for wildlife and fish but because the SMA language in the bill is vague and non-prescriptive, it appears that most of the SMAs will be managed to Forest Plan standards.



HR 1570 includes less than 5% of the timber base. This means that less than 5% of the bill is in mid- or low-elevation forest. Most of the areas included in the bill are above 5,000 feet. Long Canyon, in Boundary County, and Meadow Creek, in Idaho County, are the only areas with significant mid-elevation forest habitat values. Long Canyon has been proposed for wilderness for over 10 years because of its recreational values — well-developed trails through magnificent old growth cedar groves. Meadow Creek's inclusion is bitterly contested by the timber industry.

HR 1570 does not take advantage of all opportunities to protect wildlife habitat in roadless areas. Two areas in particular stand out — Weitas Creek and White Sand Creek, both in the Clearwater National Forest. White Sand is "the most important anadromous fish stream on the Clearwater," and contains "the largest unfragmented block of old growth left" on the forest (White Sand Analysis Document, 1993). Weitas Creek, home to elk, westslope cutthroat, bull trout, martens, fishers, wolverines, and goshawks, and within the recovery zones of gray wolf and grizzly bear, is also significant to wildlife in Idaho. In HB 1570, Weitas Creek is designated an SMA to protect wildlife and fish. The Clearwater National Forest currently has 9 miles of road planned for the area.

Other areas important to wildlife in LaRocco's district are the Cabinets, where recovery of a grizzly bear population is underway; the Selkirk Crest, home of the endangered mountain caribou; and the areas surrounding Priest Lake. In the Cabinets, only Scotchman's Peak is protected as wilderness, with the rest either released or in small SMAs. Much of the Selkirk Crest is in an SMA bordering state-owned timberland, and will be managed to state standards for the caribou — the state's Priest Lake management plan states that the Department of Land will send US Fish and Wildlife a bill for foregone revenue for any caribou protection.

Idaho's delegation — Senators Larry Craig and Dirk Kempthorne and Representative Mike Crapo, as well as Mr. LaRocco, are currently attempting to write a joint bill, covering all of Idaho, that they all can support. The process is still ongoing and you do have a chance to influence the final bill. Letters should be sent to the delegation urging a rewrite of the bill on ecological lines, with an emphasis on protecting habitat.

The Honorable Larry LaRocco  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Larry Craig  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20515

### Meetings of Interest

March 7-8, 1994. Symposium on the Status and Management of the Forest Grouse of Western North America, Oregon State Univ., (John Crawford, game bird research program, Dept. of Fish and Wildlife., Nash 104, Oregon State Univ., Corvallis, OR 97331, (503/737-1971; FAX 503/7373590).

March 18-23, 1994. 59th North American Wildlife & Natural Resource Conf., Egan Civic and Convention Center, Anchorage Hilton Hotel and Hotel Captain Cook, Anchorage, AK. (L.L. Williamson, Wildlife Management Institute, 1101 14th St., N.W. Suite 725, Washington, DC 20005. 202/371-1808).

March 27-April 1, 1994. 30th Annual North American Moose Conference and Workshop. (L. Oldenburg, Idaho Dept. of Fish and Game, Box 25, Boise, ID 83707; 208/334-2921, FAX 208/334-2114.)

May 2-6, 1994. Northern Wild Sheep and Goat Council 1994 Meeting, Inn of the South, Cranbrook, BC (Anna Wolterson, BC Wildlife Branch, 106 5th Ave South, Cranbrook, BC, Canada; 604/426-1450).

June 7-12, 1994. Society for Conservation Biology and Association for Tropical Biology Joint Annual Meeting. Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico. (E. Santana, Dept. of Wildlife Ecology, Univ. of WI, Madison, WI 53706; FAX 608/262-6099; or Laboratorio Natural Las Joyas, Univ. de Guadalajara, AP 1-3933, Gaudalajara, Jalisco, Mexio, FAX 52-338-7-27-49.)

October 22-26, 1994. National Symposium on Urban Wildlife. Seattle-Bellevue, Washington. (Dr. Lowelll W. Adams, Chairman, National Institute for Urban Wildlife, 10921 Trotting Ridge Way, Columbia, MD 21044, 301/596-3311.)

## NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

The Administration is in the process of naming a new Northwest Regional Director for the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). The person appointed will be in charge of salmonid recovery in the Northwest. It is crucial that he/she be a fish advocate. Several people mentioned have excellent credentials, notably Jim Lichatowich, former Deputy Director of Oregon Department of Fisheries, and co-author of the 1991 paper on salmonid stocks in peril; and Terry Williams, Director of the Tulalip Tribe's Department of Fisheries and member of the International Pacific Salmon Commission. Lorraine Bodi, currently with the American Rivers Council and former attorney at NMFS for 10 years, is probably the strongest fish advocate with the best chance of becoming Regional Director. William Wilkerson, former Director of the Washington State Department of Fisheries, appears to be a strong candidate, but he may not be the strong advocate of wild salmon needed — he was instrumental in setting up Senator Hatfield's "shadow salmon summit" several years ago, where the goal was to prevent ESA listing of salmonids. He is currently a high-paid consultant to BPA. Support a fish advocate for this position!

Write:

Secretary Ron Brown Department of Commerce Washington, D.C. 20525

## Editorial

### Whose Biology is it, anyway?

Is it common practice to contract wildlife biology work to someone outside an agency when it could or should be performed by personnel already working for that agency? Is the practice of farming out or contracting wildlife biology work to consulting firms increasing?

I realize not everyone has expertise to do every wildlife job and that there is often too much work for existing staff to do on a short term basis. Short term jobs and projects, such as completing wildlife surveys, seem legitimate uses of outside contractors and are often the best use of available money. But as natural resource managers, we know better than most, that economic justification is often not enough justification.

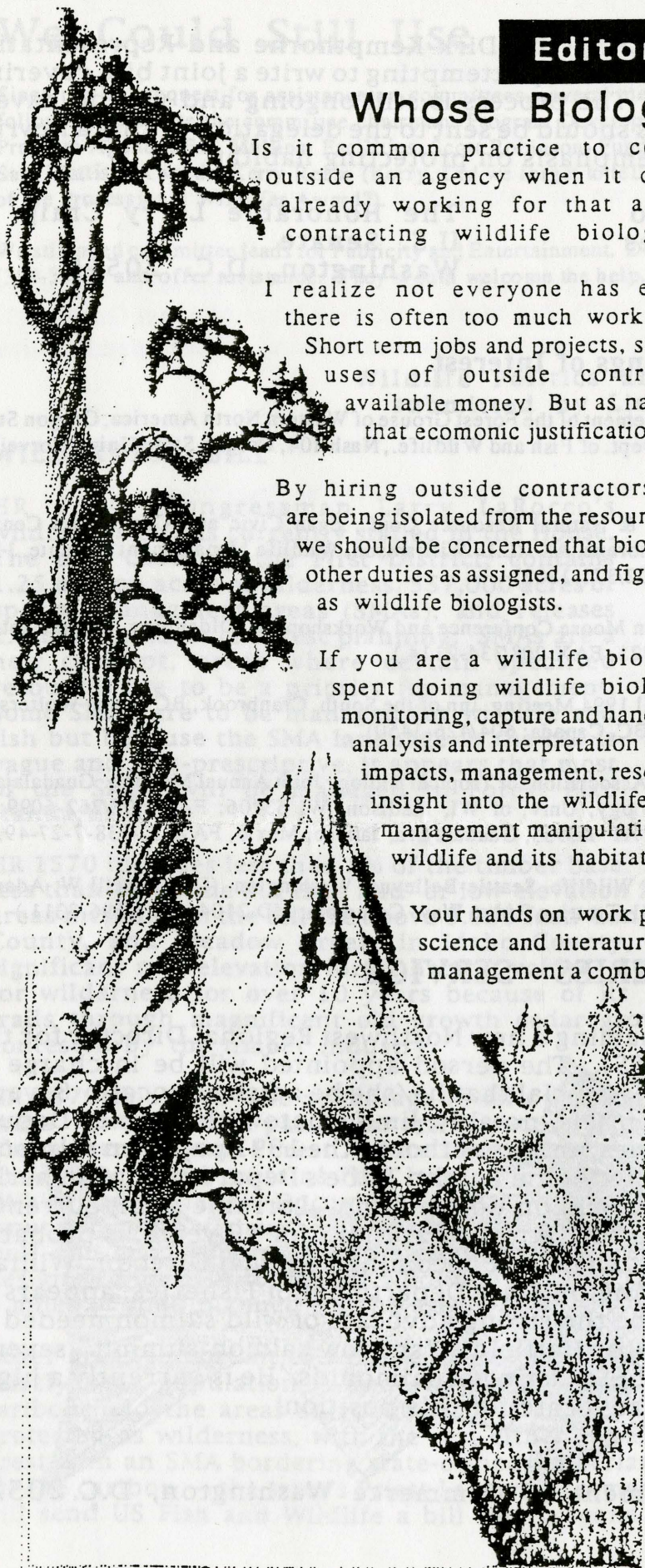
By hiring outside contractors and consultants, agency wildlife biologists are being isolated from the resource they are responsible for. As wildlife professionals we should be concerned that biologists are being buried by administration, training, other duties as assigned, and figurehead activities that prevent them from functioning as wildlife biologists.

If you are a wildlife biologist, I suppose a majority of your time is spent doing wildlife biology work. Work that includes surveys for monitoring, capture and handling animals for research and management purposes, analysis and interpretation of data collected, and writing to communicate wildlife impacts, management, research, and mitigation efforts. This work would give insight into the wildlife you are managing and how it may respond to management manipulation. This insight gives you a better understanding of wildlife and its habitat and how that relates to its potential.

Your hands on work provides a synergism for insight that goes far beyond science and literature reviews. That is why Aldo Leopold called game management a combination of art and science. We cannot possibly know all the answers to species and/or ecosystem management, so a direct knowledge is needed to a better job. The hands-off, contracted-out approach prevents us from developing this knowledge.

Sub-contracting the bodies and expertise to do wildlife biology gives you only a product. Can our peers or the public have confidence in our estimates, projections, and management if we have no acquired expertise or hands-on knowledge of the situation? Can you have the same ownership in what you are doing if you participate only indirectly in your job as wildlife biologist? The better biologist knows their country, habitats, and species. Contracting our work may prevent this connection and sever the agency professional from their profession. The best wildlife experts are in-house wildlife experts.

GS





## VIEWPOINT

HADLEY B. ROBERTS

With the exception of the Endangered Species Act, the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is one of the most important laws on the books that protects environmental values that we all hold dear. One of its stated objectives is "to create and maintain conditions under which man and nature can exist in productive harmony,..." Similarly, one of the stated objectives of the The Wildlife Society is "to take an active role in preventing human-induced environmental degradation;..." Yet, it seems that the Idaho Chapter of The Wildlife Society (as a group, not individuals) is often reluctant to get deeply involved in the NEPA process to protect these values.

In the environmental wars, the first line of defense has been those "in the trenches", namely the federal agency "combat biologists" who are fighting these battles daily, trying to protect that last old growth timber stand, that outstanding piece of riparian habitat or a key piece of big game summer or winter range. Occasionally they are successful but many times they are completely ignored by their supervisors. This only leads to frustrations, arguments, whistle blowing, personnel actions and forced transfers. We are all too familiar with this scenario.

These dedicated agency biologists can only carry the ball so far. Supporting them as a second line of defense are the environmental groups. Many of these are made up largely of laymen, including those participating in Forest Watch programs. Fortunately, this is where the environmental lawyers fit in, many of them providing pro bono services such as appealing and litigating violations of laws, policies, standards and guidelines, etc.

In these many tough battles, there has been one combatant that has not been very visible, namely the Idaho Chapter of The Wildlife Society. A few dedicated Chapter members have provided input to Environmental Impact Statements at scoping and comments stages on some of the higher profile projects such as the Grey Wolf reintroduction and the Bombing Range; however, we are currently not utilizing a broad diversity of expertise that is available from 200 plus wildlife professionals. If this resource was utilized properly, the job of the entire environmental community would be simplified.

Therefore, I am proposing a third line of defense as backup support to the agency biologists, laymen and attorneys already involved in NEPA battles. I am suggesting that our Chapter President enlarge the present Conservation Affairs Committee into regional sub-committees and direct them to provide input on some of the less glamorous but still important EIS's, such as timber sales, mining operations and roads. Each sub-committee would be responsible for tracking NEPA projects planned for their region and reporting them to the Chairperson. Periodically, the Committee would prioritize the importance of activities in their region and the state.

Working from the priority list, sub-committees would prepare documentation and write letters to agency line officers in support of the agency biologists and environmental groups. In many cases, this would mean rubber stamping their recommendations; in others, it could mean providing additional information. In either case, the fact that a biological recommendation has been subjected to peer review by the most knowledgeable wildlife experts in Idaho, makes it difficult for agency line officers to ignore or refute.

Currently there are dozens of EIS's for land altering activities in various stages of preparation throughout Idaho. These all represent major Federal actions. Involvement by this Chapter on some of the higher profile projects could make a difference. Needed are several volunteers from the different regions (perhaps IDF&G Regions) of Idaho to serve on sub-committees to help the Chapter prevent human-induced environmental degradation of our public lands. I would request that any volunteers interested in working in this capacity, contact me at 708 Lombard Street, Salmon, ID 83467 or (208) 756-2163.

## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR CHAPTER OFFICERS

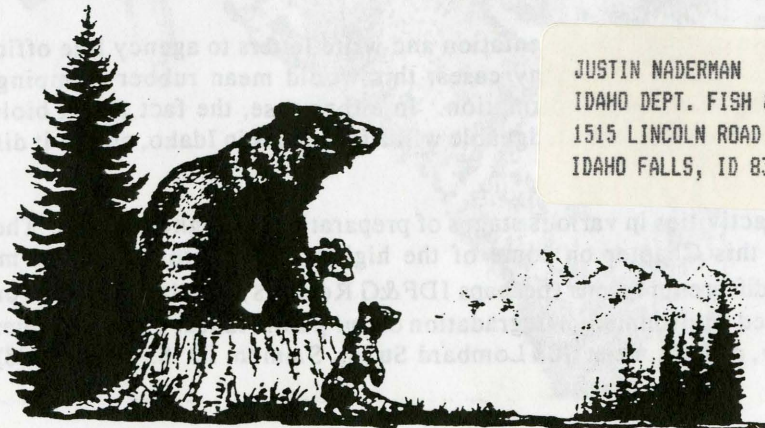
The Idaho Chapter is actively soliciting nominations for the positions of President, Vice-president, Secretary and Treasurer. All positions hold a minimum of two-year terms. Together these positions form the Executive Committee along with the Past-president, and attend to the business matters of this organization. If you are interested in becoming a candidate for a position, please provide the following information to Tom Hemker, 5241 W. Keybridge Drive, Boise, Idaho 83703 by December 30, 1993. The nomination committee will then review all nominee's submissions in preparation for the winter election to be described in the next newsletter.

Full name, personal data, education, former work positions, present work position, Wildlife Society activities and positions, principal wildlife resource interests, views regarding the Idaho Chapter, and reasons for seeking the position. For more information on this matter, please call Tom at (208-334-2920) or Paul Moroz (208-365-7008).

## COMMITTEES & CHAIRPERSONS

Conservation Affairs - Jeri Williams, 334 - 1931  
Membership - Paul Moroz, 364 - 7008  
Awards - Jack Connelly, 232 - 4703  
Finances - Geoff Hogander, 236 - 6860  
Education - Tom Hemker, 384 - 3067  
Annual Meeting - Alan Sands, 384 - 3067  
Newsletter - Michael Gratson & Gregg Servheen, 743 - 6502

## IDAHO CHAPTER THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY



JUSTIN NADERMAN 93  
IDAHO DEPT. FISH & GAME  
1515 LINCOLN ROAD  
IDAHO FALLS, ID 83401

## THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY *First*

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SEPTEMBER 21-25, 1994  
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