

HISTORY OF THE NORTHWEST SECTION OF  
THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY 1948-1972

By Paul D. Dalke

World War II veterans returning to their wildlife jobs or to colleges and universities sparked an interest in creating an annual wildlife conference for the Pacific Northwest. Considerable interest was first shown in Washington, Idaho and Montana. The first meeting was organized and sponsored by Montana State University of Missoula, March 26-27, 1948. The conference was attended by 60 people from Montana, Idaho, Washington and British Columbia. Dr. J. W. Severy, Head of the Botany Department, Montana State University, Missoula, and member of the Montana Fish and Game Commission, served as the first chairman. The program was organized around four technical sessions: waterfowl, upland game, big game and forest-land economy, and fisheries. The first meeting was held under the name The Northern Rocky Mountain Section of The Wildlife Society.

Officers elected at the first business meeting for 1948-49 were: O. J. Murie, President, James C. Simpson, Vice President, Lowell Adams, Secretary and Charles Yocom, Treasurer. These officers served until the close of the second meeting held in Moscow, Idaho, at the University of Idaho, March 28-29, 1949. Registration at this meeting was 102. The sessions were again divided into 4 sections: waterfowl and special techniques, big game, fisheries, and upland game. The waterfowl and special techniques had papers on the "Pacific Flyway cooperative program" by Henry H. Hansen, "Major waterfowl food plants and their distribution in Washington and northern Idaho" by Charles F. Yocom.



Robert J. Olson presented a paper on "Woody plants useful as food and cover for wildlife," and Lowell Adams discussed "A new punch card technique suitable for research with small samples." W. L. Pengelly of the University of Idaho served as chairman. In the big game session of which Fred Johnson, U. S. Forest Service, Missoula, was chairman, Clinton H. Conaway and Philip L. Wright reported on "Reproduction in elk with a demonstration of aging by tooth succession and wear."

Walter H. Kittams discussed the "Elk range problems in Yellowstone National Park." "Deer management in Washington" was reported by Burton Lauckhart and Jack Schmautz read a paper on "Lincoln County deer management unit." The big game session closed with a paper by Robert Casebeer on "A progress report on food habits of the Rocky Mountain goat."

James Simpson, chairman of the fisheries session, had three papers, "Farm fish pond development in north Idaho" by Tim Vaughan, "Fisheries management through lake poisoning in the State of Washington" by Don Ernest, and "Wyoming fisheries investigations" by A. F. C. Greene.

The annual dinner was followed by a motion picture "Big game hunting in the Yukon" narrated by Jack O'Conner, gun editor for Outdoor Life.

The name Northern Rocky Mountain Section of The Wildlife Society was dropped in favor of The Northwest Wildlife Conference. In order to become a section of The Wildlife Society a petition bearing the names of at least 10 members of The Society had to be approved by The Council. Five years would pass before a charter created the Northwest Section of The Wildlife Society.

At the 1949 business meeting, by unanimous vote, the Northwest Wildlife Conference area included the states of Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming and provinces of British Columbia and Alberta.



The latter province did not become an active participating member, however, until 1959.

The third annual Northwest Wildlife Conference was sponsored by the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission at Jackson, Wyoming, March 30-April 1, 1950. There were 181 people registered and 36 papers presented. The host of the conference included several guest papers from Utah, Colorado, and South Dakota. The year 1950 was the only time Wyoming was an active participant in the Northwest Wildlife Conference. The large number of papers made it necessary to hold two evening sessions. The conference sessions were divided into "Management of upland and migratory game birds," "Mechanics of predation and its significance in wildlife management," "Developments in fish management in the Rocky Mountain area," "The need and opportunities for trained personnel in wildlife programs," and "Developments in range and big game management." Four half-day field trips were available at the close of the conference.

Although a business meeting was held there are no records of the presiding officers or of officers elected for the 1951 meeting. The fourth conference scheduled for April 1951 in Vancouver, British Columbia, was cancelled for apparent lack of interest, or difficulties involved in obtaining travel permission outside the United States for state and federal agency personnel.

During the years 1950-55 the only officers elected were chairman and secretary. Beginning in 1955, a full set of officers was again elected.

The 1952 meeting was held in Pullman at Washington State College, with Charles F. Yocom chairman. The conference was organized around four technical sessions with a panel discussion on pheasants following



the banquet. At the 1952 business meeting there was considerable discussion of holding the annual conference jointly with The Northwest Scientific Association. College and university personnel felt that holding the meeting jointly would give the members a greater opportunity to hear papers in other scientific fields.

The fifth annual meeting scheduled for April 1953 in Bozeman at Montana State College failed to materialize. With two annual meetings cancelled over a three-year period the Northwest Wildlife Conference was in a precarious position. In an endeavor to pull the conference together as well as having an annual meeting late in 1953, the idea of joining with the Northwest Scientific Association's annual meeting gained momentum. Those regularly attending the Northwest Wildlife Conference were polled by committee. The chairman, K. E. Hungerford, reported that 62 percent favored meeting with the Northwest Scientific Association. Two years earlier the NWSA had considered adding a section on wildlife. Willingness on the part of the Northwest Wildlife group to give the joint meeting a try got off to a good start December 29-30, 1953, in Spokane, Washington. H. K. Buechner was chairman and Virgil S. Pratt, secretary.

Fifteen papers were presented including a 3-paper symposium on anadromous fishes of the Pacific Northwest. Big game species discussed under management and techniques included elk, black-tailed deer and bighorn sheep. In a session on upland game birds there were papers on mountain grouse, mourning doves, and ring-necked pheasants. A waterfowl session considered the role of small refuges in waterfowl management as well as predation and waterfowl protection, wood duck nesting in Oregon, and a concluding paper on the survey and status of the trumpeter swan



in Idaho.

Ian McTaggart Cowan, University of British Columbia, addressed the Association luncheon on "Conservation of western wildlife."

A petition signed by 26 members of The Wildlife Society at the December 1953 annual meeting in Spokane, Washington, was forwarded to the Executive Secretary of The Wildlife Society on January 14, 1954. Prompt action by the Council resulted in the Northwest Wildlife Conference being officially recognized by the charter of February 7, 1954 as the Northwest Section of The Wildlife Society. The charter was the result of five years' work beginning in 1949.

The 1954 meeting again met jointly with the Northwest Scientific Association, December 28-29, at the University of Montana in Missoula. Nineteen papers were presented in four sessions under the subjects of: population dynamics, education and public relations, wildlife management, and wildlife techniques. The chairman was Lowell Adams and the secretary, John J. Craighead.

The third joint meeting with the Northwest Scientific Association was held in Spokane, Washington, December 28-29, 1955, Irven O. Buss, chairman. There was considerable discussion at the annual business meeting concerning the continuation of the joint meeting. The principal reasons for returning to a separate spring meeting included the conflict with vacations during the week between Christmas and New Year's. The majority of members present favored returning to annual meetings in the spring. It was voted to meet with the Northwest Scientific Association for the last time in December 1956. For the 1955-56 year a full set of officers was elected: Paul D. Dalke, President; Raleigh Moreland, Vice President; and K. E. Hungerford, Secretary-Treasurer.



The December 27-28, 1956 meeting was held in Seattle, Washington, at the University of Washington. Registered attendance reached an all-time low of twenty-four. Fourteen papers were presented in four sessions: (1) big game, (2) nutrition, disease and parasites, (3) wetland resources symposium, and (4) upland game. Each year the Northwest Scientific Association offers two prizes for the best student papers. This year first prize went to Don Stanton, graduate student in wildlife management at the University of Idaho, for his paper "Some aspects of strutting ground activities of sage grouse in eastern Idaho." The four-year joint annual meetings with the Northwest Scientific Association ended with the December 1956 conference.

The 1956 annual business meeting set the next conference for April 1958. Officers elected were: James Hatter, President; Stanley Guenther, Vice President; and Don Robinson, Secretary-Treasurer.

The 1958 annual meeting was held in Moscow, Idaho, at the University of Idaho. Attendance was 75, and 15 papers were presented in 4 sessions with papers on big game, wildlife techniques, small game, and waterfowl and fur bearers.

Officers elected for 1958-59 were: P. L. Wright, President; Wynn Freeman, Vice President; and R. D. Taber, Secretary-Treasurer. Oregon and Alberta became active members of the Northwest Section at the April 24-25, 1959 meeting in Missoula. Attendance was approximately 100.

The session on upland game included papers on ptarmigan, mourning dove, and merriam's turkey. The big game session had eight papers of which four were on techniques, two on elk. Revision of the regional boundaries in the western United States was discussed at the business



meeting. Dr. P. L. Wright brought a proposed regional boundary revision before the Council of The Wildlife Society. Officers elected for the year 1959-60 were H. K. Buechner, President; W. O. Hanson, Vice President; and Fred C. Zwickel, Secretary-Treasurer.

The 1960 annual meeting held at Washington State University, Pullman, April 29-30, had an attendance of 87. The Washington State University Wildlife Conservation Club and George E. Hudson, curator of the Charles R. Conner Museum, had an open house for early registrants. Eighteen papers were presented in four sessions: wildlife diseases, Dr. J. F. Bell, chairman; mammalian investigations, John A. Morrison, chairman; recreation and extension, John J. Craighead, chairman; and avian investigations, Carl V. Swanson, chairman. During the year Wildlife Society members in Alaska were polled for their reaction to joining the Northwest Section. A majority approved, so Alaska was added to the section by unanimous vote at the business meeting. President Buechner had further information from the national organization that regional reorganization through a change in the by-laws, would be presented to the national membership during the year.

William H. Lawrence reported on the organization of a work conference on animal damage to forest products, covering the states of Oregon, California, Washington, Idaho, Montana and the province of British Columbia. Of special interest was the film and commentary by Irven O. Buss on "The African Lion."

Following the 2-day conference a field trip was taken to the 800-acre Hatter Creek deer enclosure on the University of Idaho Experimental Forest.

The officers elected for the 1960-61 year were: President, K. E. Hungerford; Vice President, W. A. Fuller; and Secretary-Treasurer,



Roger McCormack.

The 1961 annual meeting was held at the University of Idaho, April 21-22. Sixty-nine members were present out of a 141 paid-up membership. Registrants came from Oregon, Idaho, Washington, Montana and British Columbia. News of the activities of the members is generally absent or sparse, but the newsletter just prior to the annual meeting was outstanding in reporting the activities of 53 of the members. The 1961 conference was organized around four panel sessions: (1) limiting factors of upland game bird populations, (2) relationship of forest succession to big game, (3) animal damage and control, and (4) administration and research. The elected officers for 1961-62 were: President, Richard D. Taber; Vice President, Fletcher Newby; and Secretary-Treasurer, Jack Schmautz.

The 1962 annual meeting was held at Montana State University, Missoula, Montana, April 27-28.

The Montana officers for 1961-62 organized the 1962 annual meeting around three symposia: (1) water and waterfowl management; (2) big game research and management in parks and wilderness areas; and (3) range and forest grouse and a general session of six papers devoted largely to big game.

Guest speaker at the banquet was Kaj Westerskov who reviewed the wildlife problems in New Zealand. Of the 19 papers presented 16 were from Montana, 2 from Washington, and 1 from Idaho. Records of the annual business meeting were unavailable. Officers elected for 1962-63 were: President, D. J. Robinson; Vice President, Stanley E. Guenther; and Secretary-Treasurer, Patrick W. Martin.

The 1963 annual meeting was held at Cranbrook, British Columbia,



April 26-27. The meeting place in 1963 indicated a beginning of breaking away of the Missoula, Moscow, Pullman orbit around which most of the previous conferences had revolved. While an "excellent turn-out of members" was noted by President Robinson, no attendance figures were recorded. An absence of students was observed. Twenty-one papers were presented in four sessions. While there was a dominance of papers on big game they were scattered throughout the four sessions. A mixing of subjects was characteristic of each session rather than a number of papers concerned with a common topic. Three papers specifically did not deal with game animals--two with rodents and a paper dealing with basic ecologic principles, using small rodents as examples.

Guest banquet speaker was Valerius Geist who discussed "Aspects of mountain goat behavior." The annual business meeting broke all records for brevity--convening and adjourning in a space of 15 minutes. Officers elected for 1963-64 were: President, Stanley E. Guenther; Vice President, Fletcher E. Newby; and Secretary-Treasurer, Carroll Rieck.

The 1964 annual conference convened at Washington State College, Pullman, April 3 and 4. President Guenther addressed the opening session and pointed out that various organizations established to "save our wildlife" pose a serious threat to the sport of hunting. There were three sessions composed of papers on techniques, big game, and upland migratory birds and a panel discussion on past, present and future of wildlife management and research.

Wildlife management techniques formed a strong session with papers on browse sampling, animal damage survey, Uganda kob study techniques and potentials of radio isotopes in wildlife research. Guest speaker for



the annual banquet was H. K. Buechner, recently returned from Africa, whose subject was "The significance of territorial behavior in an African antelope."

A panel discussion of the past, present and future of wildlife management concluded that most wildlife research is done by crisis and that there is an obvious need for better public relations.

At the business meeting it was reported that Montana and Idaho now have acting state chapters of The Wildlife Society. Officers elected for the year 1964-65 were: President, Fletcher E. Newby; Vice President, John W. McKean; and Secretary-Treasurer, Hugh A. Harper.

The 1965 annual conference, at the University of Montana, April 9-10, had a record attendance of 194. There was a new pattern of conference organization of holding concurrent sessions. This was an innovation and made possible the presentation of 29 papers and a panel on research design for studying the effects of insecticide application on the ecosystem. At the general session President Newby spoke forcefully in favor of a renewal effort to act and speak as a professional organization. Fred G. Evenden, Executive Secretary of The Wildlife Society, attended the annual conference for the first time. He reported that the Council has established an award for professional achievement as well as an advisory committee and a professional standards committee. The twenty-nine papers in the 4 regular sessions were divided into habitat relationships, population biology, big game, and small game. Robert S. Hoffman guest speaker at the banquet, discussed man and nature in the Soviet Union.

Alaska was taken into the Northwest Section in 1960 but the constitution was not amended until the 1965 annual business meeting. The



by-laws were also amended to require the secretary-treasurer of the section to submit an annual report and financial statement to the Executive Secretary of the parent Society as directed in the by-laws of the parent Society.

A resolution submitted by the Idaho Chapter of The Wildlife Society on creating new boundaries for the Northwest region by the Council of The Wildlife Society was approved unanimously. A resolution was also passed which permits only chapters or standing committees to submit resolutions. Such resolutions must be submitted at least three months in advance of the annual meeting and must be accompanied by briefs. It was moved and approved unanimously that an evaluation committee be appointed to evaluate content and conduct of annual meetings and to appoint a summarizer of each annual meeting. The 1964-65 year was closed with a bank balance of \$308.40.

Officers elected for the 1965-66 year were: President, John W. McKean; Vice President, Hugh A. Harper; and Secretary-Treasurer, John E. Schwartz.

The 1966 annual conference convened at LaGrange, Oregon, on the campus of Eastern Oregon College, March 25-26. There were 10 sessions during the 2-day meeting, holding concurrent meetings both morning and afternoon of the first day and on the morning of the second day. A total of 50 papers was presented. Lack of strict time control caused difficulty in moving back and forth between the two sessions in progress. Crowding such a large number of papers into the 2-day program resulted in discussion time being cut down to a minimum.

The paired or concurrent sessions were: deer management and waterfowl; big game research and hunting values; game bird management and



research techniques; game birds and new federal policies and programs; game range research and wildlife appraisals. There was something of interest for everyone in this conference.

President of The Wildlife Society, Ben Glading, addressed the group on the state of The Society at a luncheon the first day. Victor B. Scheffer, a charter member of The Wildlife Society, gave a most interesting illustrated talk at the annual banquet on symmetry in nature.

All previous actions concerning resolutions were repealed and a standard method of preparing and presenting resolutions was passed at the annual business meeting. Article IV, resolutions, was incorporated into the by-laws.

An annual award was established to recognize outstanding achievements by members of the Northwest Section. The award was named for Arthur S. Einarsen, the late leader of the Oregon Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit.

Officers elected for 1966-67 were: President, Hugh A. Harper; Vice President, J. Burton Lauckhart; and Secretary-Treasurer, Elwood G. Bizeau.

The 1967 annual meeting was held at the University of Idaho, April 7 and 8. General program chairman Robert H. Giles arranged the presentation of 8 papers in big game research and 9 in small game research running concurrently. In addition there were 2 sessions comprising 8 topics under the title of "invitational papers," an effective method for presenting papers of diverse subjects, but all covering current problems in management, education and administration. Registration was 142 with attendance the first day of about 160.

Special guests included Fred G. Evenden, Executive Secretary of The



Wildlife Society, and Thomas G. Scott, President-elect of The Wildlife Society. Guest banquet speaker, Morlan Nelson, was accompanied by his golden eagle during an illustrated talk on "falconry." The first Arthur S. Einarsen award for "outstanding service to the wildlife resources and the wildlife profession" was presented by President Harper to Paul D. Dalke, leader of the Idaho Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit.

Fred Evenden gave a concise report on the status of The Wildlife Society and lauded the group for selecting Edmonton, Alberta, for the next meeting site.

Officers elected for 1967-68 were: President, D. A. Boag; Vice President, Fred C. Zwickel; and Secretary-Treasurer, Victor Lewin.

The 1968 annual conference met in Edmonton, Alberta, at the University of Alberta, March 22 and 23. The Journal of Wildlife Management--a misnomer?--was the subject of an invitational panel which included the current editor, Thomas S. Baskett, and former editor and President Thomas G. Scott. Concurrent technical sessions covered such subjects as environmental effects on goose reproduction in the Arctic, utilization of farm dugouts by waterfowl in Alberta, problems with wildlife depredations, and use of a stratified Lincoln index in estimating a winter mule deer population. A second session discussed such topics as the influence of small mammals on spring and winter placement of radio-tagged coniferous seeds in western Alberta, characteristics of the northernmost sage grouse range, trout habitat improvements in the Lewis and Clark National Forest, and an endangered osprey population--estimates of its mortality and production.

Guest speaker at the annual banquet provided by the Alberta Department of Lands and Waters was C. Hampson on "Wildlife of Anderson River



Delta, Northwest Territories." A single technical session on winter ecology occupied the morning of the second day with concurrent sessions and business meeting in the afternoon. A total of 19 papers and a panel discussion covered the 2-day meeting with adequate time allowed for discussion.

President Boag noted that the Northwest Section covers virtually the same area as Region 6 of the parent Society and that the by-laws of the Section should be amended to include the Yukon Territory as well as the Mackenzie District of the Northwest Territories. A motion to this effect was passed unanimously. No Einarsen award was given in 1968. The awards committee chairman pointed out, however, there is no dearth of qualified individuals. The by-laws were amended to add the office of president-elect.

There were 190 registered for the 1968 annual conference, one of the largest registrations in the history of the Northwest Section.

An invitation from the British Columbia group to meet in Victoria in 1969 was accepted unanimously. Officers elected for 1968-69 were: President, Fred C. Zwickel; Vice President, Robert B. Weeden; Secretary-Treasurer, K. R. D. Mundy. The conference summarizer was Robert B. Weeden. Field trips were taken on March 24 to Elk Island National Park and Alberta Game Farm. At the close of 1968 the Northwest Section of The Wildlife Society had about 18 percent of the Society's membership in the United States and Canada.

The March 28-29, 1969 annual Northwest Section conference was held at the Provincial Museum, Victoria, British Columbia. The conference opened with a timely panel discussion of the management of endangered species. The 2 morning meetings were single sessions, while



the 2 afternoons had 2 concurrent sessions. Of the 15 papers dealing with big game 8 were concerned with bighorn sheep and the ecology of their range. Other big game papers covered deer food production in the seral stages of coastal forests, seral shrub use on elk, winter range in Glacier National Park, nitrogen requirements of barren ground caribou and a reforestation method designed to reduce deer browsing on Douglas fir terminal leader growth. The second morning session was devoted to exotic game and included giraffe ecology in East Africa, chamois studies in the Swiss Alps, and exotic Hawaiian game birds. Other game birds and nongame birds discussed included the breeding biology of mourning doves in Alberta, winter nutrition of spruce grouse and the ptarmigan cycle and lastly some experimental husbandry of the peregrine falcon.

The annual banquet was courtesy of the Province of British Columbia and the speaker, Richard D. Taber, addressed the group on "Thoughts on the sociology of hunting." P. W. Schneider, former Director of the Oregon Game Commission, was presented the Einarsen Award.

At the business meeting, attended by 58 members, regional representative Hugh A. Harper gave an in-depth report on Council activities. The Wildlife Society has gone from no permanent staff in 1963 to an Executive Director and four full-time staff employees in 1969. Harper reported that there was considerable discussion whether The Wildlife Society should break away from the North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference. A resolution regarding the needed action to safeguard natural resources in Arctic North America was prepared by David R. Klein and W. L. Pengelly and distributed earlier in the year to the membership and approved unanimously at the annual business meeting. The Yukon Territories were added to the Northwest Section but not the



Mackenzie districts. Conference appraiser was Howard Paish, Executive Director, British Columbia Wildlife Federation.

Officers elected for 1969-70 were: President, David F. Riley; President-elect, Harold D. Picton; Vice President, E. Reade Brown; and Secretary-Treasurer, Wendell H. Oliver.

The 1970 annual conference of the Northwest Section convened at the Ridpath Motor Inn, Spokane, March 12-13. Opening remarks were by John Biggs, Director, Washington Department of Game. A 3-hour panel of 7 members discussed the topic "Winter feeding of game--an ignored management tool?"

Two concurrent sessions on the first day covered the topics of management of public lands for wildlife and behavior, endocrines, and habitat--implications for game bird populations.

Guest speaker at the annual banquet was Stewart Bledsoe, majority leader in Washington's House of Representatives, who outlined the political realities of fighting for wildlife and the environment. Dr. Ian McTaggart Cowan was the recipient of the Einarsen Award.

Concurrent sessions were held both morning and afternoon of the second day. The variety and scope of one morning session was noted in the title "Big game food habits, range management, trapping, behavior and population dynamics." Men from five states and one Canadian province contributed to this well-rounded session. "New approaches to environmental communications" covered the other concurrent session.

The program committee enlarged this year's scope by providing an interesting series of papers on fisheries with a broad coverage of topics from phytoplankton fish production of 2 streams, influence of logging on coho salmon habitat, effect of insecticide Sevin on the Dungeness



crab, and a survey of fishermen to determine preferences, opinions and behavior of anglers utilizing Idaho's sport fishery resources.

The other concluding session covered a miscellany of subjects of general interest such as sea otter transplanting, how to motivate a biologist, wildlife problems in Australia, and the relationship of the wildlife profession to the nonconsumptive wildlife user.

The conference appraisal by Phil Schneider was thorough and offered constructive suggestions. His closing remarks were significant: "The new consciousness of environmental degradation is making opportunities better than ever for wildlifers. There is speculation that the environmental 'binge' will die unless there is an ecological catastrophe (to weld public opinion) and the emergence of grass roots emotion and knowledge to lead the way."

Dr. Dean from Alaska sent word about the 1969 resolution concerning needed action to safeguard natural resources in Arctic North America. Seventy-five copies of the resolution were sent out and 50 answers were received. President Riley reported that Undersecretary Russell Train had commented on the resolution's effect. Some oil companies were committing themselves to restoring the environment as a result of the resolution.

Officers for 1970-71 were President, Harold D. Picton; President-elect, Robert U. Mace; Vice President, Clifford J. Martinka; and Secretary-Treasurer, Arnold J. Foss. The 1971 annual conference convened at Bozeman, Montana at the Holiday Inn, March 25-26.

Opening remarks by Frank Dunkel, Director, Montana Fish and Game Department, and Dr. Carl McIntosh, President, Montana State University, were followed by a panel discussion on the consumptive and



nonconsumptive uses of wildlife with Robert J. Jonas as moderator. The program of the afternoon of the first day had considerable diversity through 4 seminars: 1. predation and wildlife populations, 2. regulation of wildlife populations as concurrent seminars. These were followed by concurrent seminars discussing 3. fire and logging as ecological alternatives in coniferous forest wildlife management and 4. ecological effects of sagebrush control. These four seminars were reviewed the second morning by Bart O'Gara, R. L. Eng, R. R. Knight and D. C. Quimby. The second concurrent four sessions involved papers on habitat ecology and current problems in wildlife management, a catchall type of session of papers of diverse subjects. The last pair of concurrent sessions stressed big game ecology (deer, elk, mountain sheep and antelope), and small game and predator ecology. A videotape reply of the concurrent seminars was available in the lobby of the motel during the afternoon of the second day.

At the annual business meeting President Picton pointed out he had written several letters to the members of the Montana Legislature supporting the principle of resource management by professionals. He had also prepared a statement for the press emphasizing the ethical standards of our membership. Some backlash of the environmental issue has been due to the distortion of factual information by self-proclaimed environmentalists.

The annual banquet was addressed by Chet Huntley, developer of the Big Sky of Montana recreational area, who commented that "We probably have another decade to get ourselves turned around and get everyone earnestly dedicated to the idea of a clean environment which is necessary if we are to rescue the planet."



The 1972 annual conference of the Northwest Section convened at Oregon State University, February 11-12. Officers for 1971-72 were: President, Robert U. Mace; Vice President, Howard M. Wight; Secretary-Treasurer, Robert D. Nelson; and President-elect, Elwood G. Bizeau.

The opening general session held in the Memorial Union ballroom had the usual "welcoming addresses," from both Oregon State University and Director of the Game Commission as well as two papers of an international flavor, one by R. K. Murton, Nature Conservancy, Huntington, England, and the other about conservation of wildlife in Chile by R. D. Taber. A guided tour of the facilities of the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife was available immediately after the lunch.

A panel on "The Wildlife Society: goals for the future," was moderated by Robert Weeden. Participating in this panel were Executive Director of The Wildlife Society, Fred G. Evenden, Robert A. Rausch, Alaska Fish and Game Department, Richard R. Knight, University of Idaho, and John S. Larsen, Weyerhaeuser Company.

In place of the traditional banquet there was a "crab feed" at the Benton County fairgrounds.

There were two concurrent sessions both morning and afternoon of the second day. Management of marine mammals and big game was paired with nongame birds and mammals. The second set of concurrent sessions in the afternoon covered big game habitat and nutrition and ecology of predaceous birds and mammals.

The Einarsen Award established in 1966 was presented to William Q. Wick. Previous recipients have been Ian McTaggart Cowan in 1970, P. W. Schneider in 1969, and Paul D. Dalke in 1967.

Approximate attendance at the 1972 meeting was 225. The membership



elected the following officers for 1972-73: President, Elwood Bizeau; President-elect, Ronald Mackay; Vice President, John R. Woodworth; and Secretary-Treasurer, Keith Bayha.

The 250 papers presented during the 25-year period of 1948-72 covered 43 subjects. Papers on big game made up 31.2 percent of the total, followed closely by game birds, with 26.8 percent. These two categories comprise 68% of all papers. In the relatively young profession of wildlife management the number of papers on techniques ranked as high as elk, big game range, and waterfowl.

The top 10 subjects in order of frequency were: elk, big game range and techniques, 19 papers each; waterfowl, 18; mountain grouse, 15; administration and research, 12; pheasants and fisheries, 10 each; predation and raptors, 9; and mule deer, 9, for 56 percent of the total. The second 10 subjects in similar rank were: mountain goat, 8; non-game species, 7; white-tailed deer, disease, sage grouse and furbearers, 6 each; pesticides, public relations, black-tailed deer and game management, 5 each, for a total of 23.4 percent. The top twenty categories accounted for 80 percent of all subjects. The following table gives in detail the 43 subjects of the 250 papers in the 25-year period 1948-1972. No conferences were held in 1951 and 1957.



Subject	No.	%	Subject	No.	%
Elk	19	7.6	Publications	4	1.6
Big game range	19	7.6	Extension	4	1.6
Techniques	19	7.6	Cougar	4	1.6
Waterfowl	18	7.2	Chukar partridge	3	1.2
Mountain grouse	15	6.0	Bighorn sheep	3	1.2
Administration & research	12	4.8	Sharp-tailed grouse	3	1.2
Pheasants	10	4.0	Moose	2	0.8
Fisheries	10	4.0	Rodents	2	0.8
Predation & raptors	9	3.6	Population dynamics	2	0.8
Deer, mule	9	3.6	Antelope	2	0.8
Mountain goat	8	3.2	Wild turkey	2	0.8
Nongame species	7	2.8	Marine mammals	2	0.8
Deer, white-tailed	6	2.4	Trumpeter swan	2	0.8
Disease	6	2.4	Quail	1	0.4
Sage grouse	6	2.4	Game bird introductions	1	0.4
Furbearers	6	2.4	Farm game habitat	1	0.4
Pesticides	5	2.0	Training	1	0.4
Public relations	5	2.0	Grizzly bear	1	0.4
Deer, black-tailed	5	2.0	Fire and logging	1	0.4
Game management	5	2.0	Sagebrush control	1	0.4
Mourning dove	4	1.6	Bobcat	1	0.4
Game bird populations	4	1.6	Totals	250	100.0



NW SECTION ANNUAL CONFERENCE

<u>Year</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>No. Attending</u>	<u>President</u>
1948	Missoula	60	J. W. Severy
1949	Moscow	102	O. J. Murie
1950	Jackson	181	---
1951	No conference	---	---
1952	Pullman	---	C. F. Yocom
1953	Spokane	With NW Scientific Association	H. K. Buechner
1954	Missoula	"	L. Adams
1955	Spokane	"	I. O. Buss
1956	Seattle	"	P. D. Dalke
1957	No conference	---	---
1958	Moscow	75	J. Hatter
1959	Missoula	100	P. L. Wright
1960	Pullman	87	H. K. Buechner
1961	Moscow	69	K. Hungerford
1962	Missoula	---	R. D. Taber
1963	Cranbrook	---	D. J. Robinson
1964	Pullman	---	S. Guenther
1965	Missoula	194	F. Newby
1966	LaGrande	---	J. McKean
1967	Moscow	---	H. Harper
1968	Edmonton	190	D. A. Boag
1969	Victoria	---	F. Zwickel
1970	Spokane	---	D. F. Riley
1971	Bozeman	---	H. D. Picton
1972	Corvallis	225	R. Mace
1973	Boise	?	E. Bizeau