

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES: January - December 1994

Annual Meeting: The annual meeting of the Idaho Chapter of TWS was held in Post Falls March 3-5, 1994. The meeting theme was "Implementing Ecosystem Management" and was coordinated with the annual meeting of the Inland Empire Chapter of the Society of American Foresters. Major speakers included Fritz Knopf and Jack Ward Thomas, newly appointed Chief of the USFS. Special sessions and workshops included "Partners in Flight", a session on neotropical migrant bird conservation; Rare Animal Workshop in cooperation with the USFS, BLM, USFWS and Idaho Fish and Game Dept.; a workshop on North Idaho amphibians, reptiles and bats; a session on Idaho Wilderness Legislation; and a panel discussion of "Forest Health in Southern Idaho".

Involvement in Natural Resources Issues:

1) In 1993 the Idaho Chapter testified at hearings on the proposed Idaho Training Range issue and in 1994 collaborated with the NW Section of TWS and the National Office of TWS in questioning the adequacy of the EIS on this proposed project to expand an Air Force bombing range onto the Birds of Prey Natural Area. At this writing the Air Force is considering other options than its intended SW Idaho location.

2) The Idaho Chapter collaborated with the Idaho Chapter of the American Fisheries Society in supporting a Conservation Strategy for Bull Trout which focuses on ecosystem level approaches.

3) Idaho Chapter members attended interagency meetings that addressed the issue of long term strategies for conservation of the Rocky Mountain population of trumpeter swans.

4) The Chapter president sent letters supporting the National Biological Survey to members of the Idaho congressional delegation.

5) Chapter members have been attending meetings and monitoring forest health issues in Idaho as these issues might impact wildlife resources.

Financial support was provided to:

1) the Parent Society to assist students in attending TWS annual meeting in Albuquerque,

2) the Idaho 4-H Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Team who placed 6 out of 30 teams in national competition, and

3) the Inland Empire Natural Resources Youth Camp.

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2) The Idaho Chapter collaborated with the Idaho Chapter of the American Fisheries Society in supporting a Conservation Strategy for Bull Trout which focuses on ecosystem level approaches that support a diversity of fish and wildlife communities.

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ACTIVITIES OF THE IDAHO CHAPTER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY FOR
1993

The annual meeting was held at Templin's Resort in Post Falls March 3-5, 1994. The meeting theme was "Implementing Ecosystem Management" and was coordinated with the annual meeting of the Inland Empire Chapter of the Society of American Foresters. Fritz Knopf gave the keynote address entitled "Conserving Biological Diversity" and Jack Ward Thomas, newly appointed Chief of the U.S. Forest Service was the dinner speaker. Special meeting sessions and workshops included "Partners in Flight", a session on neotropical migrant bird conservation; "Rare Animal Workshop" in cooperation with the USFS, BLM, USFWS and Idaho Fish and Game; an Idaho Watchable Wildlife Steering Committee session; a workshop on North Idaho amphibians, reptiles and bats; a session on Idaho Wilderness Legislation and a panel discussion on "Forest Health in Southern Idaho"; and numerous papers on the conference theme. Sessions were well attended and productive.

During the past year the Conservation Affairs Committee of the Idaho Chapter responded to the wolf reintroduction EIS via comments and in writing; and testified at hearings on the proposed Idaho Training Range issue. The Chapter will provide input on the Columbia River Basin Mitigation report and will keep abreast of developments on Idaho wilderness legislation. The Chapter committed \$100 per year for 5 years to the Inland Empire Natural Resources Youth Camp.