



IDAHO CHAPTER
THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

Lewis Nelson, Jr.
Chapter President
828 Nylarol
Moscow, ID 83843

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
SUITE 611
7101 WISCONSIN AVE. N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20014

March 15, 1982

Mr. J. Marsden Williams, Chairman
Conservation, Resources, and
Environment Committee
State Capital Building, Room 433
Boise, Idaho 83720

Dear Mr. Williams:

The Idaho Chapter of The Wildlife Society would like to go on record as being opposed to House Bill 786. Box Canyon is a unique area that provides habitat for golden eagles, prairie falcons, many songbirds, Shoshone sculpin, rainbow trout, and several other species. The canyon has been identified as the third-ranked site of "Important Fish and Wildlife Habitat of Idaho", an inventory done by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

In 1971, the Idaho Legislature passed a bill designating Box Canyon waters for recreation (Section 67-4310 of the Idaho Code). The State of Idaho has filed a 600 cfs water right in the canyon for recreation and aesthetics. This bill would change the status of Box Canyon so that the waters can be developed for hydropower and aquaculture. This is clearly special interest legislation that should not be allowed. Section 67-4310 of the Idaho Code should not be changed and the 600 cfs of unappropriated water should be granted to the State of Idaho so that the beauty and natural resources of Box Canyon will be preserved for future generations to enjoy. Idaho has only one Box Canyon.

We would sincerely appreciate your support in this matter.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lewis Nelson, Jr." The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Lewis Nelson, Jr., Ph.D.
President, Idaho Chapter
The Wildlife Society

LN:pl

Lewis Nelson, Jr.
Chapter President
828 Nylarol
Moscow, ID 83843

March 16, 1982

Governor John Evans
State Capital Building
Boise, ID 83720

Dear Governor Evans:

The Idaho Chapter of The Wildlife Society would like to go on record as being opposed to House Bill 786. Box Canyon is a unique area that provides habitat for golden eagles, prairie falcons, many songbirds, Shoshone sculpin, rainbow trout, and several other species. The canyon has been identified as the third-ranked site of "Important Fish and Wildlife Habitat of Idaho", an inventory done by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

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We would sincerely appreciate your support in this matter.

Yours truly,

Lewis Nelson, Jr., Ph.D.
President, Idaho Chapter
The Wildlife Society

LN:pl

JOHN V. EVANS
GOVERNOR



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

STATE CAPITOL
BOISE 83720

April 14, 1982

Dr. Lewis Nelson, Jr.
President
The Wildlife Society, Idaho Chapter
828 Nylarol
Moscow, Idaho 83843

Dear Lewis:

Thank you for your letter regarding House Bill 786. As you know by now, I signed this bill. I signed it because I feel it is a reasonable start toward a compromise of a difficult and complex issue. I am informed by Mr. Hardy that he plans to leave the upper part of Box Canyon, including the spring and falls, in its natural state. A small hydroelectric plant is planned for Box Canyon and a fish farm is planned in Blind Canyon.

I know there will be a number of opportunities to discuss your concerns in this matter. Public hearings are to be held by the Land Board, the Water Board, and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. I urge you to attend the hearings on this issue and to express your views.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John V. Evans".

JOHN V. EVANS
GOVERNOR

JVE:pcp