

IDAHO CHAPTER

THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

May 12, 1982

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

Vsed

Mr. Jerry Conley, Director Idaho Department of Fish and Game P.O. Box 24 Boise, Idaho 83707

Dear Director Conley:

We are encouraged that Idaho now has a Nongame Wildlife Program, and we commend your Department for its efforts in getting the Nongame Wildlife Bill passed in the legislature last year. Because this program is new, the Idaho Chapter of the Wildlife Society would like to take this opportunity to make a few comments concerning the Nongame Program that will be initiated in July, 1982.

The state-of-the-art in nongame wildlife management has progressed rapidly in the last ten years. Many states now have nongame programs that provide information and education to a broad assortment of people. Research on nongame species and their management has progressed to the point that nongame wildlife is fast becoming a specialized field. Any biologist familiar with nongame species management understands the fundamental differences between game and nongame management techniques and programs. Therefore, the Idaho Chapter respectfully suggests that the Department hire a biologist who has specialized in nongame species management to administer the program. There are many highly qualified nongame biologists who would provide fresh, exciting, and innovative ideas for this infant program.

We believe that the Department should consider the formation of a Nongame Citizens Advisory Board whose purpose would be to assist in the establishment of broad goals for the Nongame Wildlife Program. The Board could also act as a clearinghouse for projects and ideas generated from public sources and assist in developing a broader funding base for the program. Many other nongame activities could also be reviewed by the Board in concert with the Department, the Idaho Fish and Game Commission, and the Legislature. We suggest the Board be made up of one or two citizen representatives from each of the 6 Regions of the Department. The selection could be made by each Regional Supervisor or by the Commission members.

We appreciate your consideration in this matter and look forward to your reply.

Sincerely yours,

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

cc: Idaho Fish and Game Commissioners



June 30, 1982

Mr. Lewis Nelson, Jr., President Idaho Chapter of The Wildlife Society Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit University of Idaho
Moscow, Idaho 83843

Dear Lew:

Since you took the trouble to contact us and express your interest in our new Nongame program, I want to let you know that our State Nongame Manager has been selected and invite your continued participation in our Nongame program in the future.

Martel Morache, a 26-year veteran with the Department, will head up the project. His appointment as State Nongame Wildlife Manager is effective July 4th. Mart's experience in working with agencies, organizations and individuals and his knowledge of wildlife in Idaho make him highly qualified for the position. He started his Department career in 1956. After nine years as a Conservation Officer, he moved to other positions as Regional Educator and Supervisor of Conservation Education. For the past six years, he has served as Ecological Program Coordinator. The Idaho Wildlife Federation honored him as "Conservation Educator of the Year" in 1969 and he received the nationally-known American Motors Conservation Award in 1980. Mart is a native of Emmett and holds a B.S. degree from the University of Idaho.

We plan to set up regional and state nongame advisory boards to review and discuss potential projects and suggestions for nongame programs. If you have any further suggestions, persons who might be potential members, or ideas for projects to be considered, etc., I would like to hear from you again.

We are looking forward to developing a dynamic Nongame program with the help of Idaho's citizens, like yourself, and I appreciate your interest.

Sincerely,