



IDAHO CHAPTER  
THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS  
SUITE 5176  
3900 WISCONSIN AVE. N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20016

June 1, 1979

The Honorable Frank Church  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Church:

The Idaho Chapter of the Wildlife Society is extremely interested in the present controversies concerning the River of No Return Wilderness proposals. Due to the varied and crucial wildlife concerns involved in this area, we considered it necessary to give testimony at the Boise hearing on May 24 in support of Senate Bill 95. While we fully realize that wilderness designation normally precludes most ecosystem manipulation to favor selected species of wildlife, the protection and preservation of the native fauna was foremost in our minds.

In review of the decisions involving the Gospel Hump area, we understand that specific wildlife values can be protected or enhanced in non-wilderness areas if habitat concerns are first identified and management coordination programs developed. One such coordination effort is the development of the Elk Habitat Coordination Guidelines (enclosed) which indicate ways timber management and elk management can be optimized in relation to one another.

Other guidelines are available for cavity-nesting species, endangered and threatened species and others.

The Idaho Chapter of the Wildlife Society would like to take this opportunity to volunteer our expertise in the development of possible compromises to total wilderness designation, if such would help expedite the wilderness classification of the crucial portions of this area.

If we can be of service to you now or in the future, please contact me.

Sincerely,

W. Dean Carrier, President  
Idaho Chapter, TWS