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IDAHO CHAPTER
THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

P.O. Box 398
Kamiah, ID 83536

February 8, 1977

The Honorable Mark O. Hatfield
U.S. Senator - Russell Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Hatfield:

Our Chapter has reviewed your proposed bill to "provide for a Cooperative Forestry Extension Program" and wishes to make the following comments:

The intent of this act, which is to train personnel as instructors in forestry-related matters, develop educational materials pertinent to forestry matters and emphasize procedures and program to improve the delivery of information, especially to non-industrial forest landowners, is commendable. It is to be noted that in Idaho at least, a number of forest landowners are very concerned with wildlife, and are desirous of enhancing habitats on their properties for wildlife. To the extent that this act will foster the acquisition of information on wildlife habitats and its dissemination to the private landholder, it is worthy of the support of the Idaho Chapter of the Wildlife Society.

A solid extension program of the sort this act envisions must be based on solid information which insures a high probability of positive results from recommended activities if it is to be well received by the private landowner. In Idaho, and possibly other states, there is insufficient information regarding ways to enhance wildlife habitats on forested lands, especially where timber management activities are to be integrated. Financial support for acquisition of this information is chronically poor, and is an outstanding need. It is hoped that this act could help to alleviate this problem.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tom Leege".

Thomas A. Leege
President

cc: Dr. Mike Zagata
Senator Frank Church