

RESOLUTION  
of  
THE IDAHO CHAPTER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

RE: Penalties for Game Law Violations

The Idaho Chapter of the Wildlife Society, an organization of professional wildlife workers in Idaho, offers the following resolutions concerning the need for increased penalties for game law violations in Idaho:

WHEREAS big game species in Idaho provide high quality recreational sport hunting and viewing for an increasing human population; and

WHEREAS populations of the major species of big game animals are presently on a downward trend; and

WHEREAS the loss of habitat, low recruitment rates, increased human access, illegal harvest and other factors are contributing to this downward trend; and

WHEREAS control of illegal harvest is one method of reducing this trend; and

WHEREAS present interpretation and application of the law and subsequent penalties assessed to individuals apprehended and convicted of violations of these laws are not severe enough to serve as a deterrent to subsequent violations; and

WHEREAS fines and other penalties have not increased in proportion to costs of protection and management of these big game species;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, The ICTWS urges the passage of legislation sponsored by the Idaho Department of Fish and Game which will enable the State of Idaho to file civil damage suits against those individuals convicted of violation of these regulations to the extent of the economic worth of the illegally harvested big game species; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that additional legislation be passed to increase criminal penalties for game law violations that will serve as an increased deterrent to potential law violators.

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RE: Minimum Stream Flow Legislation

The Idaho Chapter of the Wildlife Society, an organization of professional wildlife workers in Idaho, offers the following resolution concerning the need for minimum stream flow legislation:

WHEREAS adequate minimum stream flows are vital to maintain the fish, wildlife, recreational and aesthetic resources of Idaho's streams; and

WHEREAS the Idaho State Legislature has not adopted legislation which would provide for such flows;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the ICTWS strongly urges the Idaho State Legislature to pass a minimum stream flow law during the 1977 legislative session which will:

1. Encompass the entire State.
2. Provide the minimum flows described in the 1975 Idaho Department of Water Resources report entitled "Stream Resource Maintenance Flow Studies - 1975" by T. COCHNAUER.