

THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS SUITE S176 3900 WISCONSIN AVE. N.W. WASHINGTON, D.C. 20016 Ralph Kizer, Forest Supervisor Idaho Panhandle National Forest P.O. Box 310 Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83814

Dear Mr. Kizer:

WHEREAS, the Idaho Chapter of the Wildlife Society represents a broad cross-section of professional wildlife specialists in the State of Idaho dedicated to the conservation, management and enhancement of Idaho's wildlife; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Forest Service following a five year study has concluded that the entire 1,321 miles of the St. Joe River meets the criteria for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic River System; and

WHEREAS, the river needs to be protected as a complete aquatic system; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Forest Service recommends Alternative C, National System within the national forest boundary and State action below the forest boundary; and

WHEREAS, under Alternative C, 59.3 miles of the St. Joe River would depend solely on State and/or local governments for protection for which there is no precedence to date.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: the Wildlife Society petitions the U.S. Forest Service to reconsider Alternative C and adopt Alternative E which provices for State and/or local governments subdivisions to effect planning and controls by July 1, 1979. If the planning and controls are not forthcoming, then the entire river should become a component of the National System.

> William R. Meiners, President