



IDAHO CHAPTER
THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20014

10658 Winterhawk
Boise, Idaho 83709

March 20, 1981

Richard D. Estes
District Forest Ranger
Emmett Ranger District
1648 N. Washington
Emmett, Idaho 83617

Dear Mr. Estes:

The Idaho Chapter of The Wildlife Society would like to offer the following comments on the proposed Padgett Creek Timber Sale for consideration in preparation of the environmental assessment.

We are especially concerned about the need for managing a minimum of 10% of the timber in the sale area for old growth timber habitat to accomodate those non-game species which depend on old growth timber. The protection of brush fields and riparian zones is also very important for many non-game species.

We would like to emphasize the need to evaluate elk-timber relationships as these needs also benefit deer. The deliniation of elk calving areas should be made and if found, should preclude any activity during the elk calving period, May 15 to July 15. We feel it is important to leave patches of timber for cover in any large clear cuts over 1000 feet wide to provide cover and accomodate full use of the clear cut by deer and elk.

This general area is an important bear area and the protection of huckleberry understories would be beneficial. Selective cutting of the timber and not scarifying the understory will provide protection for the huckleberries, an important food source for the black bear.

We realize that this area will be evaluated on the ground when it becomes accessable and perhaps I could find someone in our organization that would be willing to assist with this evaluation. Please let me know when this evaluation will take place.

Sincerely yours,

James F. Gore
President, Idaho Chapter
The Wildlife Society