

1981 Environmental Issues
Committee Report

The Idaho Chapter of the Wildlife Society has been an active respondent on many state and federal natural resource issues. We have done this by drafting position papers, writing letters in behalf of the chapter, and notifying members throughout the state of important issues that require their input as private citizens. Our state telephone network was in busy use during the 1981 Idaho legislative session and will continue to be used throughout the year.

The issues the chapter has commented on are varied. During the 1981 Idaho legislative session we campaigned strongly for the nongame funding bill and the fish and game license fee increase bill. We again campaigned against the Sagebrush Rebellion legislation. The chapter wrote letters to key politicians explaining the reasons behind the expansion of the Birds of Prey Natural Area urging them to support Secretary Andrus's decision. We urged the BLM to continue the land withdrawal for the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory on the basis of its importance as winter range for antelope and sage grouse. We sent comments to the Idaho Dept. of Transportation concerning the proposed improvements on Highway 12. We have commented on several proposed timber sales in the state and we are becoming involved in forest land and resource management planning.

Date: 21 April, 1981

Jay Gore - President
Signe Sather-Blair - Committee Chairman