

2320 Government Way  
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814

April 7, 1981

Senator James A. McClure  
Chairman, Senate Subcommittee on Appropriations  
Room 132, Russell Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator McClure:

We recently learned that the 45-year old Cooperative Wildlife and Fishery Research Unit program has been eliminated from the federal budget for 1982. As much as we can support a general philosophy of balancing the budget through reduced federal spending, we do not believe that a highly successful and proven program such as this should be among those chosen to be axed.

The Cooperative Research Units in the northwest states, as well as elsewhere around the United States, have played, and are playing, a leading role in wildlife and fisheries research and graduate programs. Top quality personnel administer these Units and they successfully bring together resources from the universities and the state fish and wildlife departments to solve problems in a way beneficial to all concerned. Our wildlife and fisheries resources would receive significantly less attention to the ultimate detriment of all of us if this program is not continued.

We sincerely hope you will consider the full range of benefits resulting from this program relative to other federal programs before deciding where the cuts should be made.

Sincerely,

Thomas A. Leege, President

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Also Mailed to: Senator Mark O. Hatfield  
Representative Jamie L. Whitten  
Representative Sidney R. Yates