

Letters to the Editor

The Idaho STATESMAN

Editorials

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The comments below represent the opinions of The Idaho Statesman. Columns, commentary, cartoons and letters appearing elsewhere on this page represent the opinions of the authors.

Monday, June 15, 1981

"A Part of Life in Idaho"

Institute for Resource Management

Editor, The Statesman:

Gad! The short-term specialist, quick-buck artists, are at it again.

I'm referring to the complaints that the Greater Snake River Land Use Congress, American Trout Growers and others have about the innovative Institute for Resource Management at the University of Idaho. I refer to the June 2, 1981, Statesman article by Steve Ahrens.

This multidiscipline training and planning effort is exactly what America needs to move on from the old traditional ways of planning for single-interest projects. The National Environmental Policy Act required the federal government to plan projects on a multidiscipline concept. Socio-economic, archeological-historic, environmental and other factors are now to be considered in project planning.

Yes, this type of planning does take a little longer and costs a little more, but then hopefully this planet and our nation will be around a long time and will still be suitable for human living. In our planning efforts we must be thinking about impacts to our soil, energy and other natural resources from a long-range perspective and not from the "what-can-I-get-out-of-the-land-in-one-generation" mode. I believe most people today know and understand this need. The concept of the Institute for Resource Management is a vehicle to accomplish this need for wise, long-range planning.

Naturally, the groups that have the most to lose with long-range, multi-

ple-discipline planning would be the first to complain loudly. Their short-term gain, business-as-usual methods are in jeopardy. Really, long-term planning often necessitates compromises in the uses of our natural resources.

The concept that Robert Redford and Cecil Andrus are trying to nurture is a good one. — JAMES F. GORE, president, Idaho chapter of the Wildlife Society

Meridian reunion

Editor, The Statesman:

The Meridian High School Class of 1971 has scheduled a reunion to be held Aug. 7, 8 and 9.

Any persons who were members of that class and have not yet been notified by mail of the reunion should contact Kathy Babbitt Drury at 343-8037, or write to her at 1919 Gloucester St., Boise 83706. — DIXIE WOOD, Reunion Committee, Meridian High Class of '71

(Letters are welcome. There is no length limit, although those under 300 words are preferred. Please include your signature, address and telephone number. Address and phone numbers will not be printed but may be used for verification. Send the letters to Statesman Sports, P.O. Box 40, Boise, Idaho 83707.)
