



IDAHO CHAPTER
THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

May 24, 1979

Statement on

River of No Return Wilderness

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
SUITE 611
7101 WISCONSIN AVE. N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20014

Presented at City Council Chambers, 150 N. Capitol Blvd., Boise, Idaho

Senator Church,

Thank you for the opportunity to present our viewpoint to this gathering. My name is James F. Gore, Chairman of the Environmental Issues Committee, Idaho Chapter of the Wildlife Society. The Idaho Chapter is composed of over 230 professional wildlife specialists in this State. It is in the name of the Idaho Chapter that this statement is presented.

The Idaho Chapter urges your strong support of Senate Bill 95 which would protect, in a wilderness system, 2.3 million acres of land and water in the River of No Return vicinity. It is our belief that wilderness is an important natural heritage and that it should be protected for present and future generations. Abundant and diverse populations of wildlife (190 species) thrive in this large, little-disturbed region. We feel it is worthwhile to set aside tracts comprising an entire ecosystem whereby natural plant and animal succession can occur.

In addition, certain contiguous tracts to the wilderness proposed in S 95 should be protected, especially from road construction. These areas are: 1) Meadow Creek-Magruder Corridor; 2) Jersey Jack; 3) Loon Creek; and 4) Gospel Hump additions between the present Gospel Hump Wilderness and the River of No Return Wilderness.

On behalf of the Idaho Chapter of the Wildlife Society, I request that this statement be placed in the hearing record.

Thank-you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James F. Gore".

James F. Gore, Chairman
Environmental Issues Committee
10658 Winterhawk
Boise, Idaho 83709

cc: Senator McClure
Congressman Hanson
Congressman Symms