

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS  
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3900 WISCONSIN AVE. N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20016

IDAHO CHAPTER  
**THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY**

P.O. Box 398  
Kamiah, ID 83536

March 21, 1977

Mr. Cecil D. Andrus  
Secretary  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Mr. Andrus:

Recently the Bureau of Land Management announced that fences causing problems for antelope in southeastern New Mexico would be modified in an attempt to reverse the downward trend in antelope numbers.

We congratulate the BLM for taking this affirmative action, especially in light of the opposition to these fence modifications expressed by the livestock industry. It is a sign to us that resources other than livestock forage are now being given some consideration on public lands, and that these lands are starting to be managed for all Americans, rather than a select few.

We hope more signs of this change will be forthcoming.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas A. Leege  
President

cc: Gov. of New Mexico  
bcc: Mike Zagata





# United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

In Reply Refer To:  
1737 (360)  
15549

APR 12 1977

Mr. Thomas A. Leege  
President, Idaho Chapter  
The Wildlife Society  
P.O. Box 398  
Kamiah, Idaho 83536

Dear Mr. Leege:

Thank you for your letter of March 21, 1977, expressing appreciation of the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) fence modification program for antelope in southeastern New Mexico.

This is to confirm that I support balanced multiple-use management of lands administered by BLM and associated wildlife habitat improvement programs. Antelope are very much a part of the public lands near Roswell and we intend to do whatever is necessary to maintain productive habitat for them.

The Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 makes it clear that we are to manage the public lands for production of commodities, but in such a way that wildlife habitat and other values receive full management consideration. Consistent with that mandate, modification of some net wire fences is obviously needed for the welfare of antelope in the Roswell area. As currently constructed, the fences are barriers to antelope herds which depend upon freedom of movement and access to water and suitable habitat for survival.

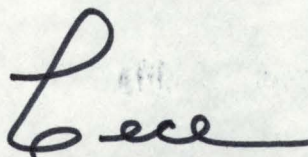
As you may be aware, about 300 miles of net wire fences on public lands have already been modified for antelope and other wildlife in five States, including New Mexico. This has been a successful program and the BLM is moving ahead with similar alterations of selected problem fences near Roswell and in other areas. In these and all other similar cases, the basic objective is the same--to allow wildlife passage while also controlling livestock.





Your interest in and support of Department of the Interior programs are very much appreciated. I am familiar with the important role that The Wildlife Society has in natural resource conservation, and I welcome its continued involvement at all levels.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Andrus". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "C" and a long, sweeping underline.

CECIL D. ANDRUS  
SECRETARY



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Sincerely,

(Sgd) Cece

CECIL D. ANDRUS  
SECRETARY