

## THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

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Idaho Chapter  
The Wildlife Society  
1035 Surrey Lane  
Blackfoot, ID 83221

September 28, 1989

Northwest Power Planning Council  
851 S. W. Sixth, Suite 1100  
Portland, OR 97204

RE: Wildlife Comment

Dear Northwest Power Planning Council Members:

The Idaho Chapter of The Wildlife Society supports the Council's efforts to address the wildlife mandates of the 1980 Northwest Power Act. Hydropower dams in Idaho have caused significant impacts to wildlife, while wildlife habitat has decreased throughout the state. Approving a wildlife amendment will allow protection of important habitat and create a lasting legacy for wildlife.

With respect to the proposed wildlife amendment, we recommend the following:

The Albeni Falls Project should be included in the wildlife amendment at this time.

The losses statements developed by agencies and tribes should be accepted and used as a basis for mitigation.

The Council should require Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) to fully fund mitigation for losses identified in the losses statements.

The most appropriate method for determining amount of BPA expenditures to allocate to electric power is the reimbursement-from-power-revenues approach, as outlined in your "Revised allocations for determining hydroelectric-related wildlife losses".

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The interim goal for wildlife should be to mitigate at least one-half of the lost habitat units over the coming 10-year period.

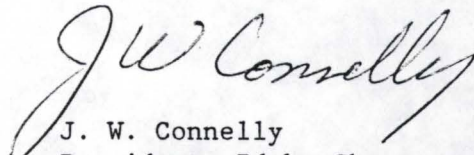
The proposed advisory committee should include all members of the Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Authority and representatives of appropriate conservation groups.

Mitigation should be permanent. Acquiring full management rights, through acquisition of fee-titles or conservation easements, will probably be the most cost-effective means to accomplish wildlife mitigation.

BPA should be clearly directed to fund long-term operation, maintenance, and monitoring so that mitigation projects will continue to benefit wildlife.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on your draft amendment.

Sincerely,

  
J. W. Connelly  
President, Idaho Chapter,  
The Wildlife Society

JWC/BM/ch

cc: Bob Martin  
Paul Wackenhut