

Facsimile Cover Sheet



Nez Perce National Forest

Date: 11/21/94

To: Dr. Ernie Ables

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From:

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To:

Idaho Fish and Game Commission
Richard Hansen, Chairman
600 South Walnut/ Box 25
Boise, ID 83707-0025

Dear Richard,

The Idaho Chapter of the American Fisheries Society (IAFS) and the Idaho Chapter of the Wildlife Society (TWS) encourage you to implement the **Conservation Strategy For Bull Trout (4/4/94)**.

Bull trout populations are suffering because of poor land management practices as well as other human impacts such as harvest. These fish are truly one of Idaho's gems and their decline is directly related to Idaho's actions and cannot be blamed on "downstream" influences. Reversing their decline will require fundamental changes in the way Federal and State lands are managed.

The proposed **Conservation Strategy for Bull Trout** is needed as a framework from which to apply land management direction aimed at recovering the species. This type of ecosystem approach will benefit not only the aquatic communities, but the terrestrial as well. The long term value of a healthy, functioning ecosystem supporting a diverse fish and wildlife community must be supported over short term financial gains.

We wish to thank the Commission for seeking our input. We would also offer our continued support in review of Riparian Management Objectives (RMO), Key Watershed designations, and monitoring plans.

Sincerely,

WAYNE J. PARADIS
President IAFS

Dr. ERNIE ABLES
President TWS