

## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1204

April 27, 1995

Mr. Leonard R. Johnson
Interim Dean
College of Forestry, Wildlife
and Range Sciences
University of Idaho
Moscow, ID 83844-1138

Dear Leonard:

Thank you for your recent letter relating to our correspondence regarding the role the National Biological Service (NBS) has played in Idaho over the past two years.

I appreciate you apprising me of the scientific contributions that Dr. Scott, Dr. Bjornn, Dr. Congleton and the other distinguished researchers at the University of Idaho Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit have made to the State of Idaho. You may be assured their efforts are recognized and greatly appreciated.

At your request, I contacted Senator Gorton, the Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior and Related Agencies, and urged him not to rescind federal dollars allocated to the University of Idaho Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit under the National Biological Survey. As you may know, these funds were not rescinded in the Senate rescission bill. I am enclosing a copy of my letter to Senator Gorton for you.

Again, thank you for bringing this important information to my attention.

Sincerely,

DIRK KEMPTHORNE United States Senator

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## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1204

March 23, 1995

The Honorable Senator Gorton, Chair Subcommittee on Interior and Related Agencies Senate Committee on Appropriations Senate Dirksen Building Room 127

Dear Senator Gorton:

I understand that H.R. 1158, the House rescissions bill now being considered by the Senate Committee on Appropriations includes provisions to cut ten percent fo the current budget from the programs under the National Biological Survey (NBS).

Included in those programs are the Cooperative Research Units, an integrated state, federal and land grant university research program. The Coop-Unit program has arguably been one of the most sensible uses of federal research dollars since the program was authorized in 1960. The history of cooperation between my state of Idaho and the federal government dates back even earlier, to 1947, when the state created a Wildlife Research Unit at the University of Idaho in cooperation with federal agencies.

The Coop-Unit program combines the resources and expertise of the agencies closest to management of our nation's resources, and focuses on finding practical solutions to specific management questions. It is exactly the kind of successful state and federal partnership that Congress should foster in these tight economic times.

I urge you to take the appropriate steps, as you consider the rescissions bill, to make sure that our federal dollars are directed to the most effective and efficient programs. I believe the Cooperative Research Units are one such program.

I look forward to your response, outlining your plans for this part of the rescission package.

Sincerely,

DIRK KEMPTHORNE

United States Senator

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