



Quality Outdoor Gear and Clothing Since 1938

September 22, 1995

Ernest D. Ables  
The Wildlife Society, Idaho Chapter  
c/o Fish & Wildlife Dept.  
Univ. of Idaho  
Moscow, ID 83844

Dear Mr. Ables:

Wally Smith, REI's president, asked me to write regarding your request that the company support a tax on outdoor equipment proposed by the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. Your letter is appreciated and REI shares your interest in meeting the needs facing our public lands and wildlife habitat. Over the years, REI has worked on a number of fronts to help ensure protection of the outdoors, including significant contributions through a conservation grants program. Since 1976, the company has donated more than \$4.4 million to outdoor causes. This year alone, REI will make contributions of approximately \$760,000 to assist this effort.

We appreciate your comments on the IAFWA's proposal and will take them into consideration when the proposal moves into the legislative arena. Thank you again for writing.

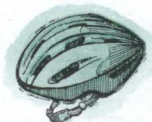
Sincerely,

Michael Collins  
Public Affairs Manager

cc: Wally Smith

RECREATIONAL EQUIPMENT, INC.

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mc/corresp/iafwaltr

