

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1204

August 18, 1997

Dr. James Unsworth
President, TWS Idaho Chapter
2319 Daisy Place
Nampa, Idaho 83686

Dear Dr. Unsworth:

Thank you for your general comments and specific recommendation on my draft Endangered Species Act (ESA) bill. I appreciate your input on this matter.

I am glad we agree that an enhanced public participation process, independent peer review of listing criteria, and streamlined habitat conservation planning for small projects and landowners are important components of my ESA reauthorization legislation. It is my belief that providing landowners with clearly defined outlines of their goals, obligations, and guarantees under habitat conservation plans is an integral component of successful species recovery.

As you may know, I am still in the process of negotiating final ESA legislation with my colleagues in the Senate. I appreciate your constructive comments, and will keep them under consideration as I prepare to introduce a final bill in September.

Sincerely,



DIRK KEMPTHORNE
United States Senator

DK/scb