TEACHING/RESEARCH/SERVICE Forest/Range/Wildlife Fisheries/Utilization



October 30, 1973

The Honorable Cecil D. Andrus Governor, State of Idaho State House Boise, Idaho

Dear Governor Andrus:

The faculty of the College of Forestry, Wildlife and Range Sciences has noticed with great interest your recommendations on expansion of the Idaho Primitive Area, and changing its status to wilderness classification. I assume these recommendations are partially based on the advice of a committee which you have asked to look into the matter. It is difficult for me to understand how this committee could make such recommendations without having the input of Idaho's most diverse and perhaps largest reservoir of professionally trained people in wildlands management, namely the College of Forestry, Wildlife and Range Sciences.

You may know that the State Forest, Wildlife and Range Sciences Experiment Station, which is administratively attached to the College, was established by the State in 1939 (Chapter 259 of the Idaho Session Laws of the 1939 Legislature). The purpose of the Station is to serve as the wildlands research arm of the State, and to make recommendations to appropriate administrative agencies, concerning the management and utilization of the State's wildlands resources. In addition to the Station, the College is administratively in charge of the Wilderness Research Center, which is directly concerned with issues involved in wilderness classification in Idaho.

The decision of expanding or contracting the Idaho Primitive Area and changing its classification will, of course, be made by the Federal government. However, your recommendation as Governor will carry a great deal of influence. I would, therefore, hope that, recognizing the large economic impact your final recommendation will pose on Idaho as well as the resulting national economic and social impacts, that you will allow our faculty to provide inputs into your decision-making process.

With greatest respect,

John H. Ehrenreich

Dean