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## University of Idaho

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Moscow, Idaho 83844-1131

June 22, 1993

Dr. Peter Landres  
Wilderness Management Research  
Forestry Sciences Laboratory  
P.O. Box 8089  
Missoula, MT 59807

Dear Peter:

My apologies for any breakdown in communication with respect to the paper by you and David Cole for the World Wilderness Congress Symposium on "International Wilderness Allocation Management and Research." Your paper is scheduled as the third presentation in Session 2 for which we've established the theme "Wilderness Management and Monitoring in the U.S. National Preservation System." That will be an outstanding session as several good papers are scheduled. We are holding one opening in that session, the only one left in the entire symposium. I'm sorry you haven't received the information you need about the Congress and enclosed is some information. A final letter to presenters will be going out shortly.

I personally appealed to Dick Krebill to provide funding for Alan Watson to attend the Congress and present his proposed paper. The final papers by agency scientists were selected by their respective agency coordinator in Washington, D.C. The four agency representatives then shared their decisions with one another to provide coordination. A key criteria was funding. Alan's paper was not selected, but I had hoped that with my personal appeal to Dick Krebill that funding from the Intermountain Station might be provided to add him to the program. Such a decision will rest entirely with the Forest Service, but I am holding the one space open. We have no funds to support presenters. With a copy of this letter, I'm alerting Dick to our exchange on this item.

There is misunderstanding by David and Alan Watson in suggesting divisiveness between Forest Service Wilderness Research and myself. Differences of view, yes. I disagree with the past narrow focus of Forest Service wilderness research and the agency reluctance to push for a big program. As chair of the SAF National Wilderness Research Needs Task Force, one of my major goals was urging development of a National Wilderness Research Institute, with multi-agency and university partners, and funding sufficient to address a 95-million-acre wilderness system. The task force and I pushed hard for such a program and had a direct hand in shaping formation of the Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute. In this case, a difference of opinion over direction and focus helped bring about change. I'm not too different from a lot of ex-Forest Service employees who love the agency, but feel we've earned the right to disagree with them (25 years worth in my case), and help them move forward.

I was delighted to hear that you had joined the Forest Service Wilderness Research organization. I know of your ecosystems approach that transcends natural and administrative

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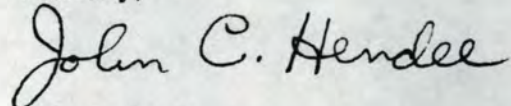
boundaries and I'm eager to collaborate. Next year will be my ninth and final as dean; July 1, 1994, I will become director of an expanded, university-wide Wilderness Research Center at the University of Idaho. The center will have responsibility for the Taylor Ranch Wilderness Field Station and will coordinate and facilitate wilderness research and education on campus. It would be great if you could visit our Taylor Ranch Wilderness Field Station. I've invited Alan Watson (a good friend and colleague whom I supported financially when he was a graduate student at VPI and I was assistant director at the Southeast Station) to visit Idaho and get acquainted with our faculty and visit the field station. David has visited our campus and even taught a short course, but I don't believe he's visited Taylor Ranch. Let's plan a visit. We would love to review and discuss the 30 years of research at the Taylor Ranch Wilderness Field Station and make a plan for future collaboration between our programs.

We want to cooperate with your project. In the past twenty years, there has been only one cooperative wilderness research project at the University of Idaho funded by your unit. This was four years ago and proved frustrating since the principal investigator (Oz Garton) received a Fulbright in the middle of the effort. That project went directly to a faculty member in wildlife and did not have the benefit of any coordination or oversight by either the dean's office or the Wilderness Research Center. I can assure you that any future projects with the Wilderness Research Center will result in high standard work delivered on time.

I look forward to a visit with you at the dedication for the Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute, which I look forward to attending. The Congress in Norway will be another chance for us to expand our collegueship. I look forward to working closely with you and your colleagues in Missoula, but I can't promise unity of my views with theirs—or yours. But that can be good for all of us. I'm excited about the potential of the Aldo Leopold—National Wilderness Research Institute and I'm proud of the supportive role I've played in its establishment, both from the SAF task force and as a member of its interim steering committee. I'm going to support the Aldo Leopold—WRI, and as director of an expanded UI-Wilderness Research Center in "The Wilderness State." I look forward to working with the WRI in building the kind of research effort our wilderness system needs.

Thanks for writing, Peter. I'm sending some things for your interest.

Sincerely,



John C. Hendee  
Dean

JCH/mp  
Enc.

cc: Dick Krebill  
bc: Alan Ewert  
Ed Krumpe  
Jeff Yeo