

To: R.W. Stark, Coordinator of Research  
From:

Subject: Wilderness Research Center -  
Policy, Goals, & Objectives

It has come to <sup>our</sup> my attention you are extremely disturbed over the lack of administration and establishment of policy and goals of the Wilderness Research Center.

<sup>we</sup> I have been concerned over this same matter for some time and have prepared the following statements for you.

~~When~~ When considering policy, goals, and objectives for the WRS, one only has to refer to the original documents. <sup>(attached)</sup>

<sup>first</sup> ~~Some~~ Some things have changed since 1966, <sup>when the original proposal was written (attached),</sup> however the original intent remains the same. The theory of establishing a WRS headquarters in the heart of the Idaho Primitive area was impracticable <sup>sp?</sup> due mainly to inaccessibility. The concept of a field station in the same location <sup>is</sup> ~~has~~ <sup>a</sup> logical approach for providing facilities for all University research applicable to applied sciences. The WRS headquarters is presently on the University Campus in the College of FWR and is readily accessible to any one desiring its services. If this headquarters had remained in the



heart of the primitive area, <sup>there would</sup> ~~it would~~ be no dependable communications or transportation because of the remoteness of the area.

The interdisciplinary approach to basic research in wilderness environments has much appeal to the purest. However it is important to relate all factors ~~to~~ of research <sup>to</sup> a given area to establish it's best use. ~~At pres~~ Presently, much of the controversy over land use is caused by the lack of background information and potentials or alternatives. The Wilderness Research Center deals only with those factors influencing wilderness <sup>recreational</sup> use and management. The University, on the other hand, has the available expertise in all other influences on the land. The field station lends it's self to the latter much more so than to pure wilderness. Because of this, the WRS and the field station (Taylor Ranch) should ~~be~~ remain separate. ~~for~~

The interests, talents, and skill of the entire University community can best be served by a field station, such as the Taylor Ranch, for ~~the~~ a common research endeavor.



The original ~~intent~~<sup>Research</sup> or purpose for the Wilderness Center states "Scientists from the University, as well as those from other institutions, would be provided with facilities for the study of the environments in a relatively pristine condition". This should not be limited to the Taylor Ranch. There are many such areas in and near Idaho that should be considered as potential areas to conduct wilderness research. This would give the researcher the benefit of conducting his research in the best area possible for his particular interests.

The Wilderness Research Center should be a source for conducting, not only research, but involvement in teaching and continuing education efforts. It takes little imagination to ~~develop~~<sup>see</sup> many ways for the WRS to ~~become~~ develop ~~the~~ courses for the primary & secondary teacher, laymen, graduate students, and regular college courses. All the facilities ~~available~~ ~~at~~<sup>of</sup> the University can be made available for this purpose, the campus, McCall field station, Taylor Ranch field station, and many other locations owned by government agencies.