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University of Idaho
College of Forestry,
Wildlife and Range Sciences
Moscow, Idaho 83843

TEACHING/RESEARCH/SERVICE
Office of the Dean
Telephone (208)885-6441

June 18, 1979

Warren S. Owens
Director of Library
University of Idaho

Dear Warren:

The Wilderness Research Center and the College of Forestry, Wildlife and Range Sciences would like to see the development of a special collection on "wilderness" in the University of Idaho Library. As Director of the Wilderness Research Center and Dean of the College of Forestry, Wildlife and Range Sciences, I strongly endorse this project. Would the University of Idaho Library be willing to establish a "wilderness special collection"?

The establishment of such a special collection would greatly enhance the management, research, and educational programs of the Wilderness Research Center, the College of Forestry, Wildlife and Range Sciences, the University of Idaho, state and federal agencies, and interested citizens. The University of Idaho could gain a reputation as the best institution for wilderness studies and our library as the most comprehensive source for wilderness literature.

According to our information (Ash, 1978)* no other library in the U.S. has a special collection on the subject of wilderness. Such a special collection would be ideally suited to Idaho since Idaho currently has the largest acreage of wilderness and primitive federally classified land of any of the lower 48 states.

The initial start for a wilderness special collection is currently underway. Graduate student, Mike Hollmann, under Professor Hoffman, is compiling and collecting wilderness references for his M.S. project under the following general guidelines: (A thesaurus of terms Mike is using for indexing purposes is enclosed)

1. BLM Primitive Areas
2. Forest Service Primitive Areas
3. Roadless Area Review and Evaluation
4. RARE II
5. Legislation
6. Wilderness management
7. Agency regulations
8. Geog. area - U.S. and Canada
9. Designated wilderness areas - U.S.
10. State wilderness areas

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The references he collects are being donated to the University of Idaho Library.

If you are willing to establish a special collection on wilderness, then I am willing to seek outside funding to help defray the cost of establishing and maintaining it. Would you be willing to co-sign a letter from the Wilderness Research Center asking organizations and agencies for financial support?

Thank you for your interest in this project.

Sincerely,

John H. Ehrenreich
Director

JHE:ms
Enc.

✓ cc: J. Hoffman

* Ash, Lee, et. al. 1978. Subject collections, a guide to special book collections and emphases as reported by university, college, public, and special libraries and museums in the United States and Canada, R. R. Bowker Company, New York.