

DRAFT: November 15, 1991

**WILDERNESS FIELD STATION
STRATEGIC PLAN**

This plan defines the desired condition of the UC Wilderness Field Station
What do we want the field station to look like and what activities do we want supported by the field station? What type of courses and how many should the field station support? What should be the focus of our research program? How does the field station fit with the Wilderness Research Center?

Facilities *UC will minimize impacts*

The effort is to minimize the impacts of the field station on the surrounding wilderness. This effort will be directed at several areas: power/energy, water consumption, waste management, aesthetics.

Power.--The use of fossil fuels will be phased out or reduced to the minimum required. This can be achieved through increasing use of solar power for lights, radio, computers, and other electrical equipment. Cooking, refrigeration, and hot water likely will continue to demand use of propane. However, propane use can be greatly diminished by replacement of hot water tanks as they wear out with tankless hot water heaters as is currently used in the cookhouse. If site conditions permit (i.e. amount of head, drop, and flow) and there are no legal obstacles, a hydroelectric power system should be considered. With sufficient water, a hydroelectrical system could provide all the power needs at the field station. Concerns would focus on the effects of water diversion from Pioneer Creek.

Water.--Water usage comes from irrigation and domestic uses (showers, drinking, cooking, etc.). We use free-flow irrigation for irrigating pastures. A closed system, e.g. hoses and sprinklers would reduce water loss through evaporation and eliminate loss of small fish which get into the irrigation ditches, particularly during early fall when water temperatures drop and fish move downstream to warmer, deeper water. Low-flow shower heads have been installed on all showers to reduce water usage and propane usage for hot water.

Solid Waste.--Outhouses well-removed from streams are probably the best strategy for human wastes and have been recommended by Idaho Department of Environmental Quality and Central District Health. Current septic are adequate for handling current levels of use. Other solid waste from packaging, etc. should be flown out and disposed properly. In keeping with a global perspective, all materials that can be recycled should be recycled. Currently, only aluminum cans are recycled. Tin cans, plastic bags, and certain plastic containers can be recycled in Moscow and efforts should be made to ship wastes to Moscow for recycling.

*greater independence - canned produce - apples, pears, vegetables
bathroom built - east side of rabbit shed*

field station recognition - local press, UC news releases, SNA&G, FOCUS, Register, etc.

waste to end

*air: H₂O pollution
water impacts
water consumption*

*independence or
if not, minimize
use of fossil fuels*

*2 concerns -
water safety
for drinking
water use -
loss to wild
system*

containment

water purification

...to be used to ... of ... to ... of ...
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Add the attribute item "period"

and assign values to period for each period

1

Compute totals for each subcompartment and for each period

1

Save computed totals for each period as a separate file

1

Edit the attribute data file

1

Join attribute data with map data

1

Classify attribute data

1

Symbolize attribute data classes

1

Plot map

Figure 1. Data manipulation for elk population, elk harvest, and logging data, using GIS.

Aesthetics.--Visually, the field station always will be an intrusion on the wilderness setting. That intrusion can be softened by maintaining the facilities in the old-style construction. Solar panels will be sited unobtrusively and there will be no outside lighting or power lines. Additionally, the number of users at the field station must be controlled. Occupancy greater than 25 (?) persons should be avoided. Air traffic should also be minimized. This can be achieved by doubling up on flights and the possibility of reducing the number of mail flights should be considered.

Research

The research program supported by the field station should be broad-based ecological monitoring, comparative research, and recreation-oriented. Baseline studies can be achieved to some extent with student interns, students enrolled in courses offered at the field station, and field station personnel. However, there is need for dedicated research monies to support graduate research and long-term monitoring work. As baseline research matures and is published in recognized journals, the hope is that the field station will attract outside research monies and scientists (or greater UI faculty interest).

Education

Courses should be taught every year at the field station. These courses should be directed primarily at the research program as is the case with WLF 305 (Field Research in Wilderness Ecology). Courses offered jointly with another university (e.g. SFSU's Wildland Studies Program) would also attract students from a broader geographic area and could be directed at specific research questions. And periodically, specially-oriented courses for teachers and management professionals should be conducted from the field station. There should be graduate student research projects on-going at all times. This could be facilitated by an endowment for wilderness research to support graduate stipends (DeVlieg endowment, other).

space wilderness dependent but not necessarily wilderness located comparative research both basic research & applied research

(a) 3 general areas of research
(b) expand research areas beyond wildlife
(c) involve greater nos. of faculty & faculty, scientists from other schools, agencies
(d) research disseminated - journals, press
(e) wilderness - dependent course
(b) course contribute to research efforts
(c) broad spectrum of people - other schools, natural resource professionals
Teacher

Lochsa Elk Synthesis

a spatial feature (e.g., a subcompartment) in a map coverage to be associated with only one record. Attribute data files, however, can easily be manipulated in PC ARC/INFO and joined with map data for specific analysis and display purposes. Figure 1 outlines the steps followed in creating map displays of elk and logging data from 1970 to 1990 with a three-year interval.

The road data include road number and year of construction. Because each road is associated with only one record of data, there is no need to separate attribute data from map data. After the road map was digitized, the road attribute data were keyed in directly.

Data display

Maps are an effective medium for displaying spatial data. Maps can be prepared singularly, or in a series showing changes in time. Composite maps, e.g., roads and elk harvest, can also be made in PC ARC/INFO by simply overplotting map coverages.

COMMENTS

The reference map attached to each figure shows the areas which have been examined for logging, roading, and checked elk harvest. We recognize that the checked harvest is a proportion of the total harvest and assume that the data from the check reflects the total harvest. Much of the logging and roading was accomplished in the 1960s in this area. In the Fish Creek drainage, 807 acres were logged during the 1970-72 period, and the checked elk harvest was in the highest level, 31-40 animals. In the subsequent 18 year period, the checked harvest in this drainage remained high (accounting for 35% of the total elk

PROPOSAL

WILDERNESS RESEARCH CENTER

UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO

INTRODUCTION

There is increasing awareness of, and concern for, man's abuse of the land. Laymen, as well as scientists and professionals representing a wide range of disciplines, are voicing alarm over the rapid deterioration of our environment. Land, water, and air alike are feeling the onslaught of a technology which is guided largely by economic considerations alone. We appear destined to alter and destroy the very resource base which has made the nation prosperous. With this destruction goes the loss of any possibility of a quality way of life.

A House-Senate Colloquium¹ in July, 1968, discussed the need for a national policy for the environment. The colloquium consisted of statements and responses by leading officials of the Executive Branch; speeches, questions, and challenges by congressmen, and, later, questions and comments by leading scientists. Science, the journal of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, in reporting on the colloquium, stated "The efforts of the government and people of the United States to prevent degradation of their natural environment have usually been too fragmented and too late. The public and its governmental representatives are becoming concerned about their inability to foresee and forestall the nation's environmental erosion".

Participants to the colloquium were in agreement that more knowledge of unaltered environments must be gained in order that sound decisions may

¹House-Senate Colloquium - The need for a national policy for the environment. Senate Interior Committee, 3106 New Senate Office Building, Washington, D. C.

be made. Aldo Leopold, in 1949², stated the case for ecological studies quite well and his thoughts apply even more so today: "A science of land health needs, first of all, a base datum of normality, a picture of how healthy land maintains itself as an organism.

"The most perfect norm is wilderness. Paleontology offers abundant evidence that wilderness maintained itself for immensely long periods; that its component species were rarely lost, neither did they get out of hand; that weather and water built soil as fast or faster than it was carried away. Wilderness, then, assumes unexpected importance as a laboratory for the study of land-health."

It is painfully obvious that research on such unaltered areas must be undertaken. The AAAS Council Study Committee on Natural Areas as Research Facilities³, in its 1965 report, pointed out the urgency of such research. The committee defined a natural area as "Areas where, at least at present, natural processes are allowed to predominate, not significantly influenced by deliberate manipulation or accidental interference (to any great extent) by man".

The report goes on: "Much of the research use of natural areas is by colleges, universities, and specialized research institutions. Conveniently located areas, representing as wide a diversity of natural ecosystems as is available in the region, is a basic necessity for such research. Because of the cost of land and the great demands on the

²Leopold, Aldo. 1949. A Sand County Almanac. Oxford Univ. Press.

³1965. AAAS Council Study Committee on Natural Areas as Research Facilities. Report. AAAS, Wash. D. C.

available funds of such institutions, it is often not feasible for them to acquire the needed areas while they are available, or there may be such delay that the price of the land will make acquisition impossible when resources do become available. The Committee feels that acquisition of such 'outdoor laboratories' is fully as appropriate a use for public funds as is the building of cyclotrons, radiotelescopes, or physiology laboratories".

"..... it is a sure thing that, as time goes on and the earth becomes more and more completely covered by agriculture, concrete, and impounded, evaporation-proofed, mosquito-proofed water, scientists in these fields will more and more converge on the few protected natural areas for their material for study".

S. Dillon Ripley, Secretary of the Smithsonian, commented in the July House-Senate Colloquium "..... what the scientists should really be doing is training people for grass roots work in ecology, biology, and the other relevant scientific disciplines." Recent developments in ecological research point toward an awareness of the need for the kind of research and training Mr. Ripley advocates. The International Biological Program (IBP), a worldwide multidisciplinary approach to ecological problems, is gaining momentum. Numerous colleges and universities, as well as private research organizations, have initiated programs oriented toward the basic ecological approach.

This is the area in which the University of Idaho believes it can make a significant contribution. Much work has been done at the University concerning wildlands and wildland management in the past and this research and training will be continued. Increased emphasis, however, will be placed

on an interdisciplinary approach to basic research in wilderness environments. To facilitate this program, the University proposes to purchase, equip and staff a Wilderness Research Center in the Idaho Primitive Area.

JUSTIFICATION

The Idaho Primitive Area, located in central Idaho, is a 1,232,744-acre tract administered by the U. S. Forest Service for wilderness values. The area is currently classified as "Primitive"; however, hearings concerning reclassification to "Wilderness" status are tentatively scheduled for 1971. It appears likely that this reclassification will be accomplished, as provided for by the Wilderness Act of 1964. A 65-acre ranch, located in the geographical heart of the Primitive Area, is offered for sale to the University for use as a center for wilderness research.

The concept of a Wilderness Research Center would unify under one research authority the disciplines of the University of Idaho and its co-operators. The Center, located strategically in the principal wild areas of the Western United States, would provide a major research fund solicitor, intellectual resource pool, and a well equipped agency for broadly-conceived research into the descriptive and functional nature of wilderness and man.

Almost 3,000,000 acres of national forest lands in Idaho are dedicated as wilderness. In no other place in the United States, other than Alaska, does there exist such a large and continuous block of land relatively undisturbed by humans. These wilderness lands provide a set of standards against which resource scientists can measure success or

failure of man in the manipulation of his environment.

It is impossible to anticipate all of the types of research or educational efforts that can or will be conducted in this area. Major effort, at least in the first years of the Center's operation, is expected to be concentrated in the following areas of research:

Dynamics of unexploited wildlife populations.

Ecology of unaltered vegetation types.

Ecology of unexploited aquatic environments.

Impact of human use and resultant ecologic changes.

The Nature and Design of the Center:

The future for the Center rests upon the unusual opportunity to obtain this unique property, the willingness of the owner to sell to the University, and the timely combination of interests, funds, and owner-purchaser compatibility. The Center will encompass 64.84 acres together with 4 buildings and an airstrip along Big Creek, a major tributary of the Middle Fork of the Salmon River. Directions are related to the accompanying map. The Taylor Ranch is situated in the heart of the Idaho Primitive area and is accessible only by air or trail. The most ready access is by air. The 2300 foot airstrip accomodates the Travelaire, Cessna or similar sized aircraft with 4-6 passenger capacity. Radio-telephone communications are available through the Oberbillig Radio Service in Boise, Idaho. The Service is maintained daily from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. A weekly star-route mail service is maintained by a chartered plane service out of McCall, Idaho during the summer months and bimonthly after November first.

Description

The four buildings are of sound log construction with aluminum roofs. The Taylor home is a 3 room house with bath. A second cabin contains two bedrooms and adjoining bath. These two cabins have modern plumbing with septic tanks. The third cabin is a single unit without bath and the fourth T-shaped cabin is a combination sleeping, kitchen and dining area. This cabin is not modern. Water for domestic use as well as for irrigation comes out of Pioneer Creek and is piped down to the dwellings. The intake is sufficiently far upstream to provide a satisfactory pressure. The water lines were installed by a competent plumber and can be drained if necessary.

The Taylor Ranch is a forest homestead entirely surrounded by the Payette National Forest. The property was patented in 1927 and purchased by Jess Taylor in 1935, who has lived on the ranch since 1950. Mr. Taylor, a 70-year-old retired building contractor, wishes to remain on the property. He prefers to sell his property to the University of Idaho for use as a headquarters for wilderness research rather than have it developed into a guest ranch. Mr. Taylor would be willing to act as a caretaker as long as he retained his home on the ranch. This arrangement would have practical values to the University particularly during the first years of operation of the Wilderness Research Center. The house would be retained by the owner as long as he lived but upon his death would revert to the University.

There is no electricity at present. There is a potential site for a Pelton Wheel on Pioneer Creek. The alternative is a diesel power plant. The U. S. Geological Survey is currently examining the Idaho Primitive Area

for minerals. Preliminary reports state that no minerals of economic value are present that would justify excluding the area from wilderness classification on the basis of mining potential. Four black and white pictures attached to this report show the nature of the ranch and the surrounding terrain. The property is at 3,760 ft. elevation along Big Creek. The surrounding country is forested at the higher elevations with interspersed meadows from 5,000 to 8,000 feet. The rugged granitic country in the Bighorn Crags to the east abounds in lakes.

There is little danger of erosion affecting the Taylor Ranch from the surrounding Primitive Area country. There are no roads which could add rock, silt and debris to the stream. Only a very high intensity rain-storm would likely cause any flooding of the airstrip. The surrounding country in the lower Big Creek drainage is important big game winter range. No erosion on the shrub and grass-covered winter range is apparent in this vicinity. A small spot of over-use exists on a south facing slope across the creek from the ranch. This comes from past horse use during the years when the owner was an active guide and outfitter.

Available lands, airstrips and buildings within the large wilderness areas in Idaho usable for headquarter sites for wilderness research are almost nonexistent. None is known to combine the qualities of the Taylor Ranch for desirable location and access to the extremes in elevation.

General Statement of Purpose

The Center is proposed as a multi-disciplinary center for research of wilderness ecosystems. Scientists from the University, as well as those from other institutions, would be provided with facilities for the

study of environments in a relatively pristine condition. Objectives of the Center would in no way conflict with principles set forth in the Wilderness Act.

"Outside" Research

It would be expected that staff members of the University of Idaho, at least in the first years of the Center's operation, would conduct the bulk of the research. Scientists from other institutions in the United States and abroad would, however, be encouraged to undertake certain problems, depending upon available space and facilities.

Policy Toward Use

Pressures from the public to "use" the landing field and other facilities must be expected. To avoid situations which might detract from the Center's intent and purpose, firm guidelines must be established. Visitation would be by permission only. Use of the landing field by hunting and fishing parties and other recreationists would be prohibited. Commercial operations such as mining interests and hunting and fishing guide services would be denied use of the landing field and other facilities. The same rules and regulations would apply to University personnel---visitation would be on a "business only" basis. The University does not intend to "lock up" the area to the public---official visitors and those with a genuine interest in viewing research activities and facilities would be welcomed.

Administration

The Center would be administered by a University-wide committee,

appointed by the President. The committee would be responsible for the operation of the Center in keeping with University goals and policies. It would screen proposed research projects, assign priorities, make budget decisions, and in general, supervise the overall research program. A director hired for on-the-ground operation of the Center would work with this committee.

Staff

It is anticipated that the interests, talents, and skills of the entire staff of the College of Forestry, Wildlife and Range Sciences as well as those of faculty and staff of the Water Resources Institute, and the disciplines of botany, zoology, soils, geology, sociology, recreational psychology, nutrition and others will be centered in this common research endeavor. Support of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service through the Idaho Cooperative Fishery and Wildlife Research Units is assured.

A. Administration

Ernest W. Hartung, Ph. D. President

J. W. Watts, B.S. Business Manager

H. Walter Steffens, Ph. D. Vice President, academic affairs

Ernest W. Wohletz, M.S.(For.) Dean, College of Forestry, Wildlife
and Range Sciences

Boyd A. Martin, Ph. D. Dean, College of Letters and Sciences

James E. Kraus, Ph. D. Dean, College of Agriculture

Rolland R. Reid, Ph. D. Dean, College of Mines

H. Sidwell Smith, Ph. D. P.E. Dean, College of Engineering

Melbourne L. Jackson, Ph. D. P.E. Dean, Graduate School

B. Housing and Maintenance

George Gagon, B.S.(C.E.)P.E. Director, Physical Plant

C. Research staff available

- Forest Management - Merrill E. Deters, Ph. D. Prof. of Forestry
Frederick D. Johnson, M.S. Ass't Prof. Forestry
Franklin H. Pitkin, B.S. Ass't Prof. Forestry
- Forest Recreation - Howard R. Alden, M.S. Ass't Prof. Forestry
- Forest Genetics - Chi-Wu Wang, Ph. D. Assoc. Prof. Forestry
- Forest Entomology - John A. Schenk, Ph. D. Ass't Prof. Forestry
William F. Barr, Ph. D. Prof., Entomology
- Forest Pathology - Arthur D. Partridge, Ph. D. Assoc. Prof. Forestry
- Range Management - Edwin W. Tisdale, Ph. D. Prof. Range Management
Lee A. Sharp, Ph. D. Assoc. Prof. Range Management
Minoru Hironaka, Ph. D. Ass't Prof. Range Management
- Wildlife Management Maurice G. Hornocker, Ph. D. Assoc. Prof.
Wildlife Management
Richard R. Knight, Ph. D. Ass't Prof.
Wildlife Management
Kenneth E. Hungerford, Ph. D. Prof. Wildlife
Management
Elwood G. Bizeau, M.S. Ass't Prof. Wildlife
Management
- Fishery Management- Donald W. Chapman, Ph. D. Prof. Fishery Management
T. C. Bjornn, Ph. D. Ass't Prof. Fishery Management
Craig MacPhee, Ph. D. Assoc. Prof. Fishery
Management
- Soil Science - Howard Loewenstein, Ph. D. Assoc. Prof. Forestry
Roger W. Harder, M.S. Assoc. Prof. Agr.
Biochemistry and Soils
Maynard A. Fosberg, Ph. D. Assoc. Prof. Agr.
Biochemistry and soils
- Water Resources and- Calvin C. Warnick, M.S.(C.E.)P.E. Prof. Civil
Management Engineering
George H. Belt, Ph. D. Ass't Prof. Forestry
Gilbert L. Cory, M.S. P.E. Prof. Agr. Engineering
- Geology - Peter L. Siems, S.C.D. Ass't Prof. Mines
William B. Hall, Ph. D. Assoc. Prof. Geology
- Botany - Alvin R. Aller, Ph. D. Ass't Prof. Botany
Lorin W. Roberts, Ph. D. Assoc. Prof. Botany
Edmund E. Tylutki, Ph. D. Assoc. Prof. Botany
- Zoology - Stewart C. Schell, Ph. D. Prof. Zoology
Earl J. Larrison, M.S. Assoc. Prof. Zoology
- Anthropology - Alfred W. Bowers, Ph. D. Prof. Anthropology
- Psychology - Victor E. Montgomery, Ph. D. Prof. Psychology
- Radioisotopes - Peter K. Freeman, Ph. D. Prof. Chemistry
- Chemistry - Malcolm M. Renfrew, Ph. D. Prof. Chemistry

Proposed Cost

The cost of the Taylor Ranch is \$100,000. The University, in March, 1967, placed \$5,000 down on an option to buy. This option expires in March, 1969. For the Taylor Ranch to become functional within the first year the sum of \$20,000 should be added to the purchase price.

It is difficult to appraise a property of this nature because there is nothing comparable available for purchase. The current price of unimproved land along the Salmon River within the Idaho Primitive Area is \$1,000 per acre and up.

The University of Idaho placed in its 1967-69 budget the following operating funds.

Salary, Administrator - wildlife ecologist	\$28,000.00
Clerical Assistance	4,200.00
Immediate Capital investments	9,000.00
Travel	2,800.00
Other Expense	2,000.00
Irregular Help	<u>3,000.00</u>
Total	\$49,000.00

Additional operating and research funding as needed will be sought from other fund granting foundations.

Request

The Board of Regents of the University of Idaho requests, from privately endowed funding organizations, \$120,000 for the purpose of purchasing the property described (\$100,000) and providing \$20,000 for the construction and provisions necessary to make the Wilderness Research Center functional in the first year following acquisition.

TEACHING/RESEARCH/SERVICE
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Wildlife and Range Sciences
Moscow, Idaho 83844-1131 U.S.A.

March 24, 1994

Mr. Ken Wotring, Wilderness Coordinator
Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness
Salmon National Forest
P. O. Box 729
Salmon, ID 83467

Dear Ken:

I enjoyed our chat today. This letter will identify our points of discussion. Feel free to share with others.

Financial Deficit from the FC-RNRW Vision Conference

The remaining financial deficit on our books (\$6,703.96) is a matter of increasing concern as we approach the end of the fiscal year when we must balance all accounts. It was a great conference but we are compelled to seek recovery of all the money we advanced to help make the conference succeed. It's one of those tough issues we must address.

Forest Service Funded Internship

We are still very interested in the possibility of a Forest Service-funded internship based at the Taylor Ranch Wilderness Field Station to perform work of value to the Forest Service and be a link between our mutual efforts in the wilderness (see my letter of April 13, 1993). I believe the position would help us accomplish some mutual goals but just as important will be the communication and cooperation that such a position would facilitate. Lets keep talking about this and work out whatever issues are preventing it from happening.

We obviously need to improve our coordination if you have implemented a campsite inventory on Big Creek because we have already committed to such an effort for next summer by Ed Krumpke and a volunteer retiree from Maryland. We don't want to do the same thing twice but surely campsite and monitoring inventory is one of our great needs in the FC-RNRW.

University of Idaho Wilderness Research Center

We are developing a big vision for an expanded University of Idaho Wilderness Research Center (WRC). President Zinser has committed to making the WRC the sixth university-wide center on a par with Water Resources, Biotechnology, Materials Processing, Aquaculture, and International Programs. We have targeted September 12-16, 1994 as Wilderness Awareness Week on campus during which we will have a 25th anniversary celebration and rededication of the Wilderness Research Center. The week-long festivities will include several distinguished lectures, university-wide wilderness readings, a wilderness film festival and art show, a concert, and other activities to enhance awareness of wilderness by all our students and rededicate the WRC to an expanded future. The WILD Foundation has committed to sponsoring Dr. Ian Player for a period of scholarship at the University of Idaho next fall so he can be here for these events. This spring issue of the UI alumni magazine will be dedicated to the WRC and my move to become director. President Zinser and the provost are very committed to a big vision and stronger effort by the WRC in the future.

I would like to meet with you and the directors of the FC-RNRW to discuss how we can expand our cooperation with the Forest Service. Your suggestion that we plan a meeting immediately following your FC-RNRW managers' meeting at Camp Bradley in the Stanley Basin, June 9 is excellent. I have my college guidance council "chairs' tour" June 6-8 but I could fly to Stanley for the June 9 meeting. If not then, perhaps the week of August 22 at Taylor Ranch. Perhaps both meetings would be valuable. I will look forward to sharing the expanded vision for the Wilderness Research Center with you and the directors and to talking about additional ways in which we can expand our cooperation.

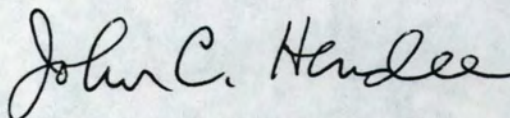
Wilderness Discovery Program

I mentioned that the use of wilderness for personal growth will be one of two emphasis areas for the Wilderness Research Center, (the other is wilderness monitoring), and we have a head start with this topic on the "Wilderness Discovery" seven-day, backpacking program we tested last summer at the Curlew Job Corps Center on the Colville National Forest. We're funded for a two-year pilot program and study of Wilderness Discovery at three Job Corps Centers in the Northwest (Curlew again; Trapper Creek on the Bitterroot N.F. in Darby, Montana; and Timber Lake on the Mt. Hood N.F. near Estacada, Oregon). I'm enclosing a copy of the paper presented to the World Wilderness Congress last fall describing Wilderness Discovery and an overview paper describing "The Use of Wilderness for Personal Growth, Therapy, and Human Inspiration." We have an 11-minute video on Wilderness Discovery that I hope you can see sometime in the future. There are hundreds of programs using wilderness for personal growth purposes, but few that make the power of wilderness available to economically disadvantaged youth. We are developing Wilderness Discovery to be potentially applicable nationwide so that youth at risk in the Job Corps can have the benefits of wilderness experience—just as do the thousands of upper middle class youth whose parents sent them to Outward Bound, NOLS, or one of the scores of other wilderness programs now

operating. Economically disadvantaged youth need what the wilderness can give them and wilderness needs their support.

It was good visiting with you, Ken. I look forward to hearing from you about the budget item, internship, and meeting with the FC-RNRW directors.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John C. Hendee".

John C. Hendee
Dean

JCH/nm

a.k.a.

Enclosures

c: Jeff Yeo
Ed Krumpe

In its bicentennial year, our nation has matured and now undeveloped lands are treasured with the same fervor that our founders viewed the cleared patches of New England. Americans have become caught up in a concern for "wilderness" and scientists, recreationists, land managers and entrepreneurs are focusing unprecedented attention on the vestiges of primitive America. Wilderness -- both the concept and the resource -- has emerged in the decade of the seventies with meaning and importance undreamed of even at mid-century.

Outside of Alaska, Idaho contains more wilderness than any other state in the nation and is surrounded by major wilderness areas of the West. The Wilderness Research Center, founded in 1972 at the University of Idaho, offers a unique opportunity to contribute international leadership in the areas of wilderness research and education.

Coordinated by the university's College of Forestry, Wildlife and Range Sciences, the facilities of the Center extend far beyond the campus at Moscow to field stations at McCall, Idaho and at the more recently acquired Taylor Ranch, located in the heart of the Idaho Primitive Area. In addition, the Center has obtained the cooperation of the U.S. Forest Service for use of various administrative and research facilities and has been offered the use of private wilderness inholdings for scientific and educational purposes.

The objectives of the University of Idaho Wilderness Research Center are to promote interdisciplinary research concerning wilderness resources and wilderness use ~~(198)~~ and to foster educational programs which will develop a broader understanding of the structure and function of natural ecosystems, and man's relationship to them.

The Center is headed by a Director who serves as chairman of a steering committee (not to exceed seven members) appointed by the President of the University of Idaho. This committee formulates and directs the programs of the Center in keeping with the overall goals and policies of the university. The committee also reviews research proposals, assigns research priorities, develops budget recommendations and allocates non-directed funds.

To provide a broad base of expertise for the study of wilderness resources, the Wilderness Research Center can draw upon the entire staff of the College of Forestry, Wildlife and Range Sciences as well as on faculty from other colleges at the University of Idaho. University faculty from the Water Resources Institute, geology, soils, botany, communications, sociology, psychology, environmental law, recreation and engineering can provide interdisciplinary support to the Center.

Whenever specific expertise is required which is not available within the university (and its affiliates) the Center will enter into cooperative agreements with other institutions, agencies or private organizations to provide that expertise. The Center will provide a much needed source of information and expertise to assist policy and decision-makers in the evaluation and allocation of wilderness resources within Idaho, the nation and possibly other nations.

The research function of the Center will involve all wildland areas including classified wilderness and undeveloped river systems. Although initial efforts will be concentrated in the State of Idaho, no geographical limits will be imposed.

The Center will focus attention on all aspects of wilderness and wildland resources, from baseline biological studies to man's use of wilderness.

Implicit within the wilderness concept is the permanent absence of artificial disturbance. Therefore, research which promotes insight into longterm natural phenomena and ecosystem dynamics will be encouraged. Inventory and descriptive studies are also important. This information is essential for management and establishes baseline data which have been lacking for comparative research in areas which have been developed by man.

At the same time, specific criteria for evaluating the impact of man's activities in wilderness are needed. Thus research to define the limits of man's activities compatible with wilderness will be encouraged.

Wilderness also involves esthetical concepts associated with man's desire for solitude and communion with the natural world, and studies designed to further our understanding of man's esthetical and moral commitments to nature will be encouraged.

The overall educational objectives of the Wilderness Research Center are to promote an understanding of the dynamic processes within natural ecosystems, the value of natural ecosystems to humanity and man's ecological and social role as a part of the natural world. Undergraduate, graduate, professional and public education programs are being developed to accomplish these objectives.

The Center is assisting the College of Forestry, Wildlife and Range Sciences to develop a student wilderness study program aimed at producing professionals capable of managing wilderness resources and their associated uses. As a part of this program, the college is funding four independent undergraduate wilderness research projects in the Idaho Primitive Area this summer.

Public as well as student wilderness education may be best attained through on-the-site opportunities. Field sites for demonstration and instruction of appropriate use of wilderness resources will be located by the Wilderness Research Center.

In addition, the Center will develop and conduct a continuing education program to assist government agencies and private landowners in management of the nation's wilderness resources as an integral part of total resource planning.

Specific devices for augmenting all of these educational functions include information dissemination through workshops, symposiums, public lectures and publications.

Another of the aims of the Wilderness Research Center is to provide a means whereby contributions can be accepted and invested to produce long range income for the support of wilderness research.

The Center will be the sole recipient of funds derived from the Wilderness Research Foundation which has been established as a component of the University of Idaho Foundation, Inc.

The Director of the Wilderness Research Center will actively solicit both contributions to the Foundation and research grants from various funding agencies, insititutions, and private individuals or organizations.

25% COTTON BOND

Wilderness Research Bond



WILDERNESS RESEARCH CENTER
LONG-RANGE RESEARCH PLAN

Research Goals

The original purpose of the wrc was to promote research and educational programs leading to a holistic understanding of natural ecosystems and the means to protect them in perpetuity. The Center is to strive to focus and coordinate efforts of scientists at the University of Idaho and cooperating organizations to support an ongoing program of wilderness research.

Five Specific Objectives

To promote research into long-term natural phenomena and ecosystem dynamics.

To pursue comparative and experimental investigations yielding information useful to the management of man-altered environments.

To promote research to define wilderness impacts and use limits.

To pursue studies of human perceptions and values of wilderness

To provide educational programs that explain dynamic natural ecosystem processes and man's ecological and social interaction with wilderness.

Research Objectives

1. To conduct continuous long-term monitoring of wilderness ecosystems, including natural and human influenced conditions:

- A. Develop methodologies to monitor indicators of wilderness resource conditions.
- B. Water quality and hydrology of streams and alpine lakes.
- C. Vegetation communities and species.
- D. Vertebrate populations-- composition & distribution
- E. Natural ecosystem disturbances (insects, disease, fire).
- F. Climatological trends, air quality, deposition.
- G. Human impacts and perceptions.
- H. Soil erosion, deposition, compaction, & stability.
- I. Range condition.
- J. Effectiveness of wilderness management practices.

2. To inventory and evaluate historic and anthropological influences in wilderness settings:

- A. Inventory prehistoric sites.
- B. Evaluate prehistoric subsistence settlement patterns.
- C. Inventory, interpretation, restoration of historic structures.

3. To study animals commonly associated with wilderness settings and to study animals in undisturbed conditions.

- A. Investigate wilderness species such as, bighorn sheep, mountain goats, mountain lion, pine marten, lynx, wolf, boreal owl, and river otter.
- B. Predator ecology in natural conditions.
- C. Habitat utilization in natural conditions.
- D. Animal behavior, regulation, & competition in natural conditions.
- E. Population dynamics in natural ecosystems.

4. To study pristine aquatic ecosystems:

- A. Cold water fish ecology.
- B. Anadromous fisheries.
- C. Limnology & hydrology of streams and mountain lakes.
- D. Aquatic invertebrates.

5. To investigate forest and plant ecology in natural ecosystems:

- A. Developmental dynamics of terrestrial ecosystems.
- B. Fire ecology.
- C. Forest insects and diseases.
- D. Riparian vegetation including disjuncts.
- E. Non-native plant invasion.

6. To investigate human interactions, perceptions, benefits and impacts in wilderness settings.

- A. Visitor use-related resource impacts.
- B. Visitor perceptions and satisfactions.
- C. Effectiveness of wilderness management practices.
- D. Limits of acceptable change.
- E. Effects and benefits of interaction with pristine wilderness environments.

To President Hartung, Vice President Coonrod & Dean Stark

UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO
Inter-Office Memorandum

File
C+D
82

From A. E. Erickson, Wilderness Research Center

AW E.

Relationship between U.S. Forest Service

Subject and the Taylor Ranch

UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO
GRADUATE SCHOOL

Date June 28, 1971

JUN 29 3 10 PM '71

On June 3 and 4, 1971 a meeting was held at the Taylor Ranch between representatives of the U.S. Forest Service, Region I, and the University to discuss operational relationships and wilderness matters in general. Representatives from the Forest Service were: Messers Mike Gaufin and Alex Smith, Asst. Regional Foresters; Dr. James Blaisdell, Asst. Director, Intermountain Forest and Range Experiment Station, all of Ogden; and Mr. Bill Sendt, Payette District Forester and two of his assistant foresters.

The University was represented by Dr. Tisdale of the College of Forestry, Wildlife and Range Management; Mr. Don Reid of the Development Office; and myself.

Our meeting was frank and incisive with both productive and foreboding aspects. As concerns present relationships, a complete attitude of cooperation prevails, including exchanges of facility use, logistic assistance, etc.

The disquieting aspect of our discussions concerned the view expressed by the Forest Service group that the Taylor Ranch was an undesirable and incompatible intrusion in the Idaho Primitive Area and that the likely recommendation of the U.S. Forest Service in the Idaho Primitive Area reclassification hearings will be the elimination of all private and state inholdings, including the Taylor Ranch.

NB

While the U.S.F.S. personnel made certain to point out that their remarks did not represent the official stance of the Forest Service, I believe that their views did, in fact, represent the current administrative attitude of the U.S.F.S. on the subject.

In view of this, it is understandable that no overtures of interest were advanced by the Forest Service to support our research or to use the Taylor Ranch facility except for administrative support. To do so would be tacit recognition of a need for wilderness research of the type we are capable of conducting or supporting at the Taylor Ranch which would argue against condemnation of the ranch in the reclassification bill.

The U.S.F.S. group was naturally interested in what input the University would have in the reclassification hearings. My response was that we would expect to make input in only those areas where we had particular expertise or data applicable to the reclassification decision and with regard to the disposition of the Taylor Ranch in the reclassification determination.

In regard to the later point, it was pointed out that one of the purposes of the Wilderness Act was to preserve natural areas for research. It was further argued that a certain amount of research will have to be carried out in Wilderness areas to obtain information applicable to the management of Wilderness areas and the Taylor Ranch facility would seem a prime area for such research by virtue of its location, the commitment of the University to Wilderness Research, and the availability of the ranch as a research facility to the Forest Service and other agencies.

To _____

UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO

From _____

Inter-Office Memorandum

Subject _____

Date _____

The response of the U.S.F.S. group was to raise the question as to what particular research was possible at the Taylor Ranch which could not be performed equally well elsewhere? This is, of course, a difficult question to answer unequivocally in the affirmative since many other suitable areas for Wilderness Research doubtless exist although it would be difficult to identify a facility and site equally attractive to the University.

In the ensuing discussion I was asked what the position of the University would be if the U.S.F.S. specifically recommended condemnation of the Taylor Ranch property. My response was to state that I did not feel that the University would voluntarily relinquish the Taylor Ranch and would probably oppose condemnation proceedings unless the remaining 27 private and state inholdings were likewise obtained by purchase or condemnation.

As a counter, I stated that the University might not oppose and perhaps even support condemnation of all inholdings in the Idaho Primitive Area, including the Taylor Ranch, if the U.S.F.S. would agree to recommend a major area surrounding the ranch as a Wilderness Research area in the event that Congress did not provide for total inholding condemnations. The response of the U.S.F.S. group to this suggestion was entirely negative. (By way of explanation, I do not feel that there is great likelihood that enabling legislation, if passed, will provide for condemnation of inholdings. With rare exception, like legislation to date has allowed elimination of inholdings only by purchase or exchange.)

The U.S.F.S. group then inquired whether the University would consider a land exchange. I replied that it might but only if the area offered was of equal or greater value and research potential than the Taylor Ranch and then only if a major area surrounding or adjacent to the site was set aside as a Wilderness Research Area.

While these discussions were exploratory, they do suggest potential areas of conflict between the University and the U.S. Forest Service. Consequently, I feel that deliberations within the faculty and administration of the University are in order to weigh proposals affecting the University in the reclassification hearings and to determine the stance the University should assume in the hearings.

THE UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO WILDERNESS RESEARCH CENTER

- A CONCEPT REVIEWED -

The concept of a "Wilderness Research Center" was conceived early in 1966 when researchers from the College of Forestry, Wildlife and Range Sciences were involved in research in the Idaho Primitive Area. The Jess Taylor Ranch on lower Big Creek was being considered for sale and it was perceived as having considerable potential as a research base for the University. A desire to see the Ranch not turned into a resort was a significant consideration in early deliberations, but more importantly was the opportunity to establish a research field headquarters in the heart of a large relatively undisturbed wildland resource.

Early proposals and reports contained cautioning overtones as to the practicality of a research center being established in the Idaho Primitive Area. However, a great deal of optimism and urgency was noted relative to the need for an interdisciplinary approach to basic research in wilderness environments. As early as May 31, 1966, Dr. Paul D. Dalke stated:

"The concept of a Wilderness Research Institute would unify under one research authority the disciplines of the University and its cooperators to provide a major national and international thrust in an area of lasting concern. The Institute or Center located strategically to the major wild areas of the Western United States would provide a major research fund solicitor, an intellectual resource pool, and a well equipped agency for broadly conceived research into the descriptive and functional nature of wilderness and man."

In the early proposals, the Center was to be located at the Taylor Ranch in the Idaho Primitive Area, if the Ranch could be purchased by the University. It was the expressed desire of Mr. Jess Taylor to sell the property to the University for a research center rather than to see it developed as a guest ranch. Similarly, the early General Statement of Purpose for the Center stated that:

"The Center is proposed as a multi-disciplinary center for research of wilderness ecosystems. Scientists from the University, as well as those from other institutions, would be provided with facilities for the study of environments in a relatively pristine condition. Objectives of the Center would in no way conflict with the principles set forth in the Wilderness Act." (emphasis added)

The Taylor Ranch was finally purchased in early 1969 and became the nucleus of the Wilderness Research Center.

With the acquisition of the Taylor Ranch a series of administrative conflicts began to develop, primarily because of the lack of a clear set of objectives which could be keyed to a sound conceptual base. Individual personalities, differing management goals, and insensitivity towards the various entities having interests in the Big Creek area and the Idaho Primitive Area tended to foster dissention which essentially thwarted any real progress in the Center's development. Without definitive objectives and a strong conceptual base, responsibility and accountability became diffused and non-functional. Perhaps a major contributor to this situation was the gradual disassociation of the Center from the Taylor Ranch facility. In the minds of most people they are one-in-the-same whereas in reality the Ranch can only serve as a focal point for field research and educational

programs rather than the administrative headquarters of the Center.

Associated with the lack of a clear policy on the role of the Taylor Ranch, was a lack of commitment on the part of Center personnel to the concepts on which the Center was created. The interdisciplinary intent seemed to be subdued by a strong biological orientation at the expense of the physical and social sciences as well as certain components of the "arts." This was likely not a deliberate action but rather one which evolved because objectives and roles had not been clearly defined. The first Director of the Center remained only a short time and resigned leaving the Center without an administrator who was committed to the concept and intent under which it was organized.

During the period when the Center functioned only under an acting director, considerable interest was being expressed by such people as President Hartung, Governor Andrus, the Board of Regents, and certain congressional delegates. Dr. Hartung reaffirmed the role of the Taylor Ranch in the overall Center concept when he said:

"At Big Creek (Taylor Ranch) you can go back in time in terms of primitive ecology. Once you get back to a primitive condition you can work from there to determine what man has done to the wilderness. If we are going to put together meaningful ecological studies this is such a place to do it. Here you can set up controlled studies where you can get conditions as they were in the beginning and can compare with other areas you want to restore....This area has not been disturbed in terms of plowing, logging, or burning. The ecology is essentially as it was when Lewis and Clark came across....If man

does not have some place like Big Creek, you can lose reality with the past. Without Big Creek a lot of people are guessing.... Here we have a controlled window on ecology and this is the reason it is so valuable."

The value of the Taylor Ranch for research purposes was clearly and repeatedly established by all who had a commitment to the Wilderness Research Center concept. This being the case, why has there been so much "wheel-spinning" relative to putting the Center on a sound functional basis? The answer must lie in the lack of a clear Statement of Purpose for the Center which incorporates the role and function of the Taylor Ranch. Also lacking is a clear delineation of responsibility and accountability for the Center and the Ranch. Without specific delineation of responsibility, confusion, conflict of purpose, and administrative ambiguity will continue to plague the Wilderness Research Center.

Although the Center has been in existence in excess of five years, it has been unable to produce a significant history of successes. Research efforts which have been promoted, encouraged or proposed have not received any public visibility. Part of the new Statement of Purpose includes provisions for a public relations program which may be as simple as a quarterly newsletter or as sophisticated as a series of high quality brochures and publication formats. The Center has simply failed to receive the necessary identity to engender a sense of credibility and achievement excellence so important to those who would support and seek assistance from the Center.

To achieve a position of acknowledged excellence in its performance, the Center must achieve internal and administrative stability and continuity.

The original concept, with minor modifications, is still viable and achievable if the University of Idaho Administration, the College of Forestry, Wildlife and Range Sciences, the Board of Regents, the Office of the Governor, and the State Legislature will reaffirm their commitment to the concept of the Wilderness Research Center. This commitment can be demonstrated by approval and support of the following actions:

1. Approval of the objectives and policies contained in the Statement of Purpose for the Center;
2. Establishment of the Wilderness Research Foundation as a component of the University of Idaho Foundation, Inc., and under the administration of the Center;
3. Reⁿstatement of the Taylor Ranch under the administration of the Center; and
4. A five-year commitment of fiscal support to the Center at an annual rate of \$75,000 to \$100,000.

With this type of commitment and support, the Center could be virtually self-sustaining at the end of the five-year period. To preserve and maintain the integrity of the conceptual intent of the Center, certain fixed costs may be required which will necessitate fiscal continuation but at a much lower rate.

Although the current public image of the Wilderness Research Center is integrally linked with the Taylor Ranch, it is possible to develop a viable Center without the Ranch. The major problem here is that if the Ranch is not used as originally intended, the Center receives the negative publicity which may or may not be overcome sufficiently to keep the Center alive until it becomes self-supporting. Also, several avid backers of the Center concept are likely to pull their support if we fail to make the Ranch an integral part of the Center.

UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO WILDERNESS RESEARCH CENTER - 1976

I. Statement of Purpose

The purpose of the Wilderness Research Center is to foster research and educational activities which will lead to a broader understanding of the structure and function of natural ecosystems, man's relationship to them, and their perpetual protection in the wilderness ^{1/} context.

II. General Objectives

Research

Interdisciplinary research concerning the wilderness resource, and wilderness users, will be encouraged.

Examples of biophysical research encouraged by the Center include:

- a. research that promotes insight into longterm natural phenomena and ecosystem dynamics
- b. inventory and descriptive studies, including those of a "baseline" or "benchmark" nature
- c. innovative approaches to comparative and experimental investigation that allow these studies to be conducted within the confines of wilderness

Examples of social research encouraged by the Center include:

- a. research to measure impacts and define limits of man's use of wilderness
- b. methodology for the reduction of human impact through effective management practices
- c. studies to further understand man's psychological relationship to nature, including the areas of morality and esthetics

^{1/} The Center's working definition of "wilderness" is taken from The Wilderness Act of 1964 but is not limited to areas within the National Wilderness Preservation System. In addition, both federal and non-federal areas that have characteristics satisfying the Act's definition are considered appropriate for Center activities.

Education

Educational objectives of the Center include promoting understanding of:

- a. the phenomena and dynamic processes associated with natural ecosystems
- b. man's ecological and social role as a member of the natural world
- c. the proper use and management of wilderness
- d. the many social and psychological values of the wilderness resource

Undergraduate and graduate students, on-site users, agency personnel and the general public are considered appropriate audiences for the Center's educational activities.

III. Specific Activities of the Center

1. Coordinate wilderness-related research projects at the University of Idaho and compile annual report of activities and findings.
2. Sponsor undergraduate summer research projects and review written reports which will be incorporated into a special section of the annual report.
3. Sponsor at least one annual graduate assistantship for wilderness-related research or other scholarly activity.
4. Conduct an annual Wilderness Seminar Series.
5. Inform potential financial contributors of Center goals and activities through publication of a high quality brochure.
6. Inform present and potential contributors and other interested individuals of current Center activities through publication of an illustrated, quarterly newsletter.
7. As requested, assist the mass media, organizations or individuals, and units of the university with wilderness-related projects of an educational nature.

IV. Organization

Administration of the Wilderness Research Center is ultimately the responsibility of the Director. He is assisted in the daily administration of

the Center's programs and activities by an Assistant Director. Policy formulation is the joint responsibility of the Director, Assistant Director and Technical Board.

Responsibilities of the Technical Board are limited to:

- a. recommendations of research needs and the review of completed projects
- b. review wilderness-related research and educational projects to assure conformity with The Wilderness Act and similar legislation or policies
- c. assistance with the preparation of proposals for outside funding
- d. as requested, assist the Director with liaison between the university and various agencies in wilderness-related matters
- e. review and select successful proposals from university students and faculty for Center-sponsored activities
- f. assist with administration of the Center when requested by the Director or Assistant Director
- g. advising the director on management policies for the Taylor Ranch Field Station

Long Range and Biennial Plans for the
Development of a Wilderness Research Institute (or Center)

University of Idaho

Introduction

It is proposed to establish a Wilderness Research Institute (Center) at the University of Idaho with a field station in the Idaho Primitive Area. The University of Idaho has the opportunity to become a leader in wilderness research providing the means of interdisciplinary approach to solving the complex problems relating to natural resource management.

There are within the boundaries of Idaho more than 3,000,000 acres of public lands classified as wilderness or primitive. There is no other place in the United States, other than extreme northern Alaska, where there exists such a large solid block of land relatively undisturbed by human activity. Nearby in Wyoming, Montana, and Washington are an additional 5,500,000 acres in wilderness, primitive or National Park status available for research by the Wilderness Research Institute.

These wilderness lands provide a set of standards against which resource scientists can measure the success or failure of man in the manipulation of his environment. Opinions vary widely on the subject of wilderness management and use, but the means of resolving differences on the basis of factual data is grossly lacking.

Wilderness and primitive areas provide the opportunities to study the complex aspects of ecological cause and effect under relatively undisturbed conditions. The knowledge gained from basic ecological data will be directly applicable to the millions of acres of wildlands in Idaho and the Pacific Northwest.

The concept of a Wilderness Research Institute would unify under one research authority the disciplines of the University and its cooperators to

provide a major national and international thrust in an area of lasting concern. The Institute or Center located strategically to the major wild areas of the Western United States would provide a major research fund solicitor, an intellectual resource pool and a well equipped agency for broadly conceived research into the descriptive and functional nature of wilderness and man.

Long Range Support

Services would be required to an administrator - researcher to coordinate planning with the University staff and to obtain funds through such organizations as National Science Foundation, Resources for the Future, Conservation Foundation, The Wilderness Society, the Wildlife Management Institute, Nature Conservancy, National Institute of Health, The National Wildlife Federation, The National Park Service, The U. S. Forest Service, Welder Wildlife Foundation, Sierra Club, Boone and Crockett Club, and New York Museum of Natural History. Support of the Fisheries and the Wildlife Research Units are assured. It is anticipated that the entire College staff as well as those in the Water Resources Institute, and the disciplines of botany, zoology, soils, geology, sociology, recreational psychology, nutrition, and others be centered in a common research endeavor.

Field Station

A permanent field research center or station would be desirable. A 65 acre ranch on Big Creek in the heart of The Idaho Primitive Area is available now for purchase. The present owner would like to sell this

property to the University of Idaho. Down payment of \$5,000 will secure the option on the total purchase price of \$100,000. The owner indicated, however, there were other interested buyers. Foundation or grant or gift funds of \$100,000 are being sought for the purchase of this field station. The property in question, The Taylor Ranch, has been owned by Mr. Jess Taylor, a retired building contractor from Boise for about 20 years. The original owner homesteaded the ranch in the 1920's. The Forest Service has indicated the title is clear and the boundaries are well marked. The ranch lies on both sides of Big Creek with the landing strip, hay meadows, garden, small orchard and four well kept cabins equipped with running water and bath all on the south side of the creek. A substantial pack stock bridge built by the U. S. Forest Service provides the access from the trail on the north side of the creek. The landing strip will accommodate a 4 place Cessna or super cub type plane, but nothing larger. The owner specified he wishes to retain his home, garden and orchard for as long as he lives and at his death this part of the ranch would revert to the University of Idaho. The cabins are of log construction, in excellent condition and with aluminum roofs. The meadows (including the air strip) yield about 20 tons of hay per acre. The hay is cut by horse drawn mower.

There is no electricity. The owner pointed out that a Pelton wheel could be installed in an adjacent Creek flowing into Big Creek. The alternative source of electricity would be a diesel engine. There would be a minimum of maintenance for at least the next 6 to 10 years. The ranch is at 3600 ft. elevation. There may be a need to build three or four tent frames to accommodate groups headquartered here for field seminars.

There is considerable boat travel down the Middle Fork of the Salmon River, but none on Big Creek. The Taylor Ranch is 6 miles from the Middle Fork.

As research expanded into other portions of the Idaho Primitive Areas and the Selway-Bitterroot there would be need for mobile quarters at road-end access points.

Suggested 1967-1969 Biennial Budget

Administer-wildland ecologist	\$28,000.00
Clerical assistance - 1/2 time	3,200.00
Travel	1,800.00
Other expense	2,000.00
Irregular help	4,000.00
	<u>\$39,000.00</u>

The University of Idaho through the College of Forestry and The Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit has produced eleven Master's theses on big game ecology, and trout fishery investigations within the Selway-Bitterroot and Idaho Wilderness Areas and eight publications. Currently there are two investigations centered in the Idaho Primitive Area, one on the ecology of the mountain lion and the other concerning the ecology of mountain meadows which form an important segment in the life cycle of wapiti (elk).

The University of Idaho, now has the opportunity to claim leadership in this area of scientific endeavor because of our proximity to Wilderness areas and involvement in wildland management.

The following kinds of research include long range studies and are indicative of the broad scope of investigations and the interdisciplinary approach has hardly been scratched.

1. A review of literature correlated with known ecological trends to reconstruct early biological conditions.
2. Natural and man caused fire history of wilderness areas.
3. The biology of alpine lakes.
4. The ecology of mountain meadows.
5. Relationship of native herbivores (5 species) to plant succession in all vegetative zones.
6. The influence of rodents in the development of meadow vegetation and to plant successional patterns.
7. Population dynamics of rodents under pristine conditions.
8. Population dynamics of wilderness big game.
9. Population dynamics of fur bearers.
10. The birds of the Idaho Wilderness Area.
11. Ecological changes as a result of soil compaction.
12. Effect of soil movement on steep loose granitic soils on plant density and composition.
13. Migration studies of the native herbivores.
14. Productivity studies of undisturbed mountain stream drainages.
15. Predator-prey studies of both mammals and birds.
16. The competition between big horn sheep and elk on critical winter habitat.
17. The influence of the packer and outfitter in wilderness management.
18. The effect of the recreationist upon wilderness flora and fauna.
19. The effect of mineral exploration, domestic stock and natural and man caused fires upon wilderness flora and fauna.
20. The impact of human use of wilderness areas at access points and at camp sites.
21. Population dynamics of forest and range insects.

Dean Ehenreich
FOR YOUR REVIEW
& COMMENT

WILDERNESS RESEARCH CENTER

College of Forestry, Wildlife and Range
Sciences

University of Idaho

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the University of Idaho Wilderness Research Center are:

To promote interdisciplinary research concerning the wilderness resource, and wilderness users, the institutions which formulate policies and management criteria affecting the wilderness resource, and the forces of social change which influence this resource;

To develop and provide continuing education programs and demonstration areas which promote understanding and appropriate use and/or management of the wilderness resource;

To develop and conduct educational programs concerning management of the wilderness resource as an integral part of total resource planning and management;

To assist the college in the development of professional expertise capable of managing the wilderness resource and its associated uses;

To assist the public, government agencies, research organizations, and private landowners (through research, continuing education, information dissemination, and consultant services) in the identification, allocation, and management of the nation's wilderness resource; and

To provide the mechanisms where by contributions can be accepted and invested to produce long range income to support wilderness research.

SCOPE OF PROGRAMS

The principal focus of the Center will be on research involving the wilderness and wildland resources. A secondary focus will involve an educational function including continuing education, baccalaureate and graduate programs.

The research function will involve all wildland areas including classified wilderness and undeveloped river systems. Although initial efforts will be concentrated in the State of Idaho, no geographical limits will be imposed. This is essential for the development of cooperative programs between various institutions and government agencies as well as interdisciplinary research projects.

The Center will focus attention on all aspects of wilderness and wildland resources which treat the issues of man/environment interaction, both direct and indirect. Baseline studies of the resources will be studied as well as man's use of these resources. This will involve biological sciences, social and behavioral sciences, physical sciences, the arts, and the political sciences, including environmental law.

As part of its educational function, the Center will interact directly with the Outdoor Program sponsored by the Associated Students organization of the University of Idaho. This interaction will be primarily directed towards the development and application of programs which, through education and programmed experiences, serve to establish a viable wildland resource use ethic for participants and program leaders.

The Center will function in the political arena as a source of expertise rather than in a role of wilderness advocacy. Such expertise will be available for possible consultation on a reference basis rather than a permanent pool of resident scientists.

FUNCTIONS

The Center will perform a variety of functions necessary to meet its stated objectives. The principal functions are the promotion of research and the development and conduct of educational programs relating to understanding the role of the wilderness resource in contemporary society. Specific devices to accomplish these functions include information dissemination through workshops, symposiums, public lectures, publications, continuing education, and environmental education programs. Discharge of its responsibilities through these functional means will ~~hopefully~~ increase the general level of public understanding, management, and proper use of the wilderness resource.

The Center will provide a much needed source of expertise to assist policy and decision-makers in the evaluation and allocation of the finite wilderness resource within the State of Idaho, the Nation, and possibly other nations. To accomplish this, the Center will maintain close communications with similar institutions and agencies in order to have all applicable and current information available for analysis and potential application to wilderness problems.

The Center will have the principal responsibility and accountability for management and programs associated with the Taylor Ranch facility. The Center will provide a ranch manager and a caretaker to assure coordinated use of that facility while maintaining a level of physical quality and use intensity consistent with the objectives and intent outlined in the justification-for-acquisition statement made for the Taylor Ranch.

The Center is the sole recipient of funds derived from the Wilderness Research Foundation which ~~was~~ ^{is being} established as a component of the University of Idaho Foundation, Inc. Funds so derived are to be used exclusively for the purposes and objectives stated herein. In general these funds will be used for research on the Nation's Wilderness resource and will be allocated on the

basis of recommendations of the Wilderness Research Center Steering Committee. Although some research projects may be financed in total by funds derived from the Foundation, it is anticipated that a major portion of these funds will provide "seed" or matching money to attract "outside" research monies. The Director of the Center will actively solicit both contributions to the Foundation and research grants from various funding agencies, institutions, and private individuals or organizations.

To meet its objectives in the area of education, the Center will utilize facilities of the College of Forestry, Wildlife and Range Sciences (College Forests, McCall Camp & the Taylor Ranch) to develop and test or demonstrate interdisciplinary programs which can help improve the general level of understanding and enjoyment of man/environment interactions. Of particular interest will be the evaluation of the effectiveness of different education programs designed to educate the individual in the development of necessary skills and knowledge needed to fully ^{experience what} ~~utilize~~ wilderness and/or wildland resources *have to offer.*

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

Location and facilities: The administrative office of the Wilderness Research Center is physically located in the College of Forestry, Wildlife and Range Sciences, University of Idaho, Moscow, Idaho. Facilities include the resources of the University of Idaho, including those off-campus such as the field stations at McCall, Idaho and the Taylor Ranch in Central Idaho.

Administration and Staff: The Center is headed by a Director who serves as Chairman of a Steering Committee (not to exceed ten members) appointed by the President of the University of Idaho. This Committee will formulate and direct the programs of the Center in keeping with the overall goals and policies of the University and the Center. It would also review research

proposals, assign research priorities, develop budget recommendations, allocate non-directed funds, and provide a general overview function for the Center. In addition to the Committee, review of programs will be requested and accepted from other parties interested in wilderness and similar resources.

The Director will be assisted by a research assistant or research associate who will also serve as manager of the Taylor Ranch Field Station. A secretary will also be assigned to the Center.

Other staff will be added as needed and resources permit but it is anticipated that the talents, expertise, and interests of the entire University faculty and staff can be drawn upon as needed in priority projects of the Center. The Idaho Cooperative Fishery and Wildlife Research Units, sponsored by the University, the Idaho Fish and Game Department, and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, will also lend support to the Center on cooperative projects. Specifically, those University faculty and staff most interested in providing interdisciplinary support to the Center come from the Water Resources Institute, geography, landscape architecture, environmental law, soils, botany, agricultural economics, recreation, engineering, anthropology, history, sociology, and the entire College of Forestry, Wildlife and Range Sciences (Forest Science, Fisheries, Wildlife, Watershed, Range Sciences, Wildland Recreation and Wood Utilization).

Whenever specific expertise is required which is not available within the University or its affiliates, the Center will enter into cooperative agreements with other institutions, agencies, or private organizations to provide that expertise. In such instances, there are no geographical limitations.

WILDERNESS RESEARCH CENTER ACTIVITIES

To fully pursue the objectives outlined in its Statement of Purpose, the Center must operate in the following major program areas: I. Research, II. Continuing and Service Education, III. Graduate and Undergraduate Education, and IV. Research Support. For each of these programs specific areas of emphasis have been identified.

I. RESEARCH

Program Emphasis

- A. Wilderness resource analysis
 - 1. Biological baseline studies
 - 2. Ecological change as the result of man's activities
 - 3. Identification of wilderness change indicators
 - 4. Natural and man-caused fire history of wilderness areas
 - 5. Comparative analysis of wilderness and non-wilderness water^{shed} systems
 - 6. Population dynamics of specific animal and plant species
 - 7. Population dynamics of plant and animal communities
 - 8. Successional pattern analysis of disturbed and undisturbed wilderness sites
 - 9. The significance of pre-historic man, historic occupation, and modern man's activities in the evolution of present wilderness condition
 - 10. Comparative analysis of flora and fauna growth dynamics in wilderness and non-wilderness environments
 - 11. Other

- B. Values of Wilderness and Wilderness Experiences
 - 1. Economic impacts of wilderness classification
 - 2. Identification of the elements of a wilderness experience
 - 3. Qualitative evaluation of the components of a wilderness experience
 - 4. Effect of wilderness experience on mental well-being
 - 5. Indirect economic multipliers of wilderness
 - 6. Value of wilderness as a genetic pool
 - 7. Comparative resource values inherent to wilderness areas
 - 8. Position of wilderness in the biosphere
 - 9. Assessment of the value of wilderness in our cultural heritage
 - 10. Other

C. Wilderness Resource Management

1. Ecological and social/psychological carrying capacities
2. Techniques for identification and inventory of the wilderness resource and wilderness experience potential
3. Development of non-economic assessment techniques of management alternatives where wilderness values exist
4. Development of criteria for management of fire, disease and insect occurrences in wilderness
5. Development of alternative systems to wilderness
6. Social and ecological variables effecting management
7. Development of criteria for management of cultural resources in wilderness environments
8. Development of programs to enhance the awareness and value of a wilderness experience
9. Identification and significance of commercial enterprises associated with wilderness
10. Criteria for allocation of limited opportunities between public and commercial use of wilderness
11. Development of guidelines for private land owner management of wilderness
12. Development of criteria to objectively assess alternative methods of wilderness use constraint
13. Evaluation of relative effectiveness of different methods of use limitation
14. Other
15. Development of management guidelines for the private land owner within wilderness areas

II. CONTINUING AND SERVICE EDUCATION

Program Emphasis

- A. Enhancement of wilderness value experiences
 - 1. Role of wilderness in total resource management
 - 2. Development of wilderness ethic through programmed exposure to wilderness values
 - 3. Development of transitional programs from neighborhood recreation to the wilderness experience
 - 4. Development of a skills improvement program for ^{minimum impact / maximum} ~~more effective~~ enjoyment ~~use~~ of the wilderness resource

- B. Identification, inventory and evaluation of wilderness experiences
 - 1. Environmental elements composing a wilderness experience resource
 - 2. Evaluation of alternative benefits derived from wilderness
 - 3. Development of a systematic procedure for objective inventory of the wilderness resource and wilderness experience resources
 - 4. Political and administrative process affecting the provision of wilderness opportunities
 - 5. Other

- C. Management of the wilderness resource and wilderness experiences
 - 1. Interaction workshops for managers and commercial outfitters
 - 2. Techniques for educating the wilderness traveler
 - 3. Enriching the user experience
 - 4. Assessing impact on the wilderness resource
 - 5. Socio-psychological and ecological elements of management
 - 6. Managing cultural and scientific values in wilderness
 - 7. Fire management on the wilderness resource
 - 8. Techniques for predicting user conflicts
 - 9. Planning for minimization of user conflicts and ecological impacts
 - 10. Legal responsibility and regulation enforcement problems and solutions
 - 11. Selection and training of wilderness management personnel
 - 12. Preparation of Environmental Impact Statements
 - 13. Laws and regulations affecting wilderness management
 - 14. Interpretation of Congressional intent relative to the development of agency policy statements and management direction

III. GRADUATE AND UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION

Program Emphasis

- A. Wilderness resource management
 - 1. Identification of the wilderness resource
 - 2. Identification of wilderness experience opportunities
 - 3. Evaluation of the wilderness resource and wilderness experiences
 - 4. Wilderness use, wilderness visitors, and motivations
 - 5. Management philosophies of wilderness area suppliers
 - 6. Management criteria for campsites, water supply, waste disposal, trails (development and maintenance), and interpretation
 - 7. Processes of classification and reclassification
 - 8. Identification of environmental values necessary to the wilderness experience
 - 9. Wilderness economics VS. value in alternative uses*
 - 10. Managing natural disturbances: fire, insects & disease
 - 11. Assessing carrying capacities: human (social & psychological), ecological, and livestock (grazing and pack stock)
 - 12. Techniques and problems associated with limiting human use
 - 13. Measurement and production of use
 - 14. Administration of laws and regulations
 - 15. Managing non-wilderness resources within wilderness areas - - watershed, minerals, grazing, wildlife, etc.
 - 16. Assessing pressures affecting management - - special interest organizations, political forces, managerial attitudes, population pressure areas, etc.
 - 17. Wilderness experiences associated with the National Scenic and Recreational Trail System
 - 18. Wilderness experiences associated with the National Wild, Scenic and Recreational Rivers System
 - 19. Managing commercial uses on the wilderness resource
 - 20. Other

- B. Specialization areas in wilderness management
 - 1. Managing fire in the wilderness ecosystem
 - 2. Interpretation, environmental education, public relations, and communications in wilderness management
 - 3. Identification and management of scientific programs in wilderness areas
 - 4. Management of cultural resources (historic, archeological, and sub-culture enclaves) within the wilderness resource
 - 5. Wilderness and wilderness experience management for the private landowner
 - 6. Other

C. Special courses and seminars

1. Current issues relative to wilderness and wildland management
2. Outlet for public exposure to ongoing research efforts
3. Lectures to promote increased awareness of wilderness values and use
4. Other

IV. RESEARCH SUPPORT

Program Emphasis

- A. Source of wilderness expertise and data
 - 1. Provide consultant specialists to organizations concerned about wilderness and its management
 - 2. Develop catalog of reference material on the diverse aspects of wilderness
 - 3. Maintain list of qualified wilderness research personnel for referral to clients
 - 4. Provide research proposal review capability on an as-needed basis
 - 5. Recommend specialists to help structure and present seminars and continuing education programs
 - 6. Other

- B. Administration of wilderness research monies
 - 1. Solicit and develop sources of support for wilderness research - - grants, contracts, etc.
 - 2. Provide the mechanism for accepting donations, contributions, etc. to promote wilderness research, i.e., The Wilderness Research Foundation
 - 3. Allocate funds derived from The Wilderness Research Foundation to support wilderness research and to provide matching or seed monies to encourage outside funding support
 - 4. Develop research proposals and sources of research personnel (graduate and post-graduate)
 - 5. Other

- C. Administration of research and educational facilities
 - 1. Develop and conduct research and educational programs to more fully utilize the facilities of the College of Forestry, Wildlife and Range Sciences (College ~~for~~ experimental forest, the McCall education center, etc.)
 - 2. Develop and implement long and short range management plans for the Taylor Ranch Facility in keeping with the overall objectives of the Center and the resource capabilities of the Ranch
 - 3. Provide partial fiscal support for the administration of the Taylor Ranch from funds derived from the Wilderness Research Foundation

4. Utilize existing facilities to conduct cooperative research, management and educational programs with other universities, interdisciplinary departments, government agencies, private industry, and other organizations
5. Provide programs and facilities for the conduct of public forum or public involvement seminars relating to wilderness issues
6. Other

J. W. Nes

A Proposal for the
University of Idaho
to acquire a
Wilderness Research Center
in The
Idaho Primitive Area

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Abstract:

The University of Idaho proposes to purchase a unique headquarters ranch of 65 acres in the heart of the Idaho Primitive Area in North Central Idaho in order to establish a wilderness research center. The Center would serve for basic and applied scientific research in the Wilderness aspects of wildlife, forestry, range, botany, zoology, soils, sociology, psychology, anthropology, and geology. By providing housing, storage, and research sites, the center would serve the University of Idaho, other universities interested in supporting wilderness research, visiting scientists, and advanced graduate students in a continuing program of education and research.

Proposal for A Wilderness Research Center in the
Idaho Primitive Area

Purposes:

The University of Idaho proposes to acquire, equip, and staff a Wilderness Research Center in the heart of the Idaho Primitive Area, a tract of 1,232,000 acres dedicated by the U. S. Government and administered by the U. S. Forest Service to wilderness values. A unique 65 acre ranch is being offered to the University for this use.

The concept of a Wilderness Research Center would unify under one research authority the disciplines of the University of Idaho and its cooperators to provide a major national and international thrust in an area of lasting concern. The Center, located strategically in the principal wild areas of the Western United States, would provide a major research fund solicitor, an intellectual resource pool, and a well equipped agency for broadly-conceived research into the descriptive and functional nature of wilderness and man.

Some 3,000,000 acres of national forest lands in Idaho are dedicated as wilderness. In no other place in the United States other than northern Alaska does there exist such a large and continuous block of land relatively undisturbed by humans. These wilderness lands provide a set of standards against which resource scientists can measure success or failure of man in the manipulation of his environment.

It is impossible to anticipate all of the types of research or educational efforts that can or will be conducted in this area. General descriptions, too, are often misunderstood.

The following list of research areas and specific research proposals perhaps best connote the type of work anticipated and the results that can be expected.

Projects marked with an asterisk (*) have either been completed or are currently active within the Idaho Primitive Area.

1. A review of literature correlated with known ecological trends to reconstruct early biological conditions.
2. Natural and man caused fire history of wilderness areas.
3. Limnological studies in Big Creek and nearby sub-alpine lakes and ponds.
4. The ecology of mountain meadows in relation to elk use.*
5. Relationship of native herbivores (5 species) to plant succession in all vegetative zones.
6. The influence of rodents in the development of meadow vegetation and plant successional patterns.
7. Population dynamics of rodents under pristine conditions.
8. Population dynamics of fur bearers such as marten, mink, otter and fisher.
9. Population dynamics of wilderness big game including deer, elk, bighorn sheep, bear and mountain goat.
10. The birds of the Idaho Wilderness Areas.
11. Ecological changes as a result of soil compaction from pack animals, elk, and recreational use.
12. Effect of the movement of steep loose granitic slopes on plant density and composition.
13. Migration studies of the native herbivores.*
14. A comprehensive study of a major wilderness stream; its limnology and fish populations.
15. Predator-prey studies of both mammals and birds.

16. The competition between bighorn sheep and elk on critical winter habitat.*
17. The influence of the packer and outfitter in wilderness management.
18. The effect of the recreationist upon wilderness flora and fauna.
19. The effect of mineral exploration, domestic stock and natural and man caused fires upon wilderness flora and fauna.
20. The impact of human use of wilderness areas at access points and at camp sites.
21. Population dynamics of forest and range insects.
22. Identification and characterization of major habitat types of the Idaho Wilderness areas including soils as well as begetation and microclimate.
23. Identification and characterization of successional stages of major habitat types.
24. Characterization of the quality of vegetation for big game food and cover within each major successional stage.
25. Utilization tolerance of important browse species with respect to season of use, degree of use, and successional stage of the vegetation.
26. Ecology of important browse species with emphasis on their regeneration ability in relation to habitat type, successional stage, range condition, and big game and rodent pressures.
27. Regeneration of important tree species on burned over or otherwise disturbed areas.
28. Ecology of pileated woodpecker, water ouzel and other wilderness birds.
29. Monographic studies of blue and Franklin grouse.

30. Experimental bighorn population management.
31. Black bear behavioral studies in wilderness environment.
32. Experimental exploitations of natural game populations.
33. Ecology of the cougar.*
34. Evaluation of natural animal damage in wilderness in comparison with damage on managed lands.
35. Elk population studies on summer and winter ranges.
36. Factors regulating fish numbers and biomass density in an unexploited stock.
37. Age structure and density of fishes in an unexploited sub-alpine stream.
38. Genetic consequences of emigration in fish populations above and below falls.
39. Life history and management of the Mt. Goat in Idaho.*
40. Wood formation phenomena at high altitudes.
41. Wood quality comparisons on similar managed and wilderness forest sites.
42. Physical properties of big game browse food species.
43. The bighorn sheep in Idaho; its status, life history and management.*
44. The values of wilderness as a genetic pool for comparisons with the biota under other environments.

The Nature and Design of the Center:

The future for the Center rests upon the unusual opportunity to obtain this unique ranch, the willingness of the owner to sell to the University, and the timely combination of interests, funds, and owner-purchases compatibility. The Center will encompass 64.84 acres together with 4 buildings and an airstrip along Big Creek, a major tributary of the Middle Fork of the Salmon River. Four photographs of the ranch show various aspects of its character. Directions are related to the accompanying map. The Taylor Ranch is situated in the heart of the Idaho Primitive Area and is accessible by air from McCall, Idaho (30 minutes); Boise, Idaho (50 minutes); or Missoula, Montana (50 minutes). By trail the area is 19 miles east from the end of a low grade road or 25 miles east of the post office of Big Creek on a road open about 6 months out of the year. The Taylor Ranch is 24 miles by trail to the Flying B Ranch on the Middle Fork of the Salmon River. The mouth of Big Creek is 6 miles down stream from the Taylor Ranch. Radio-telephone communications are available through the Oberbillig Radio Service in Boise, Idaho. The Service is maintained daily from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. A weekly star route mail service is maintained by a chartered plane service out of McCall, Idaho during the summer months and bimonthly after November first.

The Taylor Ranch is occupied by the owner, Mr. Jess Taylor and his wife, most of the year. The most ready access is by air. The 2300 foot airstrip accommodates the Travelaire, Cessna or similar sized aircraft with 4-6 passenger capacity.

Description:

The four buildings are of sound log construction with aluminum roofs.

The Taylor home is a 3 room house with bath. A second cabin contains two bedrooms and adjoining bath. These two cabins have modern plumbing with septic tanks. The third cabin is a single unit without bath and the fourth T shaped cabin is a combination sleeping, kitchen and dining area. This cabin is not modern at present. Bathroom facilities would have to be installed as well as water to the kitchen. The addition of a septic tank for the fourth cabin as well as for any expansion can be easily installed without endangering the purity of the water in Big Creek. Water for domestic use as well as for garden irrigation comes out of Pioneer Creek and is piped down to the dwellings. The intake is sufficiently far upstream to provide a satisfactory pressure. The water lines were installed by a competent plumber and can be drained if necessary.

The Taylor Ranch is a forest homestead entirely surrounded by the Payette National Forest. The property was patented in 1927 and purchased by Jess Taylor in 1935, who has lived on the ranch since 1950. He is a retired building contractor, 68 years old, and wishes to remain on the property. Mr. Taylor prefers to sell his property to The University of Idaho for use as a headquarters for wilderness research rather than have it developed into a dude ranch. Mr. Taylor would be willing to act as a caretaker as long as he retained his home on the ranch. This arrangement would have practical values to the University particularly during the first years of operation of the Wilderness Research Center. The house would be retained by the owner as long as he lived but upon his death would revert to the University. The meadow lands, including the airstrip, yield about 20 tons of hay per year.

There is no electricity at present. There is a potential site

for a Pelton Wheel on Rush Creek. The alternative is a diesel power plant. The U. S. Geological Survey is currently examining the Idaho Primitive Area for minerals. A geologist working in the vicinity of the Taylor Ranch reported no minerals of economic value that would justify excluding the area from wilderness classification on the basis of mining potential. Four black and white pictures attached to this report show the nature of the ranch and the surrounding terrain. The property is at 3,760 ft. elevation along Big Creek. The surrounding country is forested at the higher elevations with interspersed meadows from 5,000 to 8,000 feet. The rugged granitic country in the Bighorn Crags to the east, abounds in lakes.

There is little danger of erosion affecting the Taylor Ranch from the surrounding Primitive Area country. There are no roads which could add rock, silt and debris to the stream. Only a very high intensity rainstorm would likely cause any flooding of the airstrip, the surrounding country in the lower Big Creek drainage is all in big game winter range. At present there are no over-populations of either deer, elk or sheep on these ranges, though excessive populations of deer have occurred in the past. No erosion on the shrub and grass-covered winter range is apparent in this vicinity. A small spot of over-use exists on a south facing slope across the creek from the ranch. This comes from past horse use during the years when the owner was an active packer and outfitter.

There is no likelihood of the Taylor Ranch being excluded in the reclassification of the Idaho Primitive Area to Wilderness Status. This change is scheduled to be accomplished by the Forest Service under the Wilderness Act of 1964 within the next 3 or 4 years. The

Wilderness Act provided that all areas had to be reclassified within 10 years.

Justification:

The University of Idaho is situated in a state which has the greatest acreage of dedicated public wilderness lands of any state except Alaska. The scientific value of these lands for the interdisciplinary research approach available at the University of Idaho can scarcely be over emphasized. The acquisition of a base of operations makes possible both extensive and intensive research on lands largely in pristine conditions. Our future search for knowledge in managing wild plants and animals under an intensive culture may well depend upon how well we know the interrelationship of these plants and animals in their natural and undisturbed relationships.

There is abundant literature on the scientific values of wilderness but a relatively limited number of such actual studies have been conducted. The following list suggests the scope of interest, some workers, and their special studies.

From the following list of references there can be sensed the surge and impetuous for basic research which can be served by this wilderness Research Center.

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Available lands, airstrips and buildings within the large wilderness areas in Idaho usable for headquarter sites for wilderness research are almost nonexistent and none is known to combine the qualities of the Taylor Ranch for desirable location and access to the extremes in elevation. The important sea-run fishes spawning in Big Creek are the spring chinook salmon and steelhead trout. Both are used commercially and for sport in the Columbia River basin. The proposed Wilderness Research Center could offer an excellent area for ecological research on these fish in an unexploited stream environment. Big Creek and adjoining Middle Fork of the Salmon River are well suited to behavioral studies with both migratory and resident stocks of salmonids in an area well insulated from other multiple wildland management activities.

Project Director and other key personnel and sources of immediate financial support:

The College of Forestry, Wildlife and Range Sciences has included in the 1967-1969 biennial budget a position of administrator - wildland ecologist.

The services of a Director would be required to coordinate planning with the University Staff and to obtain funds for research and maintenance through such organizations as the National Science Foundation, The Wilderness Society, Resources for the Future, Conservation Foundation, The Wildlife Management Institute, Nature Conservancy, National Institute of Health, The National Wildlife Federation, The National Park Service, The U. S. Forest Service, Wilder Wildlife Foundation, Sierra Club, Boone and Crockett Club, New York Museum of Natural History and other private foundations. Support of the U. S. Fish and

- Forest Entomology - John A. Schenk, Ph. D. Ass't Prof. Forestry
William F. Barr, Ph. D. Prof., Entomology
- Forest Pathology - Arthur D. Partridge, Ph. D. Assoc. Prof. Forestry
- Range Management - Edwin W. Tisdale, Ph. D. Prof, Range Management
Lee A. Sharp, Ph. D. Assoc. Prof., Range
Management
Minoru Hironaka, Ph. D. Ass't Prof. Range
Management
- Wildlife Management - Paul D. Dalke, Ph. D. Prof., Wildlife Management
Robert H. Giles, Jr., Ph. D. Ass't Prof.
Wildlife Management
Kenneth E. Hungerford, Ph. D. Prof. Wildlife
Management
- Fishery Management - Donald W. Chapman, Ph. D. Prof., Fishery
Management
Craig MacPhee, Ph. D. Assoc. Prof., Fishery
Management
- Soil Science - Howard Loewenstein, Ph. D. Assoc. Prof. Forestry
Roger W. Harder, M.S. Assoc. Prof., Agr.
Biochemistry and Soils
Maynard A. Fosberg, Ph. D. Assoc. Prof., Agr.
Biochemistry and Soils
- Water Resources and Management - Calvin C. Warnick, M.S.(C.E.)P.E. Prof., Civil
Engineering
George H. Belt, Ph. D. Ass't Prof., Forestry
Gilbert L. Cory, M.S. P.E. Prof., Agr.
Engineering
- Geology - Peter L. Siems, S.C.D. Ass't Prof., Mines
William B. Hall, Ph. D. Assoc. Prof., Geology
- Botany - Alvin R. Aller, Ph. D. Ass't Prof., Botany
Lorin W. Roberts, Ph. D. Assoc. Prof., Botany
Edmund E. Tylutki, Ph. D. Assoc. Prof., Botany
- Zoology - Stewart C. Schell, Ph. D. Prof., Zoology
Earl J. Larrison, M. S. Assoc. Prof., Zoology
- Anthropology - Alfred W. Bowers, Ph. D. Prof., Anthropology
- Psychology - Victor E. Montgomery, Ph. D. Prof., Psychology
- Radioisotopes - Peter K. Freeman, Ph. D. Prof., Chemistry
- Chemistry - Malcolm M. Renfrew, Ph. D. Prof., Chemistry

Proposed Cost:

The cost of the Taylor Ranch is \$100,000 or \$1,543.20 per acre. The owner will accept \$5,000 down on an option to buy, which the College of Forestry, Wildlife and Range Sciences has now available, a one third initial payment, and the balance in five years. For the Taylor Ranch to become functional within the first year the sum of \$20,000 should be added to the purchase price.

It is difficult to appraise a property of this nature because in the three Idaho Wilderness Areas there is nothing comparable available for sale. The current price of unimproved land along the Salmon River within the Idaho Primitive Area is \$1,000 per acre and up.

The University of Idaho has placed in its 1967-69 budget the following operating funds.

Salary, Administrator - wildlife ecologist	\$28,000.00
Clerical Assistance	4,200.00
Immediate capital investments	9,000.00
Travel	2,800.00
Other Expense	2,000.00
Irregular Help	<u>3,000.00</u>
Total	\$49,000.00

Additional operating and research funding as needed will be sought from other fund granting foundations.

Request:

The board of Regents of the University of Idaho herewith applies to the Charles F. Kettering Foundation for a Grant in the amount of \$120,000 for the purpose of purchasing the property described (\$100,000) and providing \$20,000 for the construction and provisions necessary to make the Wilderness Research Center functional in the first year following acquisition.

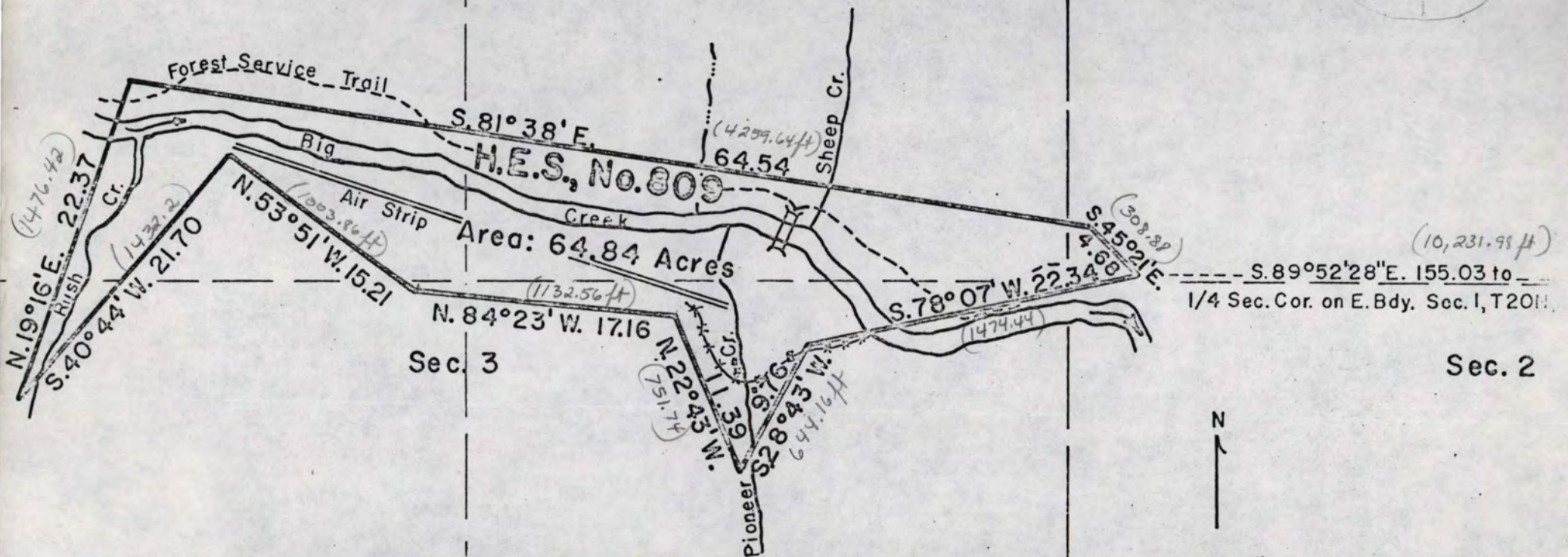
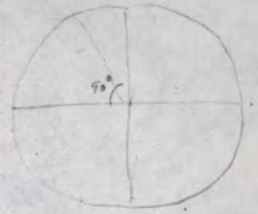
Respectfully submitted,

Ernest W. Hartung, President
University of Idaho

Kenneth A. Dick
Financial Vice-President
University of Idaho

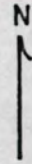
Ernest W. Wohletz
Dean, College of Forestry, Wildlife
and Range Sciences

1 chain = 66 ft.



Sec. 3

Sec. 2



Scale: 8" = 1 mile

T. 20N., R. 13E.
Unsurveyed

TAYLOR RANCH

Feb 5

THE IDAHO WILDERNESS RESEARCH CENTER

Introduction

In its bicentennial year, this great nation has matured to where its undeveloped land is treasured with the same fervor that our founders viewed the cleared patches of New England. Scientists, recreationists, government agencies, and entrepreneurs are already focusing unprecedented attention on the vestiges of primitive America. The lay public, too, has been caught up in a concern for "wilderness". Wilderness -- both the concept and the resource -- has emerged in the decade of the seventies with meaning and importance undreamed of even at mid-century.

Outside of Alaska, Idaho contains more wilderness than any other state in the nation and is surrounded by major wilderness areas of the West. Accordingly, The Wilderness Research Center of the University of Idaho offers a unique opportunity to contribute international leadership in the area of wilderness research and education.

Founded in 1972 and coordinated by the University's College of Forestry, Wildlife and Range Sciences, the Center is unique among institutions of higher learning. Its facilities extend far beyond the campus in Moscow to include field stations at McCall, Idaho and at the more recently acquired Taylor Ranch in the heart of the Idaho Primitive Area. Moreover, the Center has obtained cooperation of the U.S. Forest Service for use of its various administrative and research facilities and has been offered the use of private wilderness inholdings for the purpose of facilitating its scientific and educational objectives.

In addition to the physical resources at its disposal, The Wilderness

Research Center has the solid support of faculty in all disciplines of the College of Forestry, Wildlife and Range Sciences. Cooperation from other units within the University of Idaho has been offered from such diverse disciplines as psychology, archeology, botany, engineering and communications. The expertise available to the Center is unrivaled by any institution in the West.

Statement of Purpose

The purpose of the Wilderness Research Center is to foster research and educational activities which will lead to a broader understanding of the structure and function of natural ecosystems, and of man's relationship to them.

General Research Objectives

Implicit within the wilderness concept is a permanent absence of artificial disturbance; therefore research which promotes insight into long-term natural phenomena and ecosystem dynamics will be encouraged. It is recognized that inventory and descriptive studies are important. Comparative and experimental investigation will yield fruitful insights and will require innovation and imagination in order to be augmented within the confines of wilderness.

At the same time, specific criteria defining the limits of man's multiple activities compatible with wilderness are urgently needed: accordingly, research to define impacts and limits of man's use of wilderness will be encouraged. Wilderness also involves esthetical concepts associated with man's desire for solitude and communion with the natural world, and studies designed to further our understanding of man's esthetical and moral

commitments to nature will be promoted. Interdisciplinary research concerning the wilderness resources, and the wilderness users, will be encouraged.

Educational Objectives

Educational objectives involve promoting an understanding of the dynamic processes associated within natural ecosystems, man's ecological and social role as a member of the natural world, proper use of wilderness, and insight into the ethical and esthetical understanding of the value of natural ecosystems to humanity. Educational opportunities associated with wilderness may be best attained in the field classroom. Undergraduate, the on-site users, the general public and graduate education will be included.

THE UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO WILDERNESS RESEARCH CENTER

- A CONCEPT REVIEWED -

The concept of a "Wilderness Research Center" was conceived early in 1966 when researchers from the College of Forestry, Wildlife and Range Sciences were involved in research in the Idaho Primitive Area. The Jess Taylor Ranch on lower Big Creek was being considered for sale and it was perceived as having considerable potential as a research base for the University. A desire to see the Ranch not turned into a resort was a significant consideration in early deliberations, but more importantly was the opportunity to establish a research field headquarters in the heart of a large relatively undisturbed wildland resource.

Early proposals and reports contained cautioning overtones as to the practicality of a research center being established in the Idaho Primitive Area. However, a great deal of optimism and urgency was noted relative to the need for an interdisciplinary approach to basic research in wilderness environments. As early as May 31, 1966, Dr. Paul D. Dalke stated:

"The concept of a Wilderness Research Institute would unify under one research authority the disciplines of the University and its cooperators to provide a major national and international thrust in an area of lasting concern. The Institute or Center located strategically to the major wild areas of the Western United States would provide a major research fund solicitor, an intellectual resource pool, and a well equipped agency for broadly conceived research into the descriptive and functional nature of wilderness and man."

In the early proposals, the Center was to be located at the Taylor Ranch in the Idaho Primitive Area, if the Ranch could be purchased by the University. It was the expressed desire of Mr. Jess Taylor to sell the property to the University for a research center rather than to see it developed as a guest ranch. Similarly, the early General Statement of Purpose for the Center stated that:

"The Center is proposed as a multi-disciplinary center for research of wilderness ecosystems. Scientists from the University, as well as those from other institutions, would be provided with facilities for the study of environments in a relatively pristine condition. Objectives of the Center would in no way conflict with the principles set forth in the Wilderness Act." (emphasis added)

The Taylor Ranch was finally purchased in early 1969 and became the nucleus of the Wilderness Research Center.

With the acquisition of the Taylor Ranch a series of administrative conflicts began to develop, primarily because of the lack of a clear set of objectives which could be keyed to a sound conceptual base. Individual personalities, differing management goals, and insensitivity towards the various entities having interests in the Big Creek area and the Idaho Primitive Area tended to foster dissention which essentially thwarted any real progress in the Center's development. Without definitive objectives and a strong conceptual base, responsibility and accountability became diffused and non-functional. Perhaps a major contributor to this situation was the gradual disassociation of the Center from the Taylor Ranch facility. In the minds of most people they are one-in-the-same whereas in reality the Ranch can only serve as a focal point for field research and educational

programs rather than the administrative headquarters of the Center.

Associated with the lack of a clear policy on the role of the Taylor Ranch, was a lack of commitment on the part of Center personnel to the concepts on which the Center was created. The interdisciplinary intent seemed to be subdued by a strong biological orientation at the expense of the physical and social sciences as well as certain components of the "arts." This was likely not a deliberate action but rather one which evolved because objectives and roles had not been clearly defined. The first Director of the Center remained only a short time and resigned leaving the Center without an administrator who was committed to the concept and intent under which it was organized.

During the period when the Center functioned only under an acting director, considerable interest was being expressed by such people as President Hartung, Governor Andrus, the Board of Regents, and certain congressional delegates. Dr. Hartung reaffirmed the role of the Taylor Ranch in the overall Center concept when he said:

"At Big Creek (Taylor Ranch) you can go back in time in terms of primitive ecology. Once you get back to a primitive condition you can work from there to determine what man has done to the wilderness. If we are going to put together meaningful ecological studies this is such a place to do it. Here you can set up controlled studies where you can get conditions as they were in the beginning and can compare with other areas you want to restore....This area has not been disturbed in terms of plowing, logging, or burning. The ecology is essentially as it was when Lewis and Clark came across....If man

does not have some place like Big Creek, you can lose reality with the past. Without Big Creek a lot of people are guessing.... Here we have a controlled window on ecology and this is the reason it is so valuable."

The value of the Taylor Ranch for research purposes was clearly and repeatedly established by all who had a commitment to the Wilderness Research Center concept. This being the case, why has there been so much "wheel-spinning" relative to putting the Center on a sound functional basis? The answer must lie in the lack of a clear Statement of Purpose for the Center which incorporates the role and function of the Taylor Ranch. Also lacking is a clear delineation of responsibility and accountability for the Center and the Ranch. Without specific delineation of responsibility, confusion, conflict of purpose, and administrative ambiguity will continue to plague the Wilderness Research Center.

Although the Center has been in existence in excess of five years, it has been unable to produce a significant history of successes. Research efforts which have been promoted, encouraged or proposed have not received any public visibility. Part of the new Statement of Purpose includes provisions for a public relations program which may be as simple as a quarterly newsletter or as sophisticated as a series of high quality brochures and publication formats. The Center has simply failed to receive the necessary identity to engender a sense of credibility and achievement excellence so important to those who would support and seek assistance from the Center.

To achieve a position of acknowledged excellence in its performance, the Center must achieve internal and administrative stability and continuity.

The original concept, with minor modifications, is still viable and achievable if the University of Idaho Administration, the College of Forestry, Wildlife and Range Sciences, the Board of Regents, the Office of the Governor, and the State Legislature will reaffirm their commitment to the concept of the Wilderness Research Center. This commitment can be demonstrated by approval and support of the following actions:

1. Approval of the objectives and policies contained in the Statement of Purpose for the Center;
2. Establishment of the Wilderness Research Foundation as a component of the University of Idaho Foundation, Inc., and under the administration of the Center;
3. Reistatement of the Taylor Ranch under the administration of the Center; and
4. A five-year commitment of fiscal support to the Center at an annual rate of \$75,000 to \$100,000.

With this type of commitment and support, the Center could be virtually self-sustaining at the end of the five-year period. To preserve and maintain the integrity of the conceptual intent of the Center, certain fixed costs may be required which will necessitate fiscal continuation but at a much lower rate.

Although the current public image of the Wilderness Research Center is integrally linked with the Taylor Ranch, it is possible to develop a viable Center without the Ranch. The major problem here is that if the Ranch is not used as originally intended, the Center receives the negative publicity which may or may not be overcome sufficiently to keep the Center alive until it becomes self-supporting. Also, several avid backers of the Center concept are likely to pull their support if we fail to make the Ranch an integral part of the Center.