

F2210

To WRC - Technician Advisory Board



University of Idaho

Inter-Office Memorandum

From Ken Sowles

Subject Annual Report

Date 1/30/76

Attached is a copy of the Annual Report draft. I wrote this just to get something going. Please change or make comments as you see fit.

Bring your copy to the next meeting.

Thanks

*KMS*

TO:

FROM: John H. Ehrenreich, Dean and Director

SUBJECT: Wilderness Research Center - A Progress Report

January 29, 1976

In February, 1975 Dean John Ehrenreich assumed directorship of the Wilderness Research Center. This action was taken because of previous problems - the University faced with development of a viable wilderness research program.

At the same time, Dean Ehrenreich named a Technical Advisory Board consisting of five individuals who have a strong desire to see the Wilderness Research Center succeed, and each having successful backgrounds in developing, funding and administering new and varied programs which lend breadth and depth to the wilderness research concept. These board members are:

- ✓ Dr. Jerran Flinders - Wildlife Management. Experienced in wildlife habitat in primitive and wilderness areas.
- ✓ Dr. James Fazio - Wildland Recreation. Experienced in the recreation impacts of wilderness.
- ✓ Dr. Paul Dalke - Wildlife Management Emeritus. The originator of the Wilderness Research Center at Idaho concept.
- ✓ Dr. John Schomaker - Wildland Recreation. Experienced in
- ✓ Prof. Kenneth Sowles - Director, Services and Special Programs. Experienced in establishing and funding new programs for research in wilderness and primitive areas. Manager of Taylor Ranch Field Station.

The original concept of the WRC, prepared by Dr. Dalke in 1966, has not been changed but the objectives and thrust have been modernized to better meet the needs of the University, State and Country. The administration of the Center has been moved on in the College of Forestry, Wildlife, and Range Sciences. The original plan for having the headquarters in the heart of the Idaho Primitive Area has

proven impracticable due mainly to inaccessibility. Instead, the Taylor Ranch is being more fully utilized as a field station where the research effort is no longer limited to wilderness, but includes all research involving pristine conditions of the natural resources.

Since Dean Ehrenreich and the Technical Advisory Board have assumed responsibility for, and direction of, the WRC, the research activities have gone from zero to more than \$                    in research grants on                    projects, with much more in the offing.

The present funded and on-going projects include:

1. Behavioral modifications of bighorn sheep.

Dr. Jerran Flinders. James Bennett (grad. student).

2. Communications patterns in recreation.

Dr. James Fazio. Dawna Chapman (grad. student).

3. Acquatics of highland streams.

Dr. Michael Falter. Ed Buettner (grad. student).

4. During the summer of 1975, 4 undergrad student honoraria research projects were selected through competition:

- a. Ecology of pocket gophers.

Steven Anderson, advised by Dr. Kenneth Hungerford.

- b. Evaluation of small mammal populations.

Charles Elliott, advised by Dr. Steven Peterson.

- c. Mesiteric characteristics and spotting patterns of cutthroat trout.

John LeVesque, advised by Dr. Richard Wallace.

- d. Brood ecology of the blue grouse.

Allen A. Steuter, advised by Dr. Jerran Flinders.

- e. Impact of camping on vegetation in the Bighorn Craigs.

Elizabeth Coombs, advised by Dr. John Mitchell.

5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

In the near future an advisory committee representing those factions, on and off campus, interested in wilderness, research and education will be named and activated to bring total input into the Center.

The Dean and Technical Advisory Board are also preparing publicity materials for the Center in the form of a brochure and newsletter to better communicate its purpose and accomplishments.

An effort is under way with the assistance of the University of Idaho Foundation, Inc. to promote a fund raising campaign for the operation and maintenance of the Center.