

IDAHO FISH & WILDLIFE FOUNDATION



IFWF

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SPRING 2003

Foundation Protects Foothills Habitat

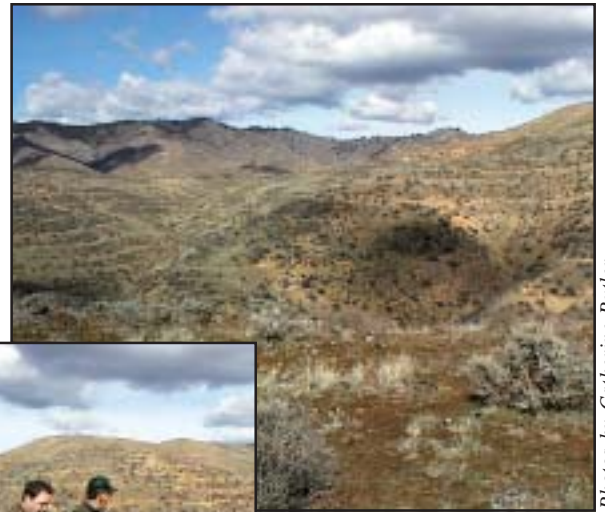
A Boise Man's Vision of Coexistence

Nine years ago Gary Campbell was drawn to a place unlike any he'd seen in the Boise foothills. A combination of scenic terrain, rugged geology and plentiful wildlife prompted Campbell to buy the property and eventually build a home above Boise's Table Rock.

"Seasonally, it changes," comments Campbell. "We see deer and elk, which you'd expect. We also have seen mountain lion and bear. We can tell what time of year it is by which birds are overhead."

Today, Campbell is taking steps to ensure that the wildlife he loves will remain a common sight. Campbell recently entered into an agreement with the Idaho Fish and Wildlife Foundation (IFWF) and the Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) to protect and manage habitat on 40 acres of his sizeable property. Campbell chose a partnership with IFWF because of the foundation's mission to sustain Idaho's fishing, hunting and, in this case especially, its wildlife heritage.

"It fit exactly with why we are living here. We designed the property to



Landowner Gary Campbell (left) and IDFG Habitat Biologist Jerry Scholten survey the foothills land.

Photos by Catherine Butler

admit that this is their [wildlife] home too," explains Campbell. "Any agreement I sign is only as good as the people who sign it and that gave me a lot of comfort knowing it was Fish and Game."

Campbell will work with IDFG to develop a habitat improvement plan to be funded through a department program.

For the foundation, this habitat management agreement is unprecedented. While the 40 acres will be protected for habitat, development of *one* additional home is allowed and public access is



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continued from page 1

prohibited. This is the only time the foundation has accepted such stipulations.

“The biologists at IDFG felt the area was important to wildlife and needed to be secured. The agreement permanently limits the use of this land to protect its habitat value,” says Idaho Fish and Wildlife Foundation Executive Director Gayle Valentine.

IDFG Habitat Biologist Jerry Scholten says the land’s proximity to an existing Bureau of Land Management wildlife area made it a natural fit.

“It’s an area with 66 species of mammals and over 200 birds. The land provides low elevation winter range for big game,” explains Scholten.

“This agreement will keep development away from the adjacent wildlife area. It’s a good example of how to build a home and still have wildlife compatibility,” he said.

Campbell now has a handful of human neighbors—their homes are separated by acres of land—in the Wildhorse Ranch development. He says residents enjoy the opportunity to live just a few miles from downtown Boise, but feel worlds away. Their hobbies focus on viewing wildlife, sunrises and full moons. Campbell encourages other foothills landowners to consider similar approaches.

“What they’re buying into here is a lifestyle and it’s not just a human lifestyle—it’s the wildlife lifestyle. We can have both, but we just have to plan for it.”

The habitat management agreement is part of Campbell’s plan. It is also a contract that continues in “perpetuity.” That means if Campbell or his beneficiaries sell, the 40 acres Campbell fell in love with years ago will remain a protected home to wildlife for decades to come.

Cutthroat License Plate Update

“Go Wild—Buy Wild” is the new catch phrase for the Idaho wildlife license plates. The newest license plate, depicting Idaho’s official state fish, the cutthroat trout, has been available for purchase since mid-January. So far, 845 Idahoans have opted to “reel in” this cutthroat. Folks who haven’t yet heard about the new plate soon will. The foundation is working with Oliver Russell and Associates on a statewide marketing campaign to begin late this spring.

Proceeds from all the wildlife license plates support the Idaho Department of Fish and Game’s

Watchable Wildlife program, which is responsible for managing and conserving about 470 of Idaho’s wildlife species.

An initial program fee of \$35 is charged when the plate is first purchased with each subsequent renewal costing \$25. These program fees are in addition to all other applicable annual registration fees. A portion of your plate purchase is tax deductible. For more information, call the Idaho Fish and Wildlife Foundation at 208-334-2648 or visit our website at www.ifwf.org.





Radio Auction Benefits Idaho Students

An outdoor classroom for students in Salmon, Idaho will receive new trails and habitat improvements thanks to the 13th annual radio auction by the Idaho Fish and Wildlife Foundation (IFWF) and the Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG).

The March 4th event raised over \$10,000 for the nature area, which students will use for hands-on studies of riparian habitat and wildlife. Students will also study upland habitat and document changes as the habitat regenerates. The money will fund construction of interpretive trails and reconstruction of a stream channel to its natural state. The four-acre site, including a pond, wetland, stream and related habitat, was purchased by IFWF with assistance from Salmon region board member Hadley Roberts. It will be managed by IDFG for use by school children and other visitors.

The auction, broadcast on the Clear Channel Communications Network (KIDO-AM Boise, KID-AM Idaho Falls, KWIK-AM Pocatello, KLIX-AM Twin Falls), featured 38 outdoor adventures and is the foundation's largest annual fundraiser.

"This event allows us to raise money for habitat and educational projects throughout the state. It's a great vehicle to introduce the public to the foundation and its mission," explains IFWF Executive Director Gayle Valentine.

"We want to thank Clear Channel and all of our bidders and donors," she stated.

It's also an opportunity for adventure-minded folks to get a good deal on a trip. Radio listeners phoned in their bids in a flurry of competition for a variety of float and fishing excursions as well as wildlife research trips with IDFG biologists.

"We got some great trips," commented bidder



The radio auction hosted by: Steve Huffaker, Steve Barton, Sue Nass (all from IDFG) and KIDO personalities Doug Raper and Chris Kelly.



photos courtesy of Wide Eye Productions

Mary Kolbet, whose family bought four trips this year. Their purchases include a three-night camping and float trip in Hells Canyon.

"I think I got a tremendous deal on that float trip. I couldn't believe it was such a small amount," exclaimed Kolbet.

The Kolbet family also bought a fishing trip, a golf trip and a party at the MK Nature Center, which they plan to use to celebrate high school and college graduations this spring. Kolbet feels the radio auction is a fun way to support a good cause.

"We like the foundation and feel they do good work," she stated.

Kolbet is also excited that this year's proceeds will go to an education project.

The students in Salmon will undoubtedly share that enthusiasm as they start to see improvements to their outdoor classroom get underway this spring and summer.



We'd like to send a big *THANK YOU* to all of our 2003 auction donors:

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 Barker River Trips
 John Barker
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 Steve Barton
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Hosts in the control room review the latest radio auction bids.



Sue Nass and Steve Huffaker on the air.

photos courtesy of Wide Eye Productions

Special thanks to our volunteers who answered the phones and tracked the bid sheets on auction night:



Stella Bush
 Casey Cole
 Keith Kiler
 Rosanne Lokker

Mike Maffey
 Sean Maffey
 Ed and Lynn Manning
 Julie Moldenhauer



Thank you for your support of IFWF and IDFG!



Idaho Fish & Wildlife Foundation

Q & A Getting to Know Phyllis Kochert, IFWF Board Member



What motivated you to join the Idaho Fish and Wildlife Foundation board?

Prior to the incorporation of the current Idaho Fish and Wildlife Foundation, I was recruited as the support staff during the transformation of the Boise River Observatory Committee (an Idaho Centennial committee) to the newly developing Idaho Fish and Wildlife Foundation. Since 1990, I've assisted the founding members, the Executive Directors and the Board of Directors, as Recording Secretary. In

2001, I was elected as a board director from the Magic Valley Region and have served as Secretary of the Board since then.

What do you see as the foundation's priorities and future goals?

Since its inception, the Foundation's priorities have been to make possible the funding of chosen fish, wildlife, habitat and related educational projects throughout Idaho in order to protect Idaho's wildlife heritage. I see those priorities as unchanged today, with conservation easements as added objectives to preserve these valuable resources.

What is your professional background?

Since 1978, I have served the Idaho Department of Fish and Game in the Administrative Assistant capacity, with seven years in the Magic Valley regional office and 16 years in headquarters at Boise. Beginning in 2001, my position evolved to Technical Editor of fisheries scientific reports, which is carried out in my home office in Gooding.

What are your hobbies and interests?

I enjoy a variety of outdoor pastimes, including camping, hunting, fishing, cross-country skiing, gardening, and exploring Idaho's backroads and historical sites. Since moving to our farm in my native Gooding County on the Big Wood River, my husband and I are developing a cooperative 19-acre Wetland Reserve Program/soil conservation project. Look for lots of happy waterfowl and upland critters and a cleaner Big Wood River in the coming years. In my "spare" time I love to create quilts and anything from fabric for my family, plus I collect antique family photos and memorabilia for my "museum."

MISSION: To protect and sustain Idaho's fishing, hunting and wildlife heritage for present and future generations.

In support of this mission, the Idaho Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Inc. is committed to bringing together citizens, businesses, industry, government, conservation and environmental groups, and organizations to:

- promote conservation education about fishing, hunting, habitat and wildlife management
- support projects dedicated to acquiring, preserving and managing fish and wildlife habitat
- create opportunities to experience Idaho's fish and wildlife resources

"Promote, Educate and Protect"

The Idaho Fish and Wildlife Foundation newsletter is published four times per year by its Board of Directors.

If you have any suggestions, questions or comments relating to the issues or projects of the foundation, please write to : Idaho Fish and Wildlife Foundation, P.O. Box 2254, Boise, ID, 83701-2254, call 208-334-2648 or visit our site at www.IFWF.org

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Editor:
Catherine Butler

Layout/Design:
Alyssa Faaborg



IFWF Annual Membership Enrollment Form

Join to help us promote, educate and protect Idaho's fish and wildlife resources.

**Please enroll me as a member of the
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- \$1000 Incredible Idaho (*Lifetime Membership*)
- \$500 Mountain Bluebird
- \$250 Cutthroat Trout
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You can also join online at www.ifwf.org

THANK YOU!



Idaho Fish and Wildlife Foundation

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**SPRING
2003**

INSIDE:



2003 IFWF/IDFG Radio Auction