

June 10, 1936.

Prof. Aldo Leopold,
University of Wisconsin,
Madison, Wisconsin.

Dear Leopold:

The activities of members of the Advisory Board in nominating affiliates has brought up a question that should be decided right now, and that is whether members of State conservation departments, especially the politically appointed ones, are eligible for affiliation with the Society.

I do not think they meet with the requirement laid down of being professionally engaged in the teaching or practice of wildlife management or wildlife research, but I want to have the backing of all chiefly concerned if we are to turn them down. Errington, Chairman of Qualifications and Membership Committee, agrees that we should hold strictly to the requirements for affiliation and thinks that very few persons of the class referred to would prove eligible. I have written to King also on the subject but have not heard from him as yet.

I not only think that requirements for eligibility to membership should be kept as high as practicable but I think that we must be on guard at all times against elements that might seek to introduce politics and propaganda and thus prevent the Society ~~from~~ rendering its highest service to wildlife technology, to rational science, and to broad-gage conservation. If the Society cannot organize and conduct itself in such a way as to achieve these objectives, I do not believe it worth organizing.

I shall be glad to have your views.

Sincerely yours,

Copy to: Ralph T. King
Paul L. Errington ✓

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