



December 4, 2007

The Honorable Barbara Boxer  
Chairwoman  
Committee on Environment and Public Works  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable James Inhofe  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Environment and Public Works  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairwoman Boxer and Senator Inhofe:

**As leading members of the 5,500 organization strong Teaming with Wildlife Coalition, we urge you to support strong state fish and wildlife adaptation funding in the Lieberman-Warner "America's Climate Security Act" (S.2191).** By providing funding to every state and territory through the Wildlife Conservation and Restoration Program, this bill will help ensure that state fish and wildlife agencies and their partners have the resources needed to conserve wildlife and vital natural areas for future generations.

**In response to a charge from Congress, the state fish and wildlife agencies and their many conservation partners have worked together to complete wildlife action plans for every state and territory.** As a coalition of conservation organizations, wildlife management professionals, outdoor enthusiasts, and other supporters of fish and wildlife conservation, we've seen the tangible benefits of these plans in the communities where we live and work. Unfortunately, The landscape-level effects of climate change, including alteration of habitat, disruption to migratory patterns, changes in predator-prey interactions and the spread of invasive species are already placing greater stresses on fish and wildlife, eroding some of these recent gains.

Funding from America's sportsmen and women has helped state fish and wildlife agencies manage fish and wildlife in a changing landscape for more than a century, but the pressures of climate change will dramatically increase the need for proactive actions to conserve fish, wildlife and their habitat. **By allocating funds to the Wildlife Conservation and Restoration Program, the Lieberman-Warner bill recognizes that state fish and wildlife agencies are the primary managers of fish and wildlife resources in the United States and ensures that funds go to every state.**

The wildlife action plans, along with other landscape-scale conservation initiatives under development, provide a strategic platform for promptly delivering funding for on-the-ground projects to help fish and wildlife react to the challenge of climate change. **Organizations like ours are eager to help, but we're counting on funding from federal climate change legislation to help us put these plans into action.**

Please join us in recognizing fish and wildlife conservation funding as an indispensable component of climate change legislation. With your help, we can take proactive actions to prevent wildlife from becoming endangered as the impacts of climate change hit home.

Sincerely,

Gus Rassam, Executive Director  
American Fisheries Society

Matt Hogan, Executive Director  
Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies

Tim Dillingham, Executive Director  
American Littoral Society

Steven G. Olson, Director of Government Affairs  
Association of Zoos & Aquariums

Gordon Robertson, Vice President  
American Sportfishing Association

Gary Kania, Vice President of Policy  
Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation

Teaming with Wildlife

A coalition of more than 5,000 groups working together to prevent wildlife from becoming endangered.

c/o Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

444 North Capitol Street, Suite 725, Washington, D.C. 20001

Phone: 202/624-7890 Fax: 202/624-7891 Email: [teaming@fishwildlife.org](mailto:teaming@fishwildlife.org)  
[www.teaming.com](http://www.teaming.com)

Adam Kolton, Senior Director, Congressional and  
Federal Affairs  
National Wildlife Federation

Rob Mies, Director  
Organization for Bat Conservation

Joe Hamilton, Director of Education & Outreach  
Quality Deer Management Association

Nat Williams, Director of Government Relations  
The Nature Conservancy

Michael Hutchins, Executive Director  
The Wildlife Society

**Arkansas:**

Mark Bailey, President  
Alabama Chapter of The Wildlife Society

**Arizona:**

Stuart Tuttle, President  
The Wildlife Society-Arizona Chapter

**California:**

Maeton Freel, President  
California Central Coast Chapter of The Wildlife  
Society

Edwin Pister, Executive Secretary  
Desert Fishes Council

Dan Silver, Executive Director  
Endangered Habitats League

**Colorado:**

Ronald Beane, Chapter President  
Colorado Chapter of The Wildlife Society

**Delaware:**

Kim Steinger, Owner  
Birds by Kim, LLC

**Florida:**

Jay Exum, President  
Florida Chapter of The Wildlife Society

**Georgia:**

Danny Sparks, President  
Georgia Chapter National Wild Turkey Federation

Tom Franklin, Senior Vice President  
Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership

James A. Mallman, President  
Watchable Wildlife, Inc.

Peter J. Gerl, Executive Director  
Whitetails Unlimited

John Cavelli, Senior Vice President  
Wildlife Conservation Society

Steve Williams, President  
Wildlife Management Institute

Gregory Harber, Conservation Committee Chairman  
Alabama Ornithological Society

Ellie Cohen, President  
PRBO Conservation Science

David DeSante, Executive Director and Chief  
Scientist  
The Institute for Bird Populations

Bill Stewart, Conservation Chair  
Delmarva Ornithological Society (DOS)

Manley Fuller, Executive Director  
Florida Wildlife Federation

Eric Darracq, President  
Georgia Chapter of The Wildlife Society

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[www.teaming.com](http://www.teaming.com)

Wayne Jenkins, Executive Director  
Georgia ForestWatch

Reginald Dickey, President  
Georgia Hunting And Fishing Federation

April Ingle, Executive Director  
Georgia River Network

**Hawaii:**

Bill Standley, President  
The Wildlife Society Hawaii Chapter

**Iowa:**

Ann Johnson, Owner  
AJEndeavors

William Heber, Executive Director  
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Steve Brunsmas, Director  
Butler County Conservation Board

Ginger Walker, Director  
Cherokee County Conservation Board

Donald Pfeiffer, Secretary-Treasurer  
Chicaqua Chapter- Izaak Walton League of America

Brian Moore, Director  
Chickasaw County Conservation Board

Dawn Snyder, Educational Programs Director  
Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center

John Verdon, President  
Friends of Pool 9, Upper Miss Refuge, Inc

Kevin Griggs, Owner  
Griggs Environmental Strategies

Brian Lammers, Executive Director  
Hamilton County Conservation Board

Tom Haan, Director  
Hancock County Conservation Board

Wes Wiese, Executive Director  
Hardin County Conservation Board

Timothy Sproul, Director  
Harrison County Conservation Board

Glen Dowling, Executive Vice President  
Georgia Wildlife Federation

Kirk Farquharson, Chapter Vice President  
Kanooka Chapter Trout Unlimited

Hal Wright, Advisory Committee Member  
Satilla RiverKeeper

Angela Bries, Naturalist  
Howard County Conservation Board

Randy Taylor, President  
Iowa Bowhunters Association

Dave Whittsey, Regional Biologist  
Iowa Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation

Dale L. Garner, Ph.D., Wildlife Bureau Chief  
Iowa DNR Wildlife Bureau

Gary Philips, Club Sponsor  
Iowa Lakes Community College Conservation Club

Mark C. Ackelson, President  
Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation

David Van Waus, Regional Wildlife Biologist  
Iowa Pheasants Forever

Joe Wilkinson, President  
Iowa Wildlife Federation

Jessica O'Connor, Americorp Volunteer  
Jackson County Conservation Board

Larry Gullett, Executive Director  
Jones County Conservation Board

Tom Buckley, President  
Lee County Conservation Board

Jodeane Cancilla, Director  
Macbride Raptor Project

Donna Pfeiffer, Committee Chairperson  
Misty Morning Monarchs Chapter- NWTF

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[www.teaming.com](http://www.teaming.com)

Doug Kuhlmann, Director  
Monona County Conservation Board

Theresa Carbrey, Education & Member Services  
Coordinator  
New Pioneer Food Co-op

Dennis Sohl, County Conservation Director  
Plymouth County Conservation Board

Brian Reis, Executive Director  
Pocahontas County Conservation Board

Mark Vavroch, Director  
Poweshiek County Conservation Board

Cynthia Parsons, President  
Project GREEN

Rene Stroud, Naturalist  
Sac County Conservation Board

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Karin Bivins, Office Manager  
Friends of the Teton River

**Illinois:**

James Wienold, President  
Bear Construction Co

Glenn Gabanski, Treasurer  
Bird Conservation Network

Tom Clay, Executive Director  
Illinois Audubon Society

**Kansas:**

William E. Jensen, Assistant Professor  
Central Plains Society of Mammalogists

Jim Smith, Superintendent  
Dillon Nature Center

Elmer J. Finck, Professor and Chair  
Fort Hays State University, Departemnt of  
Biological Sciences

Dan Haines, President  
Kansas Chapter of The Wildlife Society

Keith Sexson, Assistant Secretary for Operations  
Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks

Kay Neumann, Executive Director  
SOAR - Saving Our Avian Resources

Steven Lekwa, Director  
Story County Conservation Board

Robert Etzel, Director  
Tama County Conservation Board

James Priebe, Director  
Warren County Conservation Board

Elizabeth Hill, Ecologist  
Whiterock Conservancy

Mary Ann Nieves, Director & Associate Professor  
Wildlife Care Clinic

Jeffery Walk, President  
Illinois Chapter of The Wildlife Society

Kristin Stanford, Research Associate  
Northern Illinois University

Jeff Hansen, Past President  
Kansas Native Plant Society

Donald Snider, President  
Kansas Wildlife Federation

Travis W. Taggart, Associate Curator of Herpetology  
Sternberg Museum of Natural History

Joseph T. Collins, Executive Director  
The Center for North American Herpetology

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[www.teaming.com](http://www.teaming.com)

**Kentucky:**

Michael Baker, Lead Project Biologist  
Eco-Tech Consultants, Inc.

Robert Fraley, President  
Kentucky Hunter Education Association

**Massachusetts:**

Taber Allison, Vice President  
Mass Audubon

**Maryland:**

Dr. Wayne Bell, Vice President  
Maryland Ornithological Society

Jonathan Wickert, Partner/Owner  
Return to Nature, LLP

**Maine:**

Dan McAuley, Biologist  
Maine Chapter of The Wildlife Society

Cara Meinke, Project Manager  
Stantec.com

**Michigan:**

Robert W. Hoffmeyer, President  
German Shorthaired Pointer Club of Michigan

Amy Spray, Resource Policy Specialist  
Michigan United Conservation Clubs

Kenneth S. Kesson, Wildlife Specialist  
Ingham Conservation District

Robert McNally, President  
Montcalm County Chapter of Pheasants Forever

Dan W. Potter, Past President  
Michigan Chapter of the National Wild Turkey  
Federation

Kay Charter, Executive Director  
Saving Birds Thru Habitat

**Minnesota:**

Michael Duval, President  
Minnesota Chapter, American Fisheries Society

**Missouri:**

Eugene Vale, President  
Association of Missouri Interpreters

John Burk, Senior Regional Biologist  
George Clark Missouri State Chapter of the National  
Wild Turkey Federation

Phelps Murdock, President/CEO  
Bridging The Gap

Mariel Stephenson, Member of the Board  
Green Belt Land Trust of Mid Missouri

Lee O'Brien, Conservation Planner  
Central Hardwoods Joint Venture

Linda Lehrbaum, Program Coordinator  
Kansas City WildLands

Amy Buechler, TWW Coordinator  
Conservation Federation of Missouri

Larry O'Donnell, President  
Little Blue River Watershed Coalition

Jon Wingo, President  
DJM Ecological Services

Shawn Veninga, Director of Conservation  
Missouri BASS Federation Nation

Cynthia Weber, CEO  
Girl Scouts - Cotton Boll Area Council, Inc.

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[www.teaming.com](http://www.teaming.com)

David Hoff, President  
Missouri Hunter Education Instructor's Association

Leslie Limberg, Treasurer  
Missouri Master Naturalists

Justin Johnson, Executive Director  
Missouri Prairie Foundation

Wayne Morton, President  
Missouri Chapter of the North American Grouse  
Partnership

Gart Fort, Owner  
Original Metals

Frank Oberle, Owner  
Pure Air Native Seed Company

Susan Mintz, Executive Director  
The Green Center

Ann Earley, President  
Webster Groves Nature Study Society

John Phillips, Show Coordinator  
West Plains Lions Club

Susan Lyndaker Lindsey, Ph. D., Executive  
Director/CEO  
Wild Canid Survival and Research Center

### **Montana:**

Lee Gustafson, Montana Wildlife Federation  
Representative  
Laurel Rod and Gun Club

Carolyn A. Sime, President  
Montana Chapter of The Wildlife Society

Craig Sharpe, Executive Director  
Montana Wildlife Federation

Timothy Border, Owner/Manager  
Outer Limits Tours

Mark Faroni, Owner  
Triple-M-Outfitters

Betsy Robinson, Executive Director  
Wild Things Unlimited

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Carolyn Hess, Vice President  
Albemarle Environmental Association

J. Dan Pittillo, Leader  
Billy Bartram Club

Chris McDonnell, Treasurer  
Friends of DuPont Forest

Linda Purcell, Director  
Holden Beach Turtle Watch Program

Bridget Munger, Public Affairs Officer  
NC Division of Soil and Water Conservation

Don Seriff, President  
North Carolina Chapter of The Wildlife Society

Bob Pendergrass, President  
North Carolina Falconers Guild

Larry Thompson, Executive Director  
North Carolina Wildlife Federation

Michele d'Hemecourt, Land Protection Specialist  
The LandTrust for Central North Carolina

Greg Parker, President  
Lower Cape Fear River Chapter Wildlife Action Inc

Phillip Doerr, Professor Emeritus, Wildlife Sciences  
Wildlife Consulting

Joseph McDonald, Broker in Charge  
Wildlife Habitat Realty LLC

### **New Hampshire:**

Bob Mitchell, Owner  
Ipswich River MayFly Co.

Richard A. Minard, Jr., President  
New Hampshire Audubon

Malcolm Coulter, Co-Chair  
Specialist Group on Storks, Ibises and Spoonbills

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[www.teaming.com](http://www.teaming.com)

**New Jersey:**

Paul Winans, President  
Blackknight Bowbenders

Mark Canright, Organic Farmer  
Comeback Farm

Cheryl Reardon, Founder  
Concerned Pilesgrove Residents (CPR)

Margaret O'Gorman, Executive Director  
Conserve Wildlife Foundation of New Jersey

Michael Mazzucco, Treasurer  
English Setter Club of America

Fred Akers, River Administrator  
Great Egg Harbor Watershed Association

Joanna Wolaver, Government Relations Director  
New Jersey Audubon Society

George Howard, Conservation Liaison  
New Jersey State Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs

Greg Remaud, Conservation Director  
NY/NJ Baykeeper

Ella F. Filippone, Executive Director  
Passaic River Coalition

**New Mexico:**

Marcus Miller, President  
New Mexico Chapter, The Wildlife Society

**Nevada:**

Jennifer Newmark, President  
Animal Ark Wildlife Sanctuary

Elizabeth Ammon, PhD, Executive Director  
Great Basin Bird Observatory

Randy Upton, President  
Las Vegas Fly Fishing Club

Ken Mayer, Director  
Nevada Department of Wildlife

Gale Dupree, Director  
Nevada Wildlife Federation

Carol Christensen, Founder  
Supporters of Scripps Wildlife Management Area

**New York:**

Kenneth Rosenberg, Dir. of Conservation Science  
Cornell Lab of Ornithology

Timothy Green, Board Chairman  
Found. for Ecological Research in the Northeast

Raymond Gawlas, President  
Schenectady County Conservation Council

**Ohio:**

Juan L. Bouzat, Associate Professor  
Bowling Green State University

Tom Butch, Trustee  
Columbiana County Fed. of Conservation Clubs

Lisa Brohl, Chair  
Lake Erie Islands Chapter, Black Swamp  
Conservancy

John Hoopingarner, Executive Director  
Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District

Jim Doss, President  
Ohio Bass Federation

Andrew Burt, President  
Ohio Chapter of the American Fisheries Society

Suzanne Prange, President  
Ohio Chapter of The Wildlife Society

Dave Graham, Chief  
Ohio Division of Wildlife

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[www.teaming.com](http://www.teaming.com)

Michelle Park, Executive Director  
Ohio Parks and Recreation Association

Dean Sheldon, Jr., Owner/Manager  
Perfect Seed Company

**Oregon:**

John C. Snelling, Co-President  
Marys Peak Chapter, Izaak Walton League

Bruce H. Campbell, Chapter President  
Oregon Chapter of The Wildlife Society

**Pennsylvania:**

Jeanne Hickey, President, PA-TWS  
Pennsylvania Chapter of The Wildlife Society

Dan Bantley, President  
Pennsylvania Institute of Taxidermy, Inc.

Melody Zullinger, Executive Director  
Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs

Michael Dininch, Manager  
Your Money Matters

**South Dakota:**

Joel Tigner, Bat Biologist  
Batworks

Kurt James Forman, President  
South Dakota Chapter of The Wildlife Society

Jeffrey Vonk, Department Secretary  
SD Department of Game, Fish and Parks

Kraig Haase, President  
South Dakota Conservation Officers Association

**Tennessee:**

Al Louis Cecere, President  
American Eagle Foundation

Richard Connors, President  
Tennessee Ornithological Society

Dorene Bolz, Executive Director  
Harpeth River Watershed Association

Kathleen Williams, President & Executive Director  
Tennessee Parks and Greenways Foundation

Cynthia Rohrbach, President  
Swan Conservation Trust

Paul Carlson, Executive Director  
The Land Trust for the Little Tennessee

Don Hubbs, President - 2007  
Tennessee Chapter - American Fisheries Society

Keith Kirkland, Executive Director  
Wolf River Conservancy

**Texas:**

Cecilia Riley, Executive Director  
Gulf Coast Bird Observatory

Fidel Hernandez, President  
Texas Chapter of The Wildlife Society

**Utah:**

Derris Jones, President  
2 R Ranch INC. Environmental Consulting

Janet Sutter, Board Member  
Utah Chapter of The Wildlife Society

Kelly Bingham, Program Coordinator  
Farmers and Hunters Feeding the Hungry

**Virginia:**

Mark Van Putten, President  
ConservationStrategy LLC

Dusty Wissmath, Director  
Dusty Wissmath's Fly Fishing School & Guide Svc.

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[www.teaming.com](http://www.teaming.com)

Lisa Sorenson, Vice President  
Society for the Conservation and Study of Caribbea

Al Bourgeois, Chapter President  
Virginia Chapter of The Wildlife Society

**Vermont:**

Kimberly Royar, Conservation Affairs Chair  
New England Chapter of The Wildlife Society

Jamey Fidel, Forest & Biodiversity Program Director  
Vermont Natural Resources Council

Chris Rimmer, Director  
Vermont Center for Ecostudies

**Wisconsin:**

Andrew Rothman, President/Project Director  
Rainforest Biodiversity Group, Inc

William Mueller, Conservation Chair  
Wisconsin Society for Ornithology

Karl J. Martin, President  
Wisconsin Chapter of The Wildlife Society

Susan Foote-Martin, TWW Coalition Coordinator  
Wisconsin Wildlife Federation

**Wyoming:**

Dennis Hemenover, Business Manager  
Plumbers & Pipefitters UA Local 192

Todd Cornish, President  
Wyoming Chapter of The Wildlife Society

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