



State Wildlife Grants: FY 2008 Congressional Advocacy Timetable

This timetable provides a list of things your state coalition can do to ensure increased funding for State Wildlife Grants. These dates are approximate and sometimes congressional activity, and therefore the corresponding responses, can be delayed by several months.

January 2007

- Make your travel arrangements for the 2007 Teaming with Wildlife Fly-In Day, February 27th – March 1st.
- Circulate a sign-on letter from your state TWW Coalition to your Congressional delegation for delivery at the TWW Fly-In Day. Include recent examples of State Wildlife Grants projects. (a sample letter will be provided)
- Design an award with state-specific photos for each signer of last year's TWW Dear Colleague letter and member of the Appropriations Committee.

February 2007

- Request February 28th meetings with members and staff for the 2007 Fly-In Day.
- February 5: President submits FY 2008 budget request.
- House and Senate "Dear Colleague" letters for increased SWG funding are circulated.
- Contact your Members of Congress urging them to sign-on to the State Wildlife Grants dear colleague letter. Avoid standard mail; use faxes, emails or phone calls instead.
- Send letters from your state coalition members and agency to your congressional delegation urging support for State Wildlife Grants.
- Encourage Representatives and Senators to include increased SWG funding as a "National Priority" in their individual letters to the Appropriations Committee members.

March 2007

- February 27th-March 1st: Teaming with Wildlife Fly-In Day in Washington DC – Coalition training and Hill briefing, press event, House breakfast, Senate reception, Hill visits with Senators and Representatives.
- Submit organization/agency/individual testimony for FY 2008 Appropriations. For instructions see the Appropriations websites:
 - <http://appropriations.senate.gov/>
 - <http://appropriations.house.gov/>
- Schedule meetings and field trips with Congressional staff for the upcoming Spring and Memorial Day District Work Periods, being sure to focus on Appropriators.

April 2007

- April 2-10: Spring District Work Period – field trips and meetings with Representatives and their staff
- Send thank you letters to members of your Congressional delegation who signed the "Dear Colleague" letters.

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

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May 2007

- May to June: Interior Appropriations Subcommittee and full Appropriations Committee mark-up of FY 2008 Interior Appropriations Bill
- Contact your Members of Congress again. Urge letter-signers to call the Appropriations Committee and ask for higher State Wildlife Grants funding levels.
- May 28 – June 1: Teaming with Wildlife “Fly-Out Day” -- Memorial Day District Work Period – field trips and meetings with Representatives, Senators, and their staff.

June 2007

- Schedule meetings and field trips with Congressional staff for the upcoming Independence Day and Summer (August) District Work Periods, being sure to focus on Appropriators.

July 2007

- July 2-6: Independence Day Congressional District Work Period – field trips and meetings with Representatives, Senators, and their staff
- July-September: Possible House and Senate floor action on FY 2008 Interior Appropriations Bills
- Contact your members of congress and urge them to make floor statements supporting increased funding for State Wildlife Grants.
- After House and Senate bills pass: Circulate House and Senate “Dear Colleague” letters calling for the higher funding level of the two bills in “conference.” Call your delegation and urge them to sign-on. Deadline 2 weeks after floor action.
- Sign your organization on to the TWW Coalition sign-on letter regarding “conference.” Circulate this letter to other organizations. Deadline 2 weeks after floor action.

Sometime Between July and November 2007

- House/Senate Conference to finalize differences between House and Senate Interior Appropriations Bills
- Final passage of Interior Appropriations Bill
- President signs Interior Appropriations Bill into law
- Send thank you letters to members of congress who supported State Wildlife Grants

August 2007

- August 6 - September 4: Summer District Work Period – field trips and meetings with Representatives, Senators, and/or their staff

October 2007

- October 1: Beginning of FY 2007

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