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International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

(Organized July 20, 1902)

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January 31, 1996

Mr. Ernest Ables, President The Wildlife Society - Idaho Chapter 1691 Highway 99 Troy, ID 83871

Dear Mr. Ables:

Thank you for endorsing **Teaming With Wildlife**. We are delighted to recognize your support for this important conservation initiative. **Teaming With Wildlife** is a partnership between state fish and wildlife agencies, state parks, and the customers and businesses of the outdoors. As a member of our 536 group coalition, you help strengthen this entire team effort.

As you know, **Teaming With Wildlife** is providing much needed funding for every state to implement important conservation strategies, and to provide greater recreational and educational opportunities for millions of Americans. It's a simple, inexpensive way for all of us to invest in the resources we depend upon.

Legislation on the **Teaming With Wildlife** proposal will hopefully be introduced within the next six months. Both customer <u>and</u> Industry support are needed before we take that next step. Grassroots support is overwhelmingly in favor of **Teaming With Wildlife**, but many of the large outdoor product manufacturers and retailers, such as REI and L.L. Bean, are reluctant to endorse this proposal.

The enclosed CRITICAL ACTION PLAN for December through February highlights three priority areas: industry outreach, coalition building, and legislation preparation. The last action plan for August through December is also included for your review. Let me encourage you to work with your organization and your state coalition to meet the goals mapped out in these action plans. Your support is important to the success of this initiative.

Your state contact person coordinating coalition efforts can provide you with any information you might not already have including company lists, sample letters, details on how the funds are collected and distributed, additional brochures and responses to industry questions. A **Teaming With Wildlife** slide show, display and video are available. The bimonthly newsletter, The Update, will be sent to you regularly. Please call your state contact if you have questions or ideas and suggestions on how you might be able to help. Or contact Naomi Edelson or Molly Williams at this office.

We look forward to having you on our TEAM! Thank you, again.

Sincerely,

Max Peterson

Executive Vice-President

on behalf of the Teaming With Wildlife Steering Committee*

cc: Wayne Melquist

^{*}Members of the Steering Committee: The Wildlife Society, Defenders of Wildlife, Wildlife Management Institute, National Wildlife Federation, American Fisheries Society, World Wildlife Fund, National Audubon Society, National Association of State Park Directors, National Association of State Outdoor Recreation Liaison Officers and International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies.