



THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

5410 Grosvenor Lane • Bethesda, MD 20814-2197
Tel: (301) 897-9770 • Fax: (301) 530-2471
E-mail: tws@wildlife.org

URGENT MEMORANDUM

To: The Wildlife Society Chapter and Section Presidents
From: Thomas M. Franklin, Wildlife Policy Director *Tom*
Date: 23 August 1995
Re: **Immediate Action Needed on Funding Initiative**

The Fish and Wildlife Diversity Initiative, with the theme **Teaming With Wildlife**, is progressing quickly and is at a critical juncture, **needing your immediate personal leadership**.

The time for introducing legislation on the Initiative appears to be this Fall, possibly October or November. **It is critical, then, for your chapter, section and state grassroots coalition to kick into high gear now.** We need to act collectively and **immediately** to achieve three priority goals in the coming weeks. They are as follows:

1. Increase and diversify the number of organizations endorsing the initiative;
2. Generate a **substantial** number of letters in support of the Initiative to key outdoor product businesses; and
3. Obtain increased business support.

More detailed information is enclosed regarding these priorities with specific targets and time-lines. Also enclosed is a supply of **Teaming With Wildlife** brochures (note that the back panel has space available to identify your chapter or section contact). Please see that this information gets into the hands of your Funding Initiative committee and state coalition members immediately. **I cannot stress enough the urgent need for action by your chapter and section now.** Also, please review what your chapter, section and state wildlife agency have done to date and provide personal support for their efforts. The window of opportunity for success is open and active involvement by wildlife professionals is needed.

The Wildlife Society staff is working from a national level on these priorities as well, but success is now dependent on broad and strong support from the grass-roots: **AND THAT INCLUDES WILDLIFE SOCIETY MEMBERS!**

Please note that action is needed before our annual meeting in Oregon. I will be looking forward to speaking with you about your activities at that meeting.

TEAMING WITH WILDLIFE IS OUR BEST CHANCE FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR WILDLIFE CONSERVATION. Thank you for helping to make it happen.

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cc: The Wildlife Society Council