



Confronting Global Warming

The National Wildlife Federation will change the forecast for wildlife by advancing solutions to global warming.

Global warming—have we ever faced an ecological threat of such enormity and with such devastating implications? A recent study concluded that unless greenhouse gases are cut dramatically, as many as a third of the wildlife species in some areas will be extinct or near extinction in a mere 45 years.

How can we at NWF make a difference? By bringing to bear our 70 years of experience in educating those who formulate policy and mobilizing those who influence policymakers. It is a slow process for a problem of this magnitude—one that demands a commitment of resources over time. And we're prepared for the fight.

Building Momentum

The key to our success will be creating the political environment to foster bipartisan support for action on global warming.

This year, we walked the halls of Congress to build momentum for policies that reflect scientific evidence showing that global warming dramatically destabilizes the natural world. We worked with federal land managers to develop ways to help wildlife adapt to conditions caused by global warming. We rallied grassroots activists to push state and national policymakers to take steps to reduce harmful emissions. We built bridges with hunters and anglers, inspiring them to speak out on this issue. And we teamed up with our state affiliates and partners to provide scientific information and public outreach tools that support on-the-ground conservation efforts.

Cutting Greenhouse Pollution

NWF fought side by side with Senators John McCain (R-AZ) and Joseph Lieberman (D-CT) to advance the Climate Stewardship and Innovation Act. This bill would boost investments in energy-efficient technologies, set the first-ever limits on U.S. greenhouse gas pollution, create a flexible emissions trading program to reduce costs to industry, and provide critical funding for fish and wildlife conservation programs. NWF and our allies generated grassroots support for the bill all over the country.

Although the legislation narrowly failed to pass in the Senate, it was a critical first step in stimulating debate and forcing a vote on cutting greenhouse emissions—a real breakthrough and one that shows that Congress has finally recognized the time has come to confront this issue.

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Senate Takes a Stand on Global Warming

In a major rebuke of the White House, the Republican-led Senate passed a resolution that called for mandatory reductions in greenhouse gas emissions. The resolution declared that it was the “sense of the Senate” that greenhouse gases are accumulating, there is scientific consensus that human activity is the cause, and mandatory steps will be required to stop the trend.

While non-binding, this act is yet another sign that members of Congress want action on global warming and they want it now. The tide has turned and NWF will continue to seek opportunities to push for anti-global warming policies.

Amassing Scientific Evidence

NWF is committed to expanding the body of sound science behind the threat of global warming. In 2005, we produced several groundbreaking reports that present the most up-to-date research on the damage now being inflicted on certain species by shifts in the planet’s climate.

Global Warming and Waterfowl

From the Great Plains to the Gulf Coast, the waterfowl of North America are in trouble. More frequent droughts, thawing permafrost, and flooded coastal wetlands—all brought on by global warming—are damaging nesting areas, food sources, and wintering habitats, according to *The Waterfowler’s Guide to Global Warming*. Written by NWF’s Global Warming Specialist Patty Glick and released this past June, the report is a joint project of 27 of our affiliated organizations and 10 other groups. In it, Americans learn what they can do to change the forecast for waterfowl. In 2006, we’ll be taking the *Waterfowler’s Guide* on the road to educate sportsmen about the impacts of global warming on wetlands.

Patty Glick

NWF Global Warming Specialist



“I have seen more progress in the last few years,” says Patty Glick about her work on global warming. “The science has become more clear and people are starting to think ‘this is a real thing and let’s start figuring out what to do about it.’”

Patty works in NWF’s Western Natural Resource Center in Seattle, where she collaborates with scientists and helps people understand the impacts of global warming on wildlife. She grows more excited every day about the number of people who are getting involved in the issue at the grassroots level.

On a recent trip to Canada, Patty filmed a video on the effects of global warming on polar bears, which she’ll use at schools and public presentations. She also works with the sportsmen community, which widely praised her report, *The Waterfowler’s Guide to Global Warming*. This coming year, she’ll focus on helping hunters and anglers take steps to make a difference.

2006 will be “a big turning point in terms of starting to see real action on global warming.” This is the time when we can either “make or break what the future will be for our kids.”

White House Conference on Cooperative Conservation

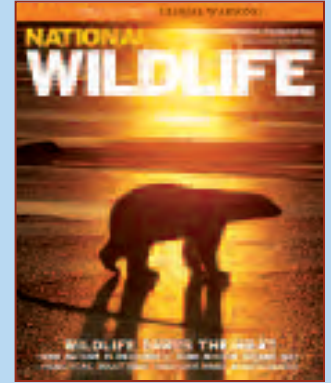
NWF participated in the White House Conference on Cooperative Conservation held in St. Louis at the end of August, with Larry Schweiger serving on the closing conference panel and raising the issue of global warming. NWF honored new EPA Administrator Stephen Johnson during a high-level reception held at the Busch family ancestral home, Grant’s Farm.



From left: Carolyn Schweiger, Stephen Johnson, Larry Schweiger, Beatrice Busch von Gontard, Adalbert von Gontard

NWF Wins a Publication Award

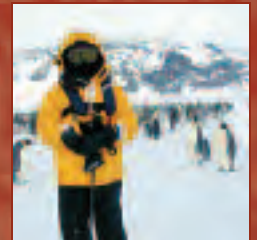
Our special global warming issue of *National Wildlife*® magazine (April/May) won this year's Publication Award from the National Resources Council of America. The entire magazine is devoted to a presentation of the most conclusive evidence to date of the effects of global warming on wildlife and people. The evidence is based on a visit with the Iñupiaq hunters in northern Alaska to study the out-of-sync breeding habits of bears, birds, and fish. Included is an interview with Senator John McCain about his efforts to champion the Climate Stewardship Act. We packed the issue with examples of how pioneering individuals and companies are beginning to switch to renewable energy, use green building methods and choose cleaner vehicles. Over 4 million NWF members and magazine subscribers received this edition of the magazine, which is also available on our web site.



Fish Out of Water in the Northwest

By 2040, as much as 20% of the Columbia and Snake River basins and watersheds may be too warm for fish to survive, according to our recent report, *Fish Out of Water: A Guide to Global Warming and Pacific Northwest Rivers*. Global warming will change the timing and amount of snowmelt, lower stream flows and increase river temperatures, harming the already-stressed populations of cold-water salmon and steelhead. It also lists the 10 rivers in the region most at risk from global warming. But it's not too late. We present ways to forestall this situation, including shifting to non-hydro renewable energy, restoring the most degraded rivers, and setting specific limits on the nation's global warming pollution. The report received high praise from anglers and water managers throughout Oregon, Washington, and Idaho.

Kathleen Kemper



One day, her grandmother put a copy of *Ranger Rick*® magazine into her hands and from then on, Kathleen Kemper was hooked on wildlife and nature. Kathleen's parents had taught her a love of the environment that she carries with her today. She sees the very same love and passion in the staff at NWF. "They are all so dedicated. Their hearts are in it and that gives me hope that there are people out there who are making a difference."

Kathleen has served on the President's Advisory Council and hosted events for the Western Natural Resource Center in Seattle. She is happy that NWF has taken on global warming. "We need concrete steps that businesses and individuals can take to do their part in fixing this problem," she says. "NWF has an important role to play in pushing for real action and getting the word out to the public on the urgency of this issue."

Kathleen recently took a one-month trip to Antarctica to see the emperor penguins. She and her husband, Gary Smith, love to travel all over the world to see exotic creatures in their habitat. "Wildlife has as much right to be on earth as we do. We have a duty to respect and protect them."