

March 1, 2006

The Honorable Pete V. Domenici
Chairman
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
United States Senate
364 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Jeff Bingaman
Ranking Member
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
United States Senate
364 Senate Dirksen Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senators Domenici and Bingaman:

We are writing to urge you to include in any climate change legislation dedicated funding for fish and wildlife conservation and restoration through the Wildlife Conservation and Restoration account of the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act.

Adequate and consistent funding for the Wildlife Conservation and Restoration account of the Act is essential to fulfilling the responsibility federal and state governments share for conserving our nation's fish and wildlife. Current federal efforts to proactively conserve fish and wildlife through annual appropriations for State Wildlife Grants are having dramatic results, but they still fall far short of what is needed. At the same time, changing climate conditions are placing even greater burdens on fish and wildlife and fish and wildlife management agencies. As a result, we ask you to use the well-established structure of the Pittman-Robertson Act, one of America's landmark conservation laws, to address this issue. Climate change legislative proposals that raise new federal revenues can meet the needs of fish and wildlife without raising the federal deficit.

America's fish and wildlife are highly-valued public trust resources and must be conserved. The most recent national survey shows that in 2001, some 82 million adults participated in hunting, fishing, and wildlife watching. In pursuit of these activities, participants spent more than \$180 billion in our communities, which in turn generated more than 2.6 million jobs across the nation.

Changing climate conditions will place enormous strain on the nation's fish and wildlife and other natural resources. At the same time, our response to this challenge offers us an opportunity to make a long-overdue investment in fish and wildlife conservation. As Congress considers options to respond to climate change, we ask that you champion the need to take immediate action to assist the states in securing the nation's fish and wildlife heritage for our children and for our economic and environmental future.

Sincerely,

NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Ghassan Rassam
Executive Director
American Fisheries Society

Steve Olson
Director of Government Affairs
The American Zoo and Aquarium
Association

John Baughman
Executive Vice President
International Association of Fish and
Wildlife Agencies

Tom Franklin
Conservation Director
Izaak Walton League of America

Larry Schweiger
President & CEO
National Wildlife Federation

Matt Connolly
President
Theodore Roosevelt Conservation
Partnership

John F. Calvelli
Senior Vice President of Public Affairs
Wildlife Conservation Society

Steven A. Williams
President
The Wildlife Management Institute

Michael Hutchins
Executive Director
The Wildlife Society

STATE ORGANIZATIONS

New Mexico

Oscar Simpson, President
New Mexico Wildlife Federation

Gene Tatum, President
Albuquerque Wildlife Federation

Mike Maurer, President
New Mexico Trout

William Schudlich, Chairman
New Mexico Council of Trout Unlimited

Robert O'Connor, President
Truchas Chapter of Trout Unlimited

Ken Whiton, President
Republicans For Environmental
Protection, NM Chapter

Charlie Sanchez, Chairman
Valencia Soil and Water Conservation
District.

Tom Wobbe, President
Mesilla Fly Fishers, Las Cruces, NM

Julie Basile, President
Back Country Horsemen, Lower Rio
Grande Chapter, Las Cruces, NM

Jesse Berryhill, President
New Mexico State University Student
Chapter of the Wildlife Society

Dr. Sanford Schemnitz, President
Southwest Consolidated Sportsmen, Las
Cruces, NM, Represents 15
organizations in the Las Cruces Area:

1. Brittany Club
2. Dona Ana County
Associated Sportsmen

3. Ducks Unlimited
4. Fisheries Society
5. German Shorthair
Club
6. Las Cruces Chapter –
Turkey Federation
7. Mesilla Valley Fly
Fishers
8. Mule Deer
Foundation
9. New Mexico
Shooting Sports
Association
10. Organ Mountain
Bowmen
11. Picacho Gun Club
12. Southwestern New
Mexico, Quail
Unlimited
13. Rocky Mountain Elk
Foundation
14. Wildlife Society
15. Wild Turkey
Sportsmen
Association

Rick Simpson,
S – S Outfitters, Glencoe, NM

Gary Fonay, Manager
Fonay Oil and Gas, Hobbs, NM

Cheryl Nigg,
3 Paws Wilderness Services, Tijeras,
NM

Tina Buchen
Tina's Range Gear, Santa Fe, NM

Pete David, President
New Mexico Chapter of the Wildlife Society

Arkansas

David Carruth, Board Chair
Arkansas Wildlife Federation

Arizona

Mary Jo Miller, President
Arizona Wildlife Federation

California

Gary A. Patton, Executive Director
Planning and Conservation League

Colorado

Michelle Cowardin, President
Colorado Chapter of The Wildlife Society

Connecticut

Adam Moore, Executive Director
Connecticut Forest and Park Association

Delaware

Richard Bradley, Associate Professor, EEO Biology
Delaware County Bird Club

Florida

Manley Fuller, Executive Director
Florida Wildlife Federation

Franklin Adams, Board Member
Naples Fishing Club

David Tetzloff, President
Traditional Bowhunters Of Florida

Jody Millar
Tampa Bay Wildlife Federation

Scott Paterno, Executive Director
Big Bend Saltwater Classic

Rosalee Schaeffer
Panhandle Citizen's Coalition

Scott Paterno, Chairman of the Board
Organization For Artificial Reefs

Lou Dombrova, Founder and Executive
Director
Snook Foundation

Save The St. John's River

Jack Leppert, Waterkeeper
Wakulla/Aucilla Waterkeeper

Matt Draper, Owner/Editor
Gaff (Gulf Atlantic Florida Fishing)
Magazine

Ernie Rivers, President
Bream Fishersman's Association

Scott Matamoros, Chairman of the
Board
South Dade Anglers

Dan Kipnis, Chairman of the Board
Miami Beach Rod and Reel Club

South Florida Sportfisher's
Islemorada Fishing Club

Captain Pat Kelley, Chairman of the
Board
Islemorada Guides Association

Captain Pat Kelley, Chairman of the
Board
Florida Guides Association

Danny Brantley, Chairman of the Board
Kissimmee River Sportsman's
Association

Bait And Tackle Shops (FL)

John Dewing, Owner
Dewing's Fly And Gun Shop

Scott Paterno, Owner
Jerry's Bait And Tackle

Dave Navarro, Owner
World Class Angler

Annie's Bait And Tackle
Jigs Landing
Rod And Reel Fishing Pier
Captain Mikes Bait And Tackle Center
New Pass Bait Shop
Oneco Bait And Tackle
Ruskin Bait And Tackle
Lake Manatee Fish Camp
Maugherman's Johns Lucky Strikes
Perico Harbor Bait And Tackle
Southern Angler- Light Tackle Outfitter
Reel Waters Outdoors
The Tackle Box
Big Time Discount Bait And Tackle
Jack's Bait And Tackle
The Saltwater Angler
Key West Bait And Tackle
Island Angler Outfitters
Sea Boots Outfitters
Kendal Bait And Tackle
Biscayne Bay Fly Shop
Big Pine Fish Camp
Andes Outfitters
The Wildness Way
Circle J's Bait And Tackle
The Canoe Shop

T'n't Hideaway Canoe/Kayak Rental
Conchy Joe's Marine And Tackle

Captain Danny Mora, Owner
Cortez Fishing Center

Charter Guides (FL)

Pete Kelley, Owner
Pete Kelley Guide Service

Captain Conch, Owner
Captain Conch Charters

Captain Frank Adams, Owner
Captain Frank Adams Guide Service

Captain Tim Jenson, Owner
Sea Dog Charters

Roy Salgado, Owner
Grand Slam Charters

Steve Salgado, Owner
Compleat Angler

Cuda Charters
Neva-Miss Charters
Johnnie Walker's Fishing Place
Miss Inclined Charters
Key Limey Charters
Sea Boots Charters
Knee Deep Charters
Outer Limits Sportfishing
Almost There Charters
Rusty Fly Charters
Boo-Ya Custom Charters
Sivler Fox
Barefoot Charters
Reef Reacher Charters
Snooky Bear Inshore Charters
Flying Fish Fleet
Walking Small Fishing Charters
Reel Fast Charters
Thunderbird Offshore Fishing
Angling Adventure
Captain Action Charters

Georgia

Jerry L. McCollum, President and CEO
Georgia Wildlife Federation

Hawaii

Marjorie Ziegler, Executive Director
Conservation Council of Hawaii

Idaho

Ken Marlor, President
Idaho Wildlife Federation

Illinois

Aaron Yetter, President

Illinois Chapter of The Wildlife Society

Iowa

Joe Wilkinson, President
Iowa Wildlife Federation

Indiana

Charlie O'Neil, President
Indiana Wildlife Federation

Kansas

Steven Sorensen, President
Kansas Wildlife Federation

Don Kaufman, President
Kansas Chapter of The Wildlife Society

Kentucky

Ronnie Well, President
League of Kentucky Sportsmen

Louisiana

Randy P. Lanctot, Executive Director
Louisiana Wildlife Federation

Maine

Brownie Carson, Executive Director
Natural Resources Council of Maine

Massachusetts

Jim Gomes, President
Environmental League of Massachusetts

Minnesota

Doug Wells, President
Minnesota Chapter, TWS

Gordon Meyer, President
Minnesota Conservation Federation

Missouri

Dave Murphy, Executive Director
Conservation Federation of Missouri

Michigan

Sam Washington, President
Michigan United Conservation Clubs

Montana

Craig Sharpe, Executive Director
Montana Wildlife Federation

Mike Phillips, Executive Director
Turner Endangered Species Fund,
Montana

Nevada

Kevin Cabble, President
Nevada Wildlife Federation

New Hampshire

Lee E. Perry, Executive Director
New Hampshire Fish and Game

New Jersey

Janet L. Bucknall
NJ Chapter of The Wildlife Society

Janet Bucknall, President
NJ Chapter of the Wildlife Society

Brian Maloney, President
English Setter Club of America,
Medford, NJ

George P. Howard, Conservation
Director
NJ State Federation of Sportsmens Clubs

Tom Gilmore
NJ Audobon Society

Ross Kushner, Executive Director
Requannock River Coalition, New
Foundland, NJ

Tom Fote
Jersey Coast Anglers Association

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

Andrea M. Bonette, President
Sourland Planning Council

New York

Robert J. Moore, Executive Director
Environmental Advocates of NY

David Miller, Executive Director
Audubon Society, New York

North Carolina

Camilla M. Herlevich, Executive
Director
North Carolina Coastal Land Trust

Larry Thompson, Executive Director
North Carolina Wildlife Federation

Ohio

John Hoopingarner, Executive Director
Muskingum Watershed Conservancy
District (OH)

League of Ohio Sportsmen

Damon M. Greer, President
Ohio Chapter of The Wildlife Society

Sam Speck, Director
Ohio Department of Natural Resources

Mark Young
Federal Public Policy Chair
Ohio Parks and Recreation Association

Steven A. Gray, Chief
Ohio Division of Wildlife

Dr. Richard Bradley, Faculty Advisor
Marion Environment Group (OH)

Lynn E. Elfner, CEO
The Ohio Academy of Science

Eugene C. Braig IV, President
Ohio Chapter of the American Fisheries
Society

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

Jen Sauter, Executive Secretary
Ohio Ornithological Society

Larry Mitchell, President

David Kohler, President
Ohio Fish and Wildlife Management
Association

Gerald W. Borin, CEO
Columbus Zoo and Aquarium

Damon M. Greer, President
Ohio Chapter of The Wildlife Society

Oklahoma

Andy McDaniels, Executive Director
Oklahoma Wildlife Federation

Pennsylvania

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

Puerto Rico

Joel Franqui, President of the Board
Ornithological Society of Puerto Rico

Rhode Island

Sheila Dormody, President
Environment Council of Rhode Island

South Carolina

Angela Viney, President/CEO
South Carolina Wildlife Federation

South Dakota

Chris Hesla, Executive Director
South Dakota Wildlife Federation

Tennessee

Gary T. Myers, Executive Director

Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency

Swan Conservation Trust (TN)

Cynthia Rohrbach, Board President

Texas

Bob Warneke, Jr., Chairman of the Board
Texas Committee on Natural Resources

Vermont

Elizabeth Courtney, Executive Director
Vermont Natural Resources Council

Virginia

Manuel Barrera, President
Virginia Audubon Council

Virginia Conservation Network

Carey Whitehead, Executive Director

Christopher G. Miller, President
Piedmont Environmental Council

Washington

John McGlenn, President
Washington Wildlife Federation

West Virginia

Joe Calvert, Director Region IV
West Virginia Wildlife Federation

Wisconsin

George Meyer, Executive Director
Wisconsin Wildlife Federation

Cascade Sportsmen's Club
Cassville Conservation Club
Challenge the Outdoors, Inc.- Kaukauna
Challenge the Outdoors, Inc.- Shiocton
Chippewa Rod & Gun
Citizens Nat. Resources Assoc. of WI
Clarks Mills Sportsmen's Club
Cleveland Fish & Game
Columbia County Sporting Alliance

Almond Rod & Gun Club
Am. Wild Turkey Hunting Dog Assoc.
Berlin Conservation Club
Breed Sportsman's Club
Butte des Morts Conservation Club
Cambria Conservation Club

Columbus Sportsman's Assoc.
Community Conservation
Daniel Boone Conservation League
De Pere Sportsman's Club
Denmark FFA
Discovery Center Bird Club
Dousman Gun Club
Ducks Unlimited – Wisconsin
Dunbar Sportsman's Club
East Central Hunter Safety Instructors
Eau Claire Rod & Gun Club
Exeland Rod & Gun Club
Farmers & Sportsmen's Con. Club
Feather & Fin Club
Fox Valley Area Wild Ones
Friends of Cedarburg Bog
Friends of the Hickory Ridge Trail
Friends of the Upper Miss. Fishery
Gathering Waters Conservancy
Gods Country Muskies
Great Lakes Sport Fish.Club, Ozaukee
Green Bay Duck Hunters Association
Green Bay Great Lakes Sport Fishermen
Greenwood Rod & Gun
Hancock Sportsmen Club
Happy Hookers Fishing Club
Ice Age Park & Trail Found.-Chippewa
Indianhead Rifle & Pistol Club
Iowa C. Rec. and Prairie Restoration
Izaak Walton League – Watertown
Izaak Walton League – WI
Jefferson Sportsmen's Club
Johnsonville Rod & Gun Club
Kenosha Sport Fishing
Kettle Moraine Bass Anglers
Kiel Fish & Game
Lake Poygan Sportsmen's Club
Lakeshore Fisherman's Sports Club
Lauderdale Lakes Assoc. Fish Comm.
LEAF Program
Long Lake Fishing Club
Madison Audubon Society
Mammals of WI
Manitowoc Unit of Fish & Game
Marshfield Coon Hunters Club
Milwaukee Casting Club

Mishicot Sportsman's Club
Monches Fish & Game Club
MPO Conservation & Sports Club
Neosho Sportsman's Club
North Fond du Lac Rod & Gun Club
Outdoors, Inc.
Paynes Point Hook & Spear Club
Pewaukee Lake Sports Club
Pheasants Forever – Columbia Co.
Pheasants Forever – Sugar River
Pheasants Forever – Wisconsin
Pike Lake Sportsman's Club
Plover River Alliance
Porterfield Sportsmen's Club
Prairie Rod & Gun Club
Pumkin Center Sportsman's Club
Quack Club of WI
Ozaukee Co. Fish & Game Assoc.
Racine County Line Rifle Club
River Alliance of Wisconsin
River edge Bird Club
Riverside Hunting & Fishing Club
Rock County Parks
Ruffed Grouse Society - Kettle Moraine
Sally's Marsh Hunting Club
Sayner – St. Germaine Wildlife Club
Shadows on the Wolf
Shawano Gun Club
Sheboygan Area Great Lakes Fish
Sheboygan County Conservation Assoc.
Shoto Conservation Club of WI
Slinger Sportsman Club
Smerkes Sportsman's Club
Solberg Lake Association
South Clark Co. Sportsmen's Club
Southwest WI Longbeards
Spooner Muskie Club
St. Anna Sportsman's Club
Stan Plis Sportsman's League
Star Prairie Fish & Game
Star Prairie Land Trust
Sturgeon For Tomorrow – No.Chapt.
Suring Sportsman's Club
The Nature Conservancy
The Prairie Enthusiasts – Empire Sauk
The Prairie Enthusiasts – Prairie Bluff

The Prairie Enthusiasts - Wisconsin
The Wildlife Society – WI Chapt.
Trees For Tomorrow
Trempealeau Sportsmen’s Club
Triangle Sportsman’s Club
Trout Unlimited, Aldo Leopold
Trout Unlimited, Green Bay
Twin City Rod & Gun Club
Union Rod & Gun Club
UWEC Outdoor Rec. Program
Watershed Watchers
Watertown Conservation Club
Waukesha Co. Conservation Alliance
Waukesha Co. Environ. Action League
Waunakee Bow Hunters
Waupaca Conservation League
West Bend Barton Sportsman’s Club
Westgate Sportsman’s Club
White Snake Preservation Club
WI Assoc. for Environmental Edu.
WI Assoc. of Beagle Clubs
WI Assoc. of Field Trial Clubs
WI Audubon Council
WI Conservation Congress
WI Hunter Ed. Instructors Assoc.
WI Sharp-Tailed Grouse Society
Wilderness Sportsman’s Club
Wings Over WI – Beaver Dam
Wings Over WI – Green Bay
Wings Over WI – SW Chapter
Wings Over Wisconsin – State Chapt.
Wisconsin Bass Fisherman’s Assoc.
Wisconsin Carpenter’s Union
Wisconsin Deer Hunters Association
Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources
Wisconsin Muzzleloader Assoc.
Wisconsin Outdoor Alliance
Wisconsin Society for Ornithology
Woods & Waters Sportsman’s Club

Wyoming

Mark Winland, President of the Board
Wyoming Wildlife Federation