



Fact Sheet: Teaming with Wildlife Program

Teaming with Wildlife is a coalition of more than 3,000 organizations working to prevent wildlife from becoming endangered by supporting increased state and federal funding for wildlife conservation. This coalition includes wildlife managers, conservationists, hunters and anglers, businesses, and many others who support the goal of restoring and conserving our nation's wildlife.

At the beginning of the 20th century, America's once numerous birds, mammals, and fish were largely depleted. In the 1930s this situation started to change. The game species and fish rebounded as hunting and fishing harvests were better regulated, wildlife areas were created, habitat actively managed and wildlife populations were augmented or restored with transplanted animals.

But despite these successes, many other species CONTINUE to decline, as evidenced by a staggering more than 1000 species listed under the federal Endangered Species Act.

Historically, state fish and wildlife agencies have been on the front lines of conservation as stewards of our nation's wildlife. Effective state and local-level conservation work requires creative problem solving, including public and private partnerships, community will, ample funding, research and dogged determination to work out practical management strategies. Teaming with Wildlife is committed to helping this happen.

Cost-Effective Conservation

Five years ago, Congress and the Administration made an important decision to invest in wildlife and vital natural areas by creating the State Wildlife Grants Program. State Wildlife Grants provide federal money to every state for conservation aimed at preventing wildlife from becoming endangered and more costly to protect. With strong bipartisan support on Capitol Hill, this program has become the nation's core program for wildlife conservation.

In order to make the best use of funds provided through the State Wildlife Grant Program, Congress charged each state and territory with developing a statewide wildlife action plan. These proactive plans will help conserve wildlife and vital natural areas before they become more rare and costly to protect. As our communities grow, the wildlife action plans will give us the ability to fulfill our responsibility to conserve wildlife and the lands and waters where they live for future generations.

The completion of the state wildlife action plans in the fall of 2005 is a historic and monumental achievement. With the leadership of the state fish and wildlife agencies, the plans will bring together a diverse group of conservation partners including conservation organizations, hunter and angler groups, and state and federal agencies. The Teaming with Wildlife coalition supports these efforts, which will ultimately benefit both wildlife and people.

Teaming with Wildlife

A coalition of more than 3,000 groups working together to prevent wildlife from becoming endangered.

c/o Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

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