



THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

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WILDLIFE POLICY PRIORITIES FOR 2009 Action Plan

- **Federal budgets for wildlife and habitat conservation, management, research, and education**
 - Prepare written testimony for the Interior and Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittees in the House and Senate
 - Testify in person during Public Witness Days
 - Visit congressional offices of appropriators and send follow up letters as necessary
- **Energy development**
 - Participate in the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership Fish, Wildlife, and Energy Working Group
 - Work with an expert committee to prepare a technical review on the impact of oil and gas development on wildlife in the Rocky Mountain West
- **Farm Bill implementation**
 - Comment on implementation regulations related to conservation programs
- **Teaming with Wildlife / state wildlife agency nongame funding**
 - Help to organize and participate in the Teaming with Wildlife Fly In Day
 - Support reintroduction of the Teaming with Wildlife Act
- **Endangered Species Act**
 - Encourage new administration to repeal recent changes to Section 7 regulations
 - Support efforts to increase the effectiveness of threatened and endangered species conservation under the ESA through improvements to the law and its funding, administrative implementation, and integration with efforts by other parties, especially private landowners
- **Global climate change and wildlife**
 - Support comprehensive climate change legislation that reduces greenhouse gas emissions
 - Work with partners to ensure that such legislation allocates a percentage of the revenue generated through the auction of emissions credits to a natural resource adaptation program that would help mitigate the effects of climate change on wildlife at both state and federal levels

- **Wetlands conservation**
 - Support the Clean Water Restoration Act, or similar legislation, in both the House and Senate, which would restore the jurisdiction of the Clean Water Act, and work with partner organizations to ensure its reintroduction and/or passage
- **Federal employee participation in professional societies**
 - Work with partner organizations to pursue a legislative solution that excludes professional society service from the federal conflict of interest statute
- **Science policy for FWS and USGS-BRD**
 - Implement the new MOU between TWS and FWS
 - Complete a peer review, working with ESA and RTI, of USGS BRD
- **Wildlife baiting and feeding**
 - Work with Sections and Chapters to target opportunities to impact state policies and legislation that replace existing public baiting and feeding practices with habitat conservation and population management practices to improve food resources and habitat productivity for native wildlife populations, where appropriate
- **Wildlife diseases**
 - Work with the Wildlife Disease Association, American Association of Wildlife Veterinarians, and American Association of Zoo Veterinarians to identify legislative priorities that reduce threats from wildlife diseases
 - Explore possibility of TWS joining/collaborating with U.S. Animal Health Association
 - Work to maintain or increase the federal funding dedicated to monitoring and responding to diseases in free ranging wildlife
- **Federal land management agency planning / land use regulations**
 - Comment on federal agency plans and proposed regulations, including those involving roadless areas, wilderness designations, and forest planning
- **North American Model / Public Trust Doctrine**
 - Work with expert committees to complete technical reviews on both topics and distribute to decision makers and stakeholders, develop and distribute accompanying press releases
 - Implement the TWS Hunting Heritage Plan
- **Lead in ammunition and fishing tackle**
 - Work with Council to finalize a draft position statement on lead in ammunition and fishing tackle and distribute as appropriate widely to the Administration, Congress, and stakeholders, and develop and distribute accompanying press release