

# FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION



**RODNEY BARRETO**  
Miami

**JOHN D. ROOD**  
Jacksonville

**SANDRA T. KAUPÉ**  
Palm Beach

**RICHARD A. CORBETT**  
Tampa

**H.A. "HERKY" HUFFMAN**  
Enterprise

**DAVID K. MEEHAN**  
St. Petersburg

**BRIAN S. YABLONSKI**  
Tallahassee

KENNETH D. HADDAD, Executive Director  
VICTOR J. HELLER, Assistant Executive Director

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
(850)487-3796 TDD (850)488-9542

June 14, 2004

Ms. Carrie Sekerak, President  
Florida Chapter, The Wildlife Society  
444 East Rich Avenue  
DeLand, FL 32724

Dear Ms. Sekerak:


Thank you for your letter of June 3, 2004, requesting our support for The Wildlife Society's 2008 annual international conference. We do, indeed recognize the importance such conferences play in focusing attention on fish and wildlife issues of critical importance to our state and its citizens. We believe that our mission is well served by a work force that is personally as well as professionally well informed and committed to conservation issues, and we encourage employee participation.

While we are philosophically committed to the value of employee participation, our ability to support such participation through funding and authorization of employee commitments at public expense varies over time. We cannot reliably predict our ability to commit public resources to the support of the event at this time, but will endeavor to facilitate employee involvement to the greatest extent possible consistent with competing priorities and fiscal considerations. Employees are encouraged to schedule their respective commitment of time in consultation with their supervisors, and supervisors will be encouraged to facilitate employee participation to the extent possible consistent with other agency priorities.

The upshot is that we believe a significant personal commitment of time and resources on the part of employees is critical if such professional activities are to be successful. We will do our best, as an agency, to support employee involvement as dictated by competing priorities and fiscal realities in effect as the meeting approaches.

We wish you well in this most worthwhile endeavor.

Sincerely,

  
Kenneth D. Haddad  
Executive Director

kdh/fm