

**PETE PETERSON**

2D DISTRICT, FLORIDA

COMMITTEE  
ON  
APPROPRIATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEES:  
ENERGY AND WATER  
RESOURCES  
AGRICULTURE AND RURAL  
DEVELOPMENT

**Congress of the United States R E**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-0902**

July 20, 1993

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Ms. Patricia A. MacLaren  
President  
The Wildlife Society  
Florida Chapter  
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

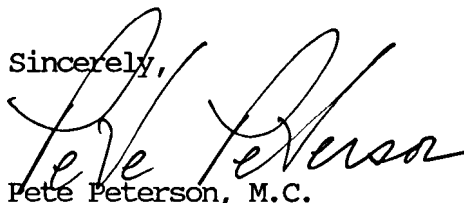
Dear Ms. MacLaren:

As a standard Congressional courtesy based on your residing in my district, Rep. Jim Bacchus has forwarded to me your letter expressing support for funding being directed for the purchase of new properties to be added to the Archie Carr National Wildlife Refuge and the Lake Wales Ridge National Wildlife Refuge. Clearly we share a strong mutual concern on the importance of acquiring critically important nesting beaches for threatened turtles, habitat for endangered animals and birds, and a suitable environment for the proliferation of rare plants.

Regretfully, the severe budget constraints facing the Congress this year allowed for only \$60 million being allocated towards all the projects proposed for U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service land acquisition nationwide. For that reason, many deserving projects were zero funded. So, while they are nowhere near the full amounts I would have liked to see, I was pleased that the House recently approved the President's request of \$1.39 million being directed to the Archie Carr Refuge and \$2 million for Lake Wales Ridge.

One of the biggest frustrations I face as a Member of Congress is making the difficult decisions on funding during this time of diminishing monetary resources. However, as that process takes place, you may be assured that I am committed to seeing that all possible funds are designated for preservation of the environment. So, as I continue my efforts in that direction, I hope you will continue to stay in close touch so that I might benefit from your valuable input.

Sincerely,

  
Pete Peterson, M.C.

DBP:eay