

**The National Fish, Wildlife and Plants Climate Adaptation Strategy:
*What supporters are saying***

Jamie Rappaport Clark, President and CEO, Defenders of Wildlife –

“The National Fish, Wildlife, and Plants Climate Adaptation Strategy is an excellent all-hands-on-deck approach to protect our wildlife and natural habitats from the increasingly high and even deadly costs of a changing climate. Defenders of Wildlife looks forward to working with the federal, state and tribal entities that crafted this comprehensive strategy to ensure it is carried out successfully and that our natural resources managers have the tools they need to meet the challenges ahead.”

Tom Daschle, Former Senator from SD –

“The political, economic, and environmental challenges associated with global climate change are daunting, which is why it requires a collective response. It is significant that this is a ‘national’ strategy – one that recognizes the fact that climate change transcends political and jurisdictional boundaries and calls for appropriate action to safeguard our Nation’s natural resources for future generations.”

Whit Fosburgh, President and CEO, Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership –

“For years, hunters and anglers across the country have been telling the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership that we need to address climate change head on. The National Fish, Wildlife and Plants Climate Adaptation Strategy offers the kind of prudent action that Theodore Roosevelt himself would have demanded to deal with climate change. Let’s get down to business and use the best science and technology – and the best fish and wildlife managers – to identify and implement adaptation strategies and on-the-ground projects that will sustain healthy fish and wildlife populations. Our hunting and fishing traditions are not only our passion but also an essential contributor to a national economy built to last. Roosevelt would have used his bully pulpit to tell us that this strategy needs to be implemented – not tomorrow, but now.”

Kevin Hunting, Chief Deputy Director, California Department of Fish and Wildlife –

“Climate change is already having a profound effect on the fish and wildlife of California. It is manifested in ecosystems from the high Sierra Nevada, where species range and distribution are changing, to the Pacific ocean where sea level rise and ocean acidification effect how our near-shore marine environment. The National Strategy supports the California adaptation actions while expressing strong policy support for collaboration across borders and agencies. The support and policy direction are timely as California fully implements its adaptation strategies.”

Wayne MacCallum, Director, Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife –

“Climate change impacts are already being seen to the fish and wildlife resources here in the Northeast. Whether you are focused at the local, state or landscape level, the strategies and actions detailed in the NFWPCAS provides agencies like the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife with the roadmap for on-the-ground actions from how we go about securing lands for conservation to how we manage important wildlife species and their habitats in a rapidly changing climate. “

Ken Mayer, Former Director, Nevada Department of Wildlife –

“State fish and wildlife agencies anticipate many conservation challenges in the years ahead including the complex issue of climate change and its effects on fish and wildlife and the habitats upon which they depend. The Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) and conservation partners have been in the process of revising Nevada’s Wildlife Action Plan to address potential impacts of a changing climate on

Nevada's wildlife resources. The NFWPCAS has been an important resource for NDOW to inform the development of effective strategies for managing and mitigating potential impacts of climate change and to maximize natural resource protection and ensure ecosystem resiliency across the changing landscape for all wildlife."

Tim Ragen, Executive Director, Marine Mammal Commission –

"Disruption of the earth's climate is having, and will continue to have, profound effects on its biodiversity, from the tropics to the far reaches of the Arctic and Antarctic. Clearly, we need effective strategies for addressing the underlying factors driving climate disruption. But we also need strategies to facilitate adaptation and conservation of the ecosystems upon which that biodiversity—and, indeed, each of us—depends. The National Fish, Wildlife, and Plants Climate Adaptation Strategy provides a very big and important step towards the needed conservation ethic—an ethic that promotes adaptation by integrating conservation into our daily behavior, our lives, and our communities."

Patricia Riexinger, Director of the Division of Fish, Wildlife, and Marine Resources for the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation –

"State fish and wildlife agencies serve as stewards of the nation's natural resources and we welcome the release of the Strategy to assist us collectively in our efforts to conserve our fish and wildlife and the habitats on which they depend. The real value of this strategy is that it makes a broad array of recommendations that agencies and our conservation partners can support as our capacity allows, and enables us to understand how each of us can contribute to progress on helping our natural resources adapt to a changing climate."

Will Rogers, President and CEO, the Trust for Public Land –

"Responding to climate change is about more than just controlling carbon emissions. We must also take steps to build climate resilience in our natural landscapes and our urban communities. The National Fish, Wildlife and Plants Climate Adaptation Strategy provides an excellent roadmap to guide protection of natural resources and help chart a path for our communities. The Trust for Public Land has committed to these same adaptation goals through our Climate Conservation Program. We are particularly focused on helping cities across America meet the climate challenge by creating waterfront parks and other "green infrastructure" that will buffer cities from climate threats and create resilient habitat while improving day-to-day livability for urban residents. We look forward to helping our agency partners and other allies to implement the National Fish, Wildlife, and Plants Climate Adaptation Strategy."

Larry Schweiger, President and CEO of National Wildlife Federation –

"Climate change is the defining conservation issue of our generation, and this strategy provides a practical approach to prepare for and cope with the escalating impacts of a shifting climate. Ensuring the continued health of our natural ecosystems not only is important for wildlife, but is essential to maintaining a strong economy and livable communities."

Mark Tercek, President and CEO, The Nature Conservancy –

"The National Fish, Wildlife and Plants Climate Adaptation Strategy, prepared by an unprecedented partnership of federal, state and tribal natural resource agencies, is exactly the kind of clear, science-based thinking we need to address the impacts of climate change on the natural systems that are the foundation for local economies and our quality of life. The Strategy presents a rational and prudent action agenda for helping nature deal with the climate-driven habitat changes TNC staff see in the field every day. This kind of strategic thinking is essential if we are to sustain the benefits Americans receive from healthy fish, wildlife and plant populations."

Ken Williams, Ph.D., Executive Director, The Wildlife Society --

"With the release of the U.S. National Fish, Wildlife, and Plants Climate Adaptation Strategy, wildlife professionals have a framework and collection of useful approaches as they adapt their wildlife management and conservation strategies to a changing climate. The ability to proactively plan for climate change in managing our nation's fish, wildlife, and habitat is crucial; this strategy makes that more possible than ever before."

Steve Williams, President, Wildlife Management Institute –

"More than one hundred years ago, Theodore Roosevelt and our nation recognized the importance of investing in our natural resources. National Parks, National Wildlife Refuges, and state wildlife areas were established to conserve fish and wildlife. That approach has generated a tremendous return on investment for the American public. Just as then, we now face resource challenges. Investing in conservation initiatives designed to assist fish and wildlife adapt to climate change like the National Fish, Wildlife and Plants Climate Adaptation Strategy will protect the natural resources that we inherited and will be an important down payment for future generations of Americans."

Terry Williams, Commissioner of Fisheries and Natural Resources, Tulalip Tribes of Washington –

"I welcome the release of the National Fish, Wildlife, and Plants Climate Adaptation Strategy. Tribes are rooted in place by treaties and their heritage. Whatever befalls them from the changing climate will have to be endured and adjusted to in place. This strategy can help guide actions on the ground to address climate change impacts on the biodiversity on which tribal cultures inextricably depend upon for their subsistence, identities, spiritual practices, and well-being. In doing so, this can move tribes from being merely canaries in the mineshaft to being active participants in helping to create landscapes that are resilient to climate change, blending the best of science and the best of their traditions."