



People and Nature: Our Future is in the Balance

NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION

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November 6, 2008

Dear Stakeholder,

The National Wildlife Federation is vitally interested in the success of this new stakeholder process. As part of the Texas Living Waters Project, with our partners Environmental Defense Fund and the Lone Star Chapter of the Sierra Club, we have long advocated for a process to address environmental flow needs in a comprehensive manner. We appreciate your willingness to undertake this important task.

We have begun to compile some materials that we believe can be helpful to you in your efforts. We have taken the liberty of providing an initial installment of that information in the enclosed binder. We anticipate providing additional information in the future that can be incorporated into this binder along with other materials that you may receive or collect from other sources.

We respect that within the stakeholder groups there are a wide range of perspectives on these issues and we have attempted to provide information that will be of interest and have relevance for all parties.

In this first installment, we have included information about the basics of the process, consensus decision-making, and issues related to approaches for establishing and working with a science team on environmental flows issues—information we believe might be particularly useful at this point in the process. You will soon be making decisions about how to establish a science team, and as you know, a key aspect of this new process is that the Legislature directed that both the stakeholder committees and the expert science teams are to make decisions in a manner designed to achieve consensus.

If there is additional information that you believe would be beneficial, please do not hesitate to contact either of us about whether we might be able to help provide it. Again, we thank each of you for your contributions to establishing reasonable protections for Texas' rivers and coastal estuaries for future generations.

Sincerely,

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