

The Honorable Senator Christopher S. Bond  
274 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Bond:

The purpose of this letter is to update you on the Comprehensive Conservation Plan, or CCP, for Swan Lake National Wildlife Refuge and to ask for your continued support and efforts to insure that waterfowl hunters and sportsmen such as yourself are not excluded from using this wonderful resource in our great state of Missouri. **We continue to maintain our position that duck hunting should be allowed on a portion of the Refuge.**

As you may be aware, there are eight steps that the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service employs when working through the planning process. The staff at Swan Lake is currently on step four which is stated as follows:

“Develop and Analyze Alternatives, Including the Proposed Action.”

The staff has stated that it will develop three alternatives for consideration based upon Refuge staffing and the management of habitats, visitor services, and facilities.

Senator, we need your help in making sure that Swan Lake has adequate staffing and that the plan that is adopted allows for duck hunting on a portion of the refuge. Furthermore, we believe that by working with the Missouri Department of Conservation, which has indicated a willingness to assume part of the responsibility for the management of duck hunting, the Refuge staff would be able to effectively and efficiently implement this program.

Senator Bond, please go on record by supporting the rights of hunters and sportsmen across our great state by contacting Dean Granholm with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and letting him know that you support duck hunting on the Refuge. He may be reached at the following address:

Dean Granholm  
Conservation Planning  
Bishop Henry Whipple Federal Building  
1 Federal Drive  
Fort Snelling, MN 55111-4056

Our members want you to know that we have appreciated your previous efforts on this issue and are very optimistic about our hunting heritage with your continued support. Thank you for all that you do for the sportsmen of Missouri. We look forward to hearing from you in the very near future.

Respectfully,

Tony Wolf  
President, Mississippi Valley Duck Hunters Assoc.