



## **Cooperative Alliance for Refuge Enhancement**

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**<http://www.fundrefuges.org/CARE/CareHome.html>**

### **CARE Applauds Congressional Wildlife Refuge Caucus**

*New Caucus Critical to Halting Refuge System Funding Crisis*

Washington – The Cooperative Alliance for Refuge Enhancement (CARE), a diverse coalition of national conservation and recreation organizations, today applauded formation of a Congressional Caucus dedicated to advancing the mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System, and addressing the funding crisis facing the 100-million-acre land system. Led by Representatives Ron Kind (D-WI), Jim Saxton (R-NJ), Michael Castle (R-DE) and Mike Thompson (D-CA), the Congressional Wildlife Refuge Caucus now includes a bi-partisan group of nearly 100 members of the House of Representatives.

The formation of the Caucus comes at a critical time for our nation's National Wildlife Refuge System, haven to countless species of wildlife, as well as unparalleled recreational opportunities for nearly 40 million Americans. With chronic under-funding and a crippling \$3.1 billion budget backlog, the Refuge System, managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, is unable to adequately manage and restore wildlife habitat, safely maintain facilities and provide quality education and outdoor recreation programs for millions of visitors each year.

“The Refuge System faces a funding crisis of unprecedented proportions and the formation of a Congressional Caucus couldn't come at a better time,” said Evan Hirsche, Chair of CARE and President of the National Wildlife Refuge Association. “We applaud Representatives Kind, Saxton, Castle, Thompson and the other members of the Caucus for stepping up to take on the daunting challenges currently faced by the Refuge System.”

Budget shortfalls have already resulted in minimal or nonexistent staff at many refuges, harmful impacts to wildlife populations due to the lack of invasive species control, and a reduction in public recreation programs including hunting, fishing and wildlife observation.

The Caucus will work to raise awareness of our Refuge System, support adequate Refuge System budgets, and ensure the sustained growth of the Refuge System for future generations.

*CARE, founded in 1995, is a broad coalition of 21 diverse wildlife, sporting, conservation, and scientific organizations that represent a national constituency numbering more than 5 million. Recognizing the value of a healthy Refuge System to both the wildlife and habitats refuges were established to protect, CARE, highlights the needs of national wildlife refuges and works to secure strong investments in these remarkable lands and waters.*

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# Congressional Wildlife Refuge Caucus

September 14, 2006

100 Members  
37 States Represented  
168 Refuges Represented

## Co Chairs

Ron Kind (WI-3)  
Jim Saxton (NJ-3)

## Co Vice Chairs

Mike Castle (DE-At Large)  
Mike Thompson (CA-1)

## Members, by state

Spencer Bachus (AL-6)  
Vic Snyder (AR-2)  
J.D. Hayworth (AZ-5)  
Raul Grijalva (AZ-7)  
Pete Stark (CA-13)  
Anna Eshoo (CA-14)  
Sam Farr (CA-17)  
Dennis Cardoza (CA-18)  
Doris Matsui (CA-5)  
Bob Filner (CA-51)  
Lynn Woolsey (CA-6)  
George Miller (CA-7)  
Mark Udall (CO-2)  
John Larson (CT-1)  
Rob Simmons (CT-2)  
Christopher Shays (CT-4)  
Nancy Johnson (CT-5)  
Robert Wexler (FL-19)  
Clay Shaw (FL-22)  
Alcee Hastings (FL-23)  
Ginny Brown-Waite (FL-5)  
Cliff Stearns (FL-6)  
Jim Marshall (GA-3)  
Ed Case (HI-2)  
Leonard Boswell (IA-3)  
Donald A. Manzullo (IL-16)  
Ray LaHood (IL-18)  
Dennis Moore (KS-3)  
Ben Chandler (KY-6)  
Marty Meehan (MA-5)  
John Tierney (MA-6)  
Edward Markey (MA-7)  
Michael Capuano (MA-8)  
Steven Lynch (MA-9)  
Wayne Gilchrest (MD-1)  
Benjamin Cardin (MD-3)  
Tom Allen (ME-1)  
Michael Michaud (ME-2)  
John Dingell (MI-15)  
Vernon Ehlers (MI-3)  
Dale Kildee (MI-5)  
John Kline (MN-2)  
Jim Ramstad (MN-3)  
Betty McCollum (MN-4)  
Mark Kennedy (MN-6)  
James Oberstar (MN-8)  
William Lacy Clay (MO-1)  
Chip Pickering (MS-3)

## Members, by state

Walter Jones (NC-3)  
David Pryce (NC-4)  
Howard Coble (NC-6)  
Earl Pomeroy (ND-At Large)  
Charles Bass (NH-2)  
Donald Payne (NJ-10)  
Rush Holt (NJ-12)  
Frank LoBiondo (NJ-2)  
Frank Pallone (NJ-6)  
Steve Rothman (NJ-9)  
Jon Porter (NV-3)  
Tim Bishop (NY-1)  
Carolyn Maloney (NY-14)  
Jose Serrano (NY-16)  
Steve Israel (NY-2)  
Maurice Hinchey (NY-22)  
Brian Higgins (NY-27)  
Randy Kuhl (NY-29)  
Anthony Weiner (NY-9)  
Dan Boren (OK-2)  
Pete DeFazio (OR-4)  
Darlene Hooley (OR-5)  
Paul E. Kanjorski (PA-11)  
Allyson Schwartz (PA-13)  
Tim Holden (PA-17)  
Tod Platts (PA-19)  
Jim Gerlach (PA-6)  
Curt Weldon (PA-7)  
Michael Fitzpatrick (PA-8)  
Joe Wilson (SC-2)  
John M. Spratt (SC-5)  
Lincoln Davis (TN-4)  
Bart Gordon (TN-6)  
Marsha Blackburn (TN-7)  
John Tanner (TN-8)  
Sheila Jackson Lee (TX-18)  
Lloyd Doggett (TX-25)  
Solomon Ortiz (TX-27)  
Thelma Drake (VA-2)  
James Moran (VA-8)  
Rick Boucher (VA-9)  
Brian Baird (WA-3)  
Norm Dicks (WA-6)  
Jim McDermott (WA-7)  
Adam Smith (WA-9)  
Tammy Baldwin (WI-2)  
Thomas Petri (WI-6)  
Alan Mollohan (WV-1)