



THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY ALASKA CHAPTER

Kris Hundertmark, President
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The Alaska Chapter of The Wildlife Society is a professional society founded in 1971. With over 200 members, the Alaska Chapter is one of the largest chapters of The Wildlife Society, an international organization representing wildlife biologists and managers employed by state, federal, and borough resource agencies, academic institutions, non-governmental conservation organizations, and private industry. Our mission is to enhance the ability of wildlife professionals to conserve biological diversity, sustain productivity, and ensure responsible use of wildlife resources in Alaska for the benefit of society.

March 22, 2010

Senator Lyman Hoffman
State Capitol Rm 518
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Hoffman:

I am writing to you today to urge you to provide full funding for the proposed Life Sciences Building at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. The new building will benefit the Department of Biology and Wildlife, with one of the largest enrollments at the university, and will provide much-needed classroom space and laboratories that will replace cramped and out-of-date facilities. Current facilities do not meet the need for effective curriculum delivery, particularly regarding recent technological advances in the biological sciences.

The State of Alaska will reap the rewards of this investment by facilitating UAF's mission of training the next generation of wildlife biologists. Alaska is known worldwide for its wildlife resources, which form a significant part of the foundation of our tourism industry and provide recreational and subsistence opportunities for all Alaskans. UAF-educated biologists benefit our state by coming into the work force already familiar with management issues that affect all Alaskans, making them highly regarded by employers.

Once again, I urge you to invest in the future of higher education in Alaska by voting to fully fund this capital request.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Kris Hundertmark, PhD
President