



THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

Leaders in Wildlife Science, Management and Conservation

January 30, 2025

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Trump:

On behalf of The Wildlife Society (TWS), a professional organization representing over 10,000 wildlife scientists, managers, educators, and students, we are writing to express our appreciation for your decision to rescind the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) Memorandum on the Temporary Pause of Agency Grant, Loan, and Other Financial Assistance Programs dated January 27, 2025. However, we understand that the rescission of the memorandum does not rescind the intent expressed in your Executive Orders. Moving forward, we hope that federal agencies will provide timely updates and clear guidance to grant recipients to prevent future disruptions and ensure a smooth and efficient grant management process.

As a non-profit professional society, TWS works closely with federal bureaus and agencies across multiple Departments to fulfill its mission of empowering wildlife professionals to advance conservation through science, community, and professional excellence. The extraordinary system of wildlife conservation in the U.S., which includes sustainable hunting and other wildlife-related activities that generate hundreds of millions of dollars annually to our national and local economies, is fundamentally dependent on trained wildlife professionals in all sectors of the profession. This includes professionals charged with managing public trust wildlife resources on federal and private lands.

TWS has multi-year cooperative agreements in place with the Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Geological Survey, U.S. Department of Agriculture APHIS Wildlife Services, and U.S. Forest Service that help achieve our collective missions and goals for wildlife conservation that we look forward to continuing into the future. While TWS certainly values the need for efficiency in federal spending, this abrupt freeze, even if temporary, or loss of funding would have harmed our members and the sectors they serve, impacted critical advancements in wildlife science, diminished professional capacity for conservation, and jeopardized contributions of the wildlife sciences to local economies across the nation.

Again, thank you for rescinding the OMB Memorandum. We look forward to working with your Administration and our federal agency partners to strengthen the wildlife profession and the essential work they do to advance wildlife conservation. If you have any questions or need more information feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

Edward B. Arnett, Ph.D., Certified Wildlife Biologist®
Chief Executive Officer

Arthur Rodgers, Ph.D.
President

Cc: Mr. Matthew J. Vaeth, Acting Director, OMB
Mr. Walter Cruickshank, Acting Secretary, DOI
Mr. Gary Washington, Acting Director, USDA
Dr. Michael Watson, Administrator, APHIS
Mr. Randy Moore, Chief, USFS
Mr. Michael D. Nedd, Deputy Director, Administration and Programs, BLM
Dr. Sarah J. Ryker, Acting Director, USGS
Mr. Paul Souza, Acting Director, USFWS