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INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

March 6, 2006

Mr. H. Dale Hall
Director
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
1849 C St., NW
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Director Hall:

I am writing to make you aware of my opposition to Alternative E of the Comprehensive Conservation Plan for the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge. I appreciate your timely consideration of my request.

As you know from our previous correspondence about the refuge, I believe the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) should abandon Alternative E and instead adopt Alternative A. I have heard from an overwhelming number of folks in Wisconsin who are opposed to the hunting and navigation restrictions contained in Alternative E.

The Mississippi River is one of our nation's premier recreational destinations and economic engines. It is a shining example of a successful multiple-use management strategy at work. I simply do not see the need to move away from a strategy that has a proven track record and enjoys strong support throughout the region.

I certainly hope the USFWS will listen closely to the comments it received during the listening sessions and from others who live and work along the river. As you know, I am greatly concerned that adoption of Alternative E will have social and economic consequences for communities on the river. This cannot be allowed to happen. That is why the USFWS should drop its support for Alternative E and instead adopt Alternative A.

Again, I want to thank you for taking the time to consider my request. I look forward to hearing back from you.

Best Regards,

Mark Green
Member of Congress

MAG:dr

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