

**Amendment
to a Fish and Wildlife Service Manual Chapter**

Series: Public Use Management
Part 633: Friends Organizations
Chapter 3, Exhibit 1: Template for Friends Partnership Agreement, signed 4/4/2014
Amendment Number: 1
Purpose: This amendment provides minor edits to clarify “project” and strikes ten words from the end of an anti-lobbying provision from the section of the template agreement that discusses what the Friends organization agrees to do. The language is causing some confusion in Regions 1 and 8 and has been determined by The Office of the Solicitor to be slightly broader than necessary. The Office of the Solicitor also stated it should be consistent with language in the National Park Service (NPS) Friends Agreements. The provision explains that Friends organizations should not use appropriations or resources to lobby Congress to fund specific purpose on refuges which are subject to these agreements, (e.g., expansion of a visitors center), but goes on to include lobbying Congress for shortfalls in budgets. The use of the term “purpose” is confusing and has been modified to emphasize “projects” instead. The additional language about shortfalls in budgets is not related to the project intent of the provision and is causing some confusion. The Office of the Solicitor has requested that we make this change to the agreement.

Action:

Change section V.C(13) from:

(13) To the extent Friends commit to this agreement or any related agreement to raise funds for a particular purpose to benefit the Service, the Friends agree that it will not lobby for or otherwise seek appropriated funds from Congress to meet that commitment or to make up for shortfalls in Government agency budgets.

TO:

(13) To the extent Friends commit to this agreement or any related agreement to raise funds for a particular project to benefit the Service (e.g., new facility), the Friends agree that it will not lobby for or otherwise seek the appropriation of funds from Congress to meet the commitment for that particular project.

/sgd/ James W. Kurth
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Date: March 11, 2016