



WILDLIFE 20 UNITE 22 Virtual Maine

To: NWF Affiliate Presidents/Chairs, Executive Directors, Representatives and Alternate Representatives

Cc: NWF Board of Directors and NWF Directors of Conservation Partnerships

From: Kent Salazar, Chair, NWF Board of Directors

Date: February 11, 2022

Re: WildlifeUnite – 2022 National Wildlife Federation Conservation Conference and Annual Meeting - Virtually from Maine

The National Wildlife Federation WildlifeUnite Conference and 86th Annual Meeting will be held June 7-11, 2022, completely online. The Natural Resources Council of Maine is our virtual 2022 co-host. Due to the ongoing pandemic and for the protection of all participants, the decision was made to meet virtually again this year. At the same time, we hope that the online format will make it easier for even more people to participate!

WildlifeUnite brings together leaders and activists who are working to protect fish and wildlife, habitat, and opportunities for people to enjoy the outdoors across the nation. The conference amplifies the leadership of our affiliates, gives voice to more leaders on more issues, and helps us build, broaden, and strengthen an authentic and diverse American conservation movement. Please encourage other staff, board members, volunteers and your partners to participate as well.

Of course, the most important part of this gathering is our collective work to set NWF policy, elect our board of directors, and govern our organization. Materials for the Annual Meeting are now available at wildlifeunite.nwf.org to begin your preparations. Mark your calendar now and join us for this annual opportunity to advance wildlife conservation and participate in shaping the policy and leadership of the National Wildlife Federation.

Important Documents and Deadlines. Please carefully review the documents listed below and note the deadlines. All documents can be accessed at wildlifeunite.nwf.org.

- Annual Meeting Primer: Outlines the governance requirements of the NWF Annual Meeting and clarifies affiliate procedures and deadlines leading up to and at the meeting. Deadline for submitting proposed Bylaws Amendments is **April 12, 2022, preferably by March 11, 2022.**
- Credentials Form: **ACTION NEEDED.** The **online** credentials form should be completed by **March 11, 2022.**
- Call for Proposed Conservation Resolutions and Submission Form: **ACTION NEEDED. Requested by March 11, 2022; Final due date April 12, 2022.**
- Call for Nominations and Nomination Form: **ACTION NEEDED. Requested by March 11, 2022; Final due date May 12, 2022.**
- NWF Conservation Resolutions – Importance and Process

- Guidelines for the Role of the NWF Affiliate Representative
- Affiliate Power Building Fundraiser Donation Form. **Donations are requested by May 2, 2022.**

Please coordinate with your President or Chair to ensure that all documentation requested is submitted to NWF, including your 2022 Credentials Form.

Agenda. The WildlifeUnite Conference and Annual Meeting Agenda can be accessed at wildlifeunite.nwf.org. You will note that specific Annual Meeting business activities are flagged for the attention of Affiliate Representatives. Of course, all conference participants are encouraged to participate in any sessions of interest. Specific sessions for Affiliate Representatives include:

- The opening general session on Tuesday, June 7
- Resolutions committee meeting(s) on Tuesday, June 7 and Wednesday, June 8
- Meet the NWF Board Candidates session on Thursday, June 9
- The Annual Meeting Business general session on Saturday, June 11

WildlifeUnite Conference and Annual Meeting Preview

New Annual Meeting Attendee Welcome Session. This orientation will be held ahead of our meeting on June 1, 2022 from 4:00 p.m. EDT to 5:00 p.m. EDT. All new representatives and alternate representatives should plan to attend this informative session. All meeting attendees are welcome to join.

Opening General Session. The meeting begins Tuesday, June 7 at 2:00 p.m. EDT with the Opening General Session.

Resolutions Committees. The Resolutions Committees will hold informational meetings prior to the Annual Meeting for discussion purposes only. These meetings will be scheduled in late May. The Resolutions Committees will hold formal business meetings on Tuesday, June 7 and Wednesday, June 8 to deliberate and vote on recommendations for their assigned resolutions. Please refer to the agenda for the committee meetings schedule. Each committee will present its recommendations to the full delegation at the Resolutions Session on Saturday, June 11.

Please review the attached document on the *Importance of NWF Resolutions*. NWF policy resolutions from previous years can be found at affiliates.nwf.org/policy-resolutions/.

Resolutions Committee Chairs and Vice Chairs Meeting. An orientation for the Resolutions Committee Chairs and Vice Chairs will be held virtually in May, date and time to be determined.

Learning Sessions. Learning sessions for skill-building, strategy development and information-sharing are offered on Wednesday, June 8, Thursday, June 9, and Friday, June 10. Session offerings will focus on a wide range of topics such as communications, social media, board growth and recruitment, campaign planning, subject matter briefings, strategy sessions, and much more. Watch for details at wildlifeunite.nwf.org!

Affiliate Power Building Fundraiser. This popular and fun yearly event raises funds for affiliates. The auction will be online again this year and every dollar raised will directly support NWF affiliates and the critical on-the-ground conservation work you do. Donations are being collected now, so please consider making a contribution! Packages should be valued at \$100+ (bundling items to meet this is welcome). Wondering what to donate? Just think of packages you would like to buy – previous auction items include hiking/hunting/fishing excursions, electronics, artisan-made goods, and outdoor gear. Not

sure you have a donation? Ask your local business partners, other organizations, and even friends and family. They can help support this vital program too. For more information or to donate an item, visit wildlifeunite.nwf.org, or contact Dave Chadwick at chadwickd@nwf.org or 406-438-6478. Contributions are requested by Monday, May 2.

Registration

On March 14, NWF Affiliate Representatives, Alternate Representatives, Presidents/Chairs and Executive Directors will receive an email from affiliatepartnerships@nwf.org with detailed registration information. Take advantage of reduced Early Bird rates during March 14-April 20. Registration closes May 24. Early bird registration will be \$30; standard registration will be \$50.

Affiliate Financial Assistance

Due to the online meeting format, there will be no affiliate financial assistance offered for the 2022 Annual Meeting.

Questions

Please contact Dave Chadwick (406-438-6478 and chadwickd@nwf.org) with any questions.

I look forward to our meeting in June!