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Environment - Committee on Earth & Environmental Sciences [1991]

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THE WHITE HOUSE

August 15 '91

Dear Roger: ^{Potter}

I'm with the proposal for a
wetlands purchase effort to be
established under the CFEES. I only
want this to move forward if
everyone involved is convinced

that it would be useful and
if I am convinced that no one's
soils or turf are being mangled.
Your comments would be
much appreciated as would
Thanks.

Best regards
Dylan

Source:

The final "Wetlands Options Paper" distributed by R.W. Porter, Executive Secretary of the Domestic Policy Council, on July 26, 1991 for review, comment and vote.

II. Positive Nonregulatory Measures to Protect Wetlands (pages 1 & 2):

"...To ensure further progress towards the no net loss goal, we recommend several new initiatives to enhance wetlands protection on federal and private lands. These include:..."

"... . Promoting excellence in research on wetlands. Several agencies conduct their own research on wetlands. This initiative would coordinate, consolidate, and establish priorities for wetlands research...."

**PROPOSED
AD HOC GROUP ON WETLANDS RESEARCH
OF THE
COMMITTEE ON EARTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES**

The Ad Hoc Working Group on Wetlands Research, is hereby established under the Committee on Earth and Environmental Sciences (CEES). The Working Group serves as part of the deliberative process of the CEES, which provides overall guidance and direction on the Ad Hoc Working Group's agenda and activities.

Purpose and Functions:

The purpose of this Ad Hoc Working Group is to develop a wetlands research strategy that addresses the coordination, consolidation, and establishment of priorities for wetlands research. This effort will provide scientific support for national policymaking relevant to wetlands resources within the diverse ecosystems of the United States.

Functions of the Ad Hoc Working Group include:

- o facilitating communication, cooperation, and coordination of the planning and development of a national wetlands research;
- o examining options for establishing a clearinghouse of wetlands research, consisting of research data and GIS data bases, that can be accessed by Federal, State, and local government agencies involved in wetlands activities;
- o preparing a brief interagency handbook to outline wetland research efforts (at research center or laboratory level) giving contacts and broad research topics of each facility, to guide key agency personnel and scientists toward programs and into avenues where interagency coordination is possible.

Scope

The scope of activity for the Ad Hoc Working Group shall be limited to scientific issues relevant to the understanding of wetlands processes and functions in the diverse ecosystems where they occur.

Coordination

- o The Ad Hoc Group will coordinate its efforts with other Executive Office groups including OMB, DPC, EPRG, and the Vice President's Council on Competitiveness.
- o As appropriate, the Ad Hoc Working Group will coordinate its efforts with other CEES Working Groups which address wetlands issues - these include the Working Groups on Water Resources, U.S. Coastal Oceans Science, and Global Change.
- o The Ad Hoc Group will coordinate with appropriate subcommittees of the Federal Oceanographic Data Committee concerned with the development of a national digital wetlands data base for wetland mapping and inventory activities.
- o Scientific advice and input will be solicited from standing committees of the National Academy of Sciences, particularly the Water Sciences Board.
- o The Ad Hoc Group will seek scientific advice and input as needed to accomplish its mission from the private sector as consistent with the Federal Advisory Committee Act.
- o The Ad Hoc Group will seek advice and scientific input as needed from State Government organizations.