

NEW - ANWR

ANWR and the creation of the NEW - National Endowment for Wildlife.

Having founded the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) a quarter century ago, opening ANWR to responsible oil and gas development and creating the National Endowment for Wildlife (NEW) with 1/3rd of ANWR's governmental revenue is the culmination of our lives' work.

Why are we running as a team for U.S. Senate in 2010? The short answer is to open ANWR, during the 2010 election year, to responsible oil and gas production and create the National Endowment for Wildlife (NEW) with one-third of ANWR's governmental revenue.

Time and place govern many things, both large and small, in one's life. That is certainly the case with us. We were blessed in 1983/84 to be at the right place at the right time in Washington D.C. to found the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF).

We bequeathed our estate to our country, specifically the United States Fish and Wildlife Service of the U.S. Department of the Interior. We were informed in a meeting at Interior that the USFWS could not by law (because it only had "annual gift authority") receive our 30-year testamentary trust fund that our reciprocal wills had created and which we funded with a small gift of cash seed-money to the USFWS.

We realized that we had been placed in a unique situation and initiated the process to create the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. The day following that seminal meeting at Interior we went up to Congress and met with the original sponsors of the NFWF act in both the House (Chairman Breaux) and Senate (Chairman Chafee). We were invited by the chairmen to help draft the legislation and to be the lead witnesses at the hearings. Francoise took it upon herself to lobby the Senate for cosponsors and Ted lobbied the House.

Right place, right time! As the donors, we came to personify the legislation. A minor miracle, at least in our lives, happened. We became the only couple in U.S. history to push an entire generic wildlife act through a divided congress (Senate Republican and House Democrat) to unanimous passage with 60 cosponsors including 22 chairmen and the leadership of both Houses and both parties. That has not been done before or since!

The Foundation act was signed into law in March of 1984 and has grown over the past 25 years to do a lot of good work in wildlife conservation. Please see our website tedandfran.com and the Foundation's website NFWF.org for details.

The following year in 1985, when ANWR legislation started moving through Congress, we came up with the idea of a National Endowment for Wildlife tied to the opening of ANWR. Unfortunately, for various reasons it has never been the right time - until now!

We first campaigned for Senate in 2004, then for Governor and Lt. Governor of Alaska in 2006, and again for Senate in 2008. All three campaigns were to create the NEW by opening ANWR. We have always

personified the high ground on ANWR. Indeed Ted has become known in Alaska as "newanwrtd".

It appears that history will repeat itself as far as we are concerned in 2010 and we will once again be blessed with being at the right place at the right time to finish our lives' work by getting Ted's proposed Alaska Natural Resources Act (ANRA) legislation to open ANWR and create the NEW introduced in Congress during the 2010 election year.

If conditions are really as right as we think they are ANRA may well pass as unanimously as our NFWF act did a quarter-century ago. All it takes is a bandwagon effect setting in following our Internet campaign for Senate going viral. Thanks to Google providing this forum everyone who reads this Knol can help us spread the word to generate the momentum resulting in the enactment of ANRA legislation worth 2 trillion dollars - for America, for Alaska, and for wildlife!

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