



“National Wildlife Federation’s Target Global Warming website and trainings offer all the information I need to spread the word to the other sportsmen out there. I’ve given presentations to hundreds of hunters and anglers in Florida and across the nation. . . They know a lot is at stake.”

Captain **DAN KIPNIS** is a Florida hunter/angler who has been a member of National Wildlife Federation and Miami’s Rod and Reel club for 25 years. He’s on the board of numerous conservation organizations and has most recently been named to South Florida’s Climate Change Task Force. He travels throughout the Southeast giving presentations about how our warming Earth affects sport fishing, to encourage catch and release fishing and more sustainable fishery management, and to encourage alternative means of supporting ailing fishing communities.



Saving What You Love

There is something really indescribable about being out on the bay and hoping a Snook is going to see your fly and catch it before it gets caught in the mangroves—it doesn't matter if the fish is six inches or 600 pounds, it's the same deal for me. It's all about the thrill of the challenge.

As a sportsman, I spend a whole lot of time outdoors—whether in the forest or on the water. So if something's changing, I'll be one of the first folks to see it. Kind of like how Native Americans appreciate their land: they notice the little stuff, like the bud on a tree, the deer print on a leaf—and understand how they are all connected.

When I'm out on the water, it's the same thing. Most people see a bunch of blue or green. I see currents, ripples, birds scoping the water for their next meal—I see patterns like how the water level was rising and the number of fish falling. A National Wildlife Federation presentation led me to that “aha” moment that helped me make the connection between these patterns and global warming.

I realized that if I want to keep doing what I love, I have to care about global warming. It's not something we can afford to just sit around and talk about. It's urgent.

I got on the board of the Florida Wildlife Federation and was asked to join a climate change conference headed up by Al Gore, and I was selected to take part in National Wildlife Federation's climate change educator training, developed to reach out to sportsmen.

It's vital that America's large population of sportsmen understand

how global warming will change our rivers, streams, and oceans so that they can fight for the places they love. National Wildlife Federation's Target Global Warming website and trainings offer all the information I need to spread the word to the other sportsmen out there. I've given presentations to hundreds of hunters and anglers in Florida and across the nation—and many of those folks have become presenters because of what they learned. They know a lot is at stake.

We have to make changes. We have to protect wildlife species and their habitat. If we don't maintain a healthy resource, whatever the habitat, we're not going to be able to do what we love.

Global warming is the single most important issue of our day. If we work to protect wildlife, that's a good thing for people too. We need to act now, before it's too late.

ABOUT HUNTER AND ANGLER OUTREACH

When it comes to observing wildlife and wild places, America's 40 million hunters and anglers have long had a front-row seat. According to a recent National Wildlife Federation poll of hunters and anglers, a majority are already seeing changes in their region and attribute those impacts to global warming.

In 2007, National Wildlife Federation launched a major grassroots campaign to mobilize hunters and anglers to confront global warming.



**CAPTAIN DAN
KIPNIS
FLORIDA**

SUCCESSES

- National Wildlife Federation developed an interactive presentation titled “Global Warming: The Forecast for Wildlife” that enables advocates to talk in their communities about the threat of global warming, solutions for reducing emissions, and ways to mitigate impacts of global warming on America's natural resources.
- Since June 2007, we have trained more than 375 hunters, anglers, and conservation leaders across the country who have since spread the word about global warming solutions to more than 4,000 people.
- National Wildlife Federation brought sportsmen and women from 12 states to the nation's capital to ask their members of Congress to take strong action on climate change. They urged Congress to support cap-and-trade legislation reducing carbon emissions by at least 2 percent a year, with dedicated funding to protect and restore natural resources.

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