



**The Izaak Walton League of America**  
**Farm Bill Forum Summary**  
**Des Moines, IA March 12, 2007**

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**The Izaak Walton League of America held its second Farm Bill Forum in Des Moines, IA on March 12<sup>th</sup>. Representatives of the following groups attended the meeting:**

Iowa Department of Agriculture, Secretary Bill Northey  
Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Director Rich Leopold  
Iowa Renewable Fuels Association  
Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation  
Iowa Farmers Union  
Pheasants Forever  
National Wildlife Federation  
Polk County Soil and Water Conservation District  
Local Izaak Walton League members  
Congressional office:  
Sen. Tom Harkin staff

**Media reports included:**

Brownfield Network  
WAITT Agribusiness  
WHO-AM 1040, Des Moines, IA  
Successful Farming magazine  
Iowa Farmer Today, Cedar Rapids, IA  
The Des Moines Register, Des Moines, IA

The morning session involved time for each group to present their vision and policy platform for the 2007 Farm Bill. Notes on the main points that each group presented are available by emailing Anne Morris at [almorris@iwnla.org](mailto:almorris@iwnla.org) or calling her at 651.649.1446.

During the afternoon session of the meeting, the following common points of intersection and interest were recorded. (Note: Congressional and state agency staff acted as observers only.)

- ❖ Increase technical assistance funding for conservation staff and equipment.
- ❖ Conduct energy crop development within a conservation framework that deals with all resource concerns. This includes soil, air, water and wildlife.
- ❖ Implement a Conservation Compliance regime for energy crop production.
- ❖ Maintain some component for permanent easements within USDA conservation policy.
- ❖ Establish and maintain functional local control and delivery of grassland protection and conservation.