

*** AMERICAN BIRD CONSERVANCY * DEFENDERS OF WILDLIFE *
NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY * NEW JERSEY AUDUBON SOCIETY**

December 11, 2006

Governor Ruth Ann Minner
150 William Penn Street
Dover, DE 19901

Dear Governor Minner:

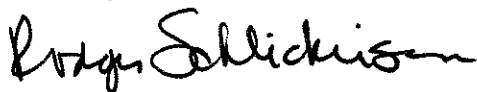
We are writing to thank you and Commissioner John A. Hughes for approving the two-year moratorium on the take of horseshoe crabs in Delaware Bay.

We were very pleased to learn of this decision. We believe it will greatly benefit the imperiled Red Knot as well as the horseshoe crab population. This decision is particularly commendable in light of the resource users' opposition to the moratorium.

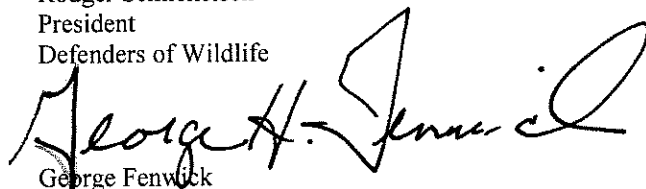
We believe your science-based decision as well as your commitment to finding an alternative bait for the eel and conch fisheries will yield benefits not only for Red Knots and horseshoe crabs, but also the fishermen.

Thank you again and best wishes for the holiday season.

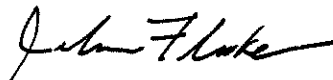
Sincerely,



Rodger Schlickeisen
President
Defenders of Wildlife



George Fenwick
President
American Bird Conservancy



John Flicker
Director of Bird Conservation
National Audubon Society



Tom Gilmore
President
New Jersey Audubon Society

cc: Lieutenant Governor John C. Carney Jr.
Secretary John Hughes
Roy Miller, Fisheries Administrator