

June 2, 2009

Dan Wenk  
Acting Director  
National Park Service

**1 page via fax:** [REDACTED]

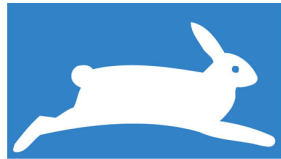
Dear Mr. Wenk:

On behalf of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) and our more than 2 million members and supporters, I am writing to formally express PETA's interest in taking ownership of Kewaunee Pierhead Lighthouse in Kewaunee, Wisconsin, in accordance with the recent announcement that the lighthouse will be made available at no cost to a nonprofit or other eligible entity under the provisions of the National Historic Lighthouse Preservation Act. If we are granted the lighthouse, we will turn it into the headquarters for our Fish Empathy Project, which aims to increase respect and compassion for sea animals.

There is a mountain of evidence that fish suffer enormously when dragged from their homes in large fishing nets or impaled with metal hooks by anglers. Dr. Donald Broom, a scientific advisor to the British government, said, "The scientific literature is quite clear. Anatomically, physiologically and biologically, the pain system in fish is virtually the same as in birds and mammals." Biologists have found that fish develop relationships with other fish and show affection by gently rubbing against one another. Fish have individual personalities, talk to each other, and grieve when their companions die. Some fish are capable of using tools, while others gather information by eavesdropping. Dr. Sylvia Earle, the world's leading marine biologist, said, "I wouldn't deliberately eat a grouper any more than I'd eat a cocker spaniel. They're so good-natured, so curious. You know, fish really are sensitive, they have personalities, they hurt when they're wounded."

If given ownership of the Kewaunee Pierhead Lighthouse, PETA would install interactive educational displays to help the public learn more about fish and why they should never be eaten or tormented for "sport" (i.e., fishing). The lighthouse would also be the perfect location to display the world's first "fish empathy quilt," a 300-square-foot quilt made by PETA volunteers that pays tribute to the billions of fish needlessly killed for their flesh or abused by anglers. We will open a café at the lighthouse serving faux fish sticks and other tasty vegetarian dishes. And every visitor 12 and under will be given a free plush toy fish emblazoned with the tagline "Fish Are Friends, Not Food!"

Please contact me as soon as the formal vetting process has begun. Thank you for your consideration.



**PETA**

PEOPLE FOR THE ETHICAL  
TREATMENT OF ANIMALS

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AN INTERNATIONAL  
ORGANIZATION DEDICATED  
TO PROTECTING  
THE RIGHTS OF ALL ANIMALS

Sincerely,  
*Sarah King*

Sarah King  
Director