

December 20, 2010

The Honorable Barbara Boxer  
Chairman  
Environment & Public Works Committee  
United States Senate  
410 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510-6175

The Honorable James M. Inhofe  
Ranking Member  
Environment & Public Works Committee  
United States Senate  
456 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510-6175

Dear Chairman Boxer and Ranking Member Inhofe:

The organizations listed below are affiliated with the American Wildlife Conservation Partners (AWCP), a coalition of organizations which represent millions of sportsmen and women across the nation. We are writing to express our support for Dan Ashe's nomination to serve as Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) in the Department of the Interior. Many of us have a long history of working with Mr. Ashe and believe he would do an excellent job as Director of FWS.

Mr. Ashe's education and professional career has prepared him well to assume the directorship of the FWS. He has experience working with Congress as a member of the professional staff of the former Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries. He has served the FWS as Assistant Director for External Affairs and as the Chief of the National Wildlife Refuge System. In both roles, he provided leadership and oversight to key programs within the agency and interacted with the FWS's stakeholders. His service as Science Director to the FWS Director came at a pivotal time for the agency and Mr. Ashe performed that role with dedication and professionalism.

As FWS Deputy Director, Mr. Ashe recently met with AWCP organizations to hear first hand their priorities and concerns with respect to wildlife resource management. He has been intimately involved in negotiations to delist Northern Rocky Mountain wolves. In addition, Mr. Ashe has consistently reached out to sportsmen and women's groups to keep us aware of FWS policy decisions and management plans.

The FWS is a strong partner with the hunting and conservation community of this country. We strongly support Mr. Ashe's nomination and encourage the committee to move the nomination to the full Senate for confirmation.

Archery Trade Association

Boone and Crockett Club  
Bowhunting Preservation Alliance  
Campfire Club of America  
Catch-A-Dream Foundation  
Congressional Sportsmen Association  
Conservation Force  
Dallas Safari Club  
Ducks Unlimited  
Izaak Walton League of America  
Masters of Foxhounds  
National Wild Turkey Federation  
North American Grouse Partnership  
Pope and Young Club  
Public Lands Foundation  
Quality Deer Management Association  
Texas Wildlife Association  
The Conservation Fund  
The Wildlife Society  
Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership  
TreadLightly!  
United States Sportsmen Association  
Wildlife Forever  
Wildlife Management Institute