

July 20, 2010

The Honorable Nick J. Rahall, II, Chairman
Committee on Natural Resources
1324 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Rahall,

Thank you for your outstanding leadership to include full, dedicated and permanent funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) in H.R. 3534, the Consolidated Land, Energy, and Aquatic Resources Act (Amendment in the Nature of a Substitute) which was approved by the Committee on Natural Resources on July 15, 2010.

Our members are heavily dependent on public lands for outdoor recreation for abundant fish and wildlife, habitat and public access. LWCF has helped save some of America's richest wildlife areas and most popular destinations for hunting and fishing from development and hunting, fishing and shooting closures. In addition, the conservation easement features of the program have helped numerous ranching and farming families stay on their land and continue their traditional way of life while conserving healthy landscapes.

We urge you to continue to pursue full funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund. We stand ready to work with you and others in the hunting, fishing and shooting communities to help maximize public access to both existing and new public properties.

Sincerely,
American Fly Fishing Trade Association
Archery Trade Association
B.A.S.S.
Backcountry Hunters and Anglers
Colorado Wildlife Federation
Ducks Unlimited
Federation of Fly Fishers
Hellgate Hunters and Anglers
Izaak Walton League of America
Montana Trout Unlimited
Montana Wildlife Federation
Mule Deer Foundation
Orion – The Hunter's Institute
Pheasants Forever
Quail Forever
Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership
Trout Unlimited
Wild Sheep Foundation
Wildlife Forever
The Wildlife Society
Wildlife Management Institute

Cc: The Honorable Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the House of Representatives