



The Wildlife Society's Conservation Affairs Network

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On the Horizon

Recovering America's Wildlife Act Subcommittee Hearing – The House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife will be hosting a hearing on the [Recovering America's Wildlife Act](#) this **Thursday, October 17, at 2 pm eastern**. The subcommittee will be discussing the bill alongside the [Wildlife Corridors Conservation Act \(H.R. 2795\)](#). You can watch the hearing live on the [committee website](#). This hearing provides another opportunity for CAN representatives to reach out to their unit membership on the legislation. Be sure that your members have access to TWS' [action alert center](#), the individual scientist [sign-on letter](#) that will be sent to the Hill, and previously distributed educational materials such as the AFS/TWS [webinar](#) in support of the bill.

You can check out a current list of cosponsors [here](#). If a member of Congress in your state has already cosponsored the legislation, your unit can consider sending [thank you](#) correspondence to that office. Questions regarding appropriate contact information for member offices can be sent to Caroline. *Staff Contact:* [Caroline Murphy](#)

Resources

State of the Birds Report released detailing 3 billion birds in decline – The U.S. North American Bird Conservation Initiative has released its annual [State of the Birds report](#). This report details success stories in state-based conservation, as well as startling declines in bird populations that can be reversed through investments in proactive conservation efforts. This year's report builds off [findings recently released](#) in the journal *Science* that reports 2.9 billion fewer birds than were present 50 years ago. *Staff Contact:* [Caroline Murphy](#)

CAC Activities

CAN holds annual meeting in Reno – The Conservation Affairs Network held its annual meeting at the AFS/TWS joint conference in Reno in late September. Topics discussed included TWS section updates, TWS policy priorities, and mechanisms for soliciting input from TWS units. You can catch up on the minutes from the meeting [here](#). *Staff Contact:* [Caroline Murphy](#)

Alberta Chapter submits letter on woodland caribou – The [Alberta Chapter of The Wildlife Society](#) submitted [comments](#) to the Assistant Deputy Minister, Policy and Planning, Environment and Parks on September 11 regarding the draft Agreement for the Conservation and Recovery of the Woodland Caribou in Alberta. The Chapter

outlined several of their concerns and feel that the draft agreement provides limited progress towards woodland caribou conservation in Alberta. CAC Contact: [Mark Boyce](#)

Illinois Chapter requests Congress support of RAWA letter – The [Illinois Chapter of The Wildlife Society](#) sent [a letter](#) to Congresswoman Lauren Underwood on September 7, requesting her cosponsorship of the Recovering America's Wildlife Act (H.R. 3742). If your unit is interested in sending a letter in support of the bill, you can find a TWS form letter to work off of [here](#). CAC Contact: [Scott Meister](#)

Federal Updates

Continuing resolution sets up late November showdown – Before Fiscal Year 2020 began on October 1, President Trump signed a [continuing resolution](#) that provides federal funding under FY 2019 levels until November 21. This sets up coordinating discussions between the U.S. House and Senate on their differing marks in funding on several FY 2020 funding bills, including those that fund the U.S. Department of the Interior and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Before the November 21 deadline, Congress will either need to pass and the President will need to sign all [12 federal funding bills](#), or another continuing resolution will need to be passed, in order to avoid a government shutdown. Staff Contact: [Caroline Murphy](#)

CAC Activity and Contact Updates

Policy consultation – Do you want assistance with a wildlife conservation policy issue? Curious as to the various ways your organization unit can support federal efforts by TWS or engage on local level issues? Contact policy@wildlife.org.

Activity updates, success stories, and CAC Contact information – Does your CAC have a success story to tell? Is a new partnership developing at your organization unit? Do you have a new CAC Chair? Send it in! Let the CAN hear about it and help you in your work. Email Mariah Simmons at MSimmons@wildlife.org.