

February 24,
2020

The Honorable Nancy
Pelosi Speaker of the
House U.S. House of
Representatives U.S.
Capitol, H-232 Washington,
D.C. 20515
The Honorable Kevin

McCarthy Minority Leader
U.S. House of
Representatives U.S.
Capitol, H-204 Washington,
D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Leader
McCarthy,

As organizations collectively representing millions of Americans who enjoy the outdoors through hunting, fishing, birding, hiking, paddling, and gardening, as well as the state fish and wildlife agencies and other natural resource professionals charged with stewarding our nation's wildlife, we write to express our strong support for the bipartisan *Recovering America's Wildlife Act* (H.R. 3742) and urge you to advance it to the House floor for a vote.

This legislation provides a comprehensive strategy to protect our wildlife heritage by assuring sufficient funding for on-the-ground activities that support states' most urgent wildlife conservation priorities. This proactive approach to solving the ever-increasing challenges facing our nation's fish and wildlife has brought over 170 Members of Congress together as cosponsors of this legislation. Just two months ago, the bill received overwhelming bipartisan support in the House Committee on Natural Resources and was reported out by a 26-6 vote, with a majority of Republican committee members present voting in favor. The momentum and increasingly bipartisan support building behind this bill underscore the urgency of advancing it to the floor. With more than one-third of all U.S. species at increased risk of extinction, we can't afford not to take swift action.

The *Recovering America's Wildlife Act* will help recover and conserve species at risk by dedicating \$1.3 billion for state-level conservation and \$97.5 million to Tribal nations for on-the-ground conservation projects. The legislation funds the implementation of the congressionally-mandated State Wildlife Action Plans, which outline specific conservation actions necessary to recover and sustain healthy fish and wildlife populations, while also accelerating the recovery of species already listed under the Endangered Species Act. Similarly, tribal nations will expand conservation efforts on their lands, which provide vital habitat for hundreds of fish and wildlife species, including

more than 500 species listed as threatened or endangered. This bill also allocates more funding for wildlife conservation in the territories, as recent natural disasters have exacerbated pressures on native species.

The premise of this bill is simple: an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. We can save wildlife and save money in the long run by investing in collaborative solutions before species require more restrictive and expensive “emergency room” measures under the Endangered Species Act. This approach will save federal taxpayers tens of billions of dollars by ensuring more regulatory certainty for farmers, businesses, and industry while also growing our continuously expanding \$887 billion outdoor economy that supports more than 7.6 million jobs.

The *Recovering America’s Wildlife Act* builds upon the incredible legacy of the Pittman-Robertson and Dingell-Johnson Acts, which brought iconic fish and wildlife species back from the brink of extinction through cooperative, science-driven wildlife management, supported by reliable funding. It will take a similar vision and effort to address the escalating problems facing our fish and wildlife in the 21st century, and this bill presents a solution that meets the magnitude of the challenge.

Passage of the *Recovering America’s Wildlife Act* is unequivocally the most important thing this Congress can do to protect our nation’s outdoor heritage. We look forward to working with you to bring this legislation to the House floor in the coming weeks.

Sincerely,
y,

Alabama Department of Conservation
and Natural Resources

Allegheny Conservation
District

American Fisheries
Society

American Sportfishing
Association

Anglers

United

Arizona Antelope
Foundation

Arizona Bass Federation
Nation

Arizona Big Game Super
Raffle

Arizona Bowhunters
Association

Arizona Chapter National Wild
Turkey Federation

Arizona Chapter Safari Club
International

Arizona Deer
Association

Arizona Desert Bighorn Sheep
Society

Arizona Elk
Society

Arizona Flycasters
Club

Arizona Houndsmen's
Association

Arizona Outdoor
Adventures
Arizona Outdoor
Sports

Arizona Predator
Callers

Arizona Shooting Sports
Education Foundation

Arizona State Council of Trout
Unlimited

Arizona Sportsmen for
Wildlife Conservation

Arizona Wildlife
Federation

Arkansas Chapter of the American
Fisheries Society

Arkansas Chapter of The Wildlife
Society

Arkansas Game and Fish
Commission

Arkansas Natural Heritage
Commission

Arkansas Watertrail
Partnership

Association of Northwest
Steelheaders

Atlantic Salmon
Federation

Audubon
Arizona

Audubon
Minnesota

Audubon
Pennsylvania

Audubon Society of Lincoln City,
Oregon

Audubon
Texas

Audubon
Washington

Austin Science
Advocates

Backcountry Hunters &
Anglers

Backcountry Hunters & Anglers,
Texas Chapter

Barry Conservation
District

Barry County Drain
Commissioner

Bass Pro
Shops

Bat Conservation
International

Baxter State
Park

Bayou Land
Conservancy

Bexar Audubon
Society

Big Thicket
Association

Biodiversity Research
Institute

Biological
Conservation

Bird Conservancy of the
Rockies

Bucks County Audubon
Society

Buffalo Creek Watershed
Association

Burns Paiute
Tribe

Cabela

's

California Invasive Plant
Council

Cedar Run Decoy
Company

Chippewa Cree Tribe of the Rocky
Boy's Indian Reservation of Montana

Christian Hunters of
America

Cibolo Conservancy Land
Trust

Coalition for the Delaware River
Watershed

Colorado Chapter of the Wildlife
Society

Confluence Consulting,
LLC

Connecticut Forest & Park
Association

Connecticut Ornithological
Association

Conservation Council for
Hawaii

Conservation Federation of
Missouri

Conservation
InSight

Conservation
Northwest

Conservation Resource

Management

Cornell Lab of
Ornithology

Council to Advance Hunting and
the Shooting Sports

Crow
Nation

Delaware Valley
University

Department of Natural Resources
Science, University of Rhode Island

Downeast Salmon
Federation

Downeast Trout
Unlimited

Ducks
Unlimited

Environment Council of Rhode
Island

Environmental Collaborative Of
Ohio

Environmental League of
Massachusetts

First Light Wildlife
Habitats

Flathead Audubon
Society

Forest Society of
Maine

Fort Worth
Zoo

Four Townships Water
Resources

Franciscan Earth Literacy
Center

Freeport Wild Bird
Supply

Friends of Malheur National
Wildlife Refuge

Friends of Stewart B McKinney
NWR

Friends of the Fort Worth Nature
Center & Refuge

Galveston Bay
Foundation

Georges River Chapter, Trout
Unlimited

Grand Prairie
Friends

Greater Edwards Aquifer
Alliance

Gulf Coast Bird
Observatory

Hawk Mountain Sanctuary
Association

Hill Country
Alliance

Houston Safari
Club

Houston
Wilderness

Idaho Wildlife
Federation

Indiana Wildlife
Federation

Ingham Conservation
District

Innovative Wildlife Management
Services, LLC

Institute for Natural Resources -
Portland, Oregon

Iowa Pheasants Forever and Quail
Forever

Izaak Walton League of
America

Jo Daviess Conservation
Foundation

Kahuna's
Kids

Kalamazoo Nature
Center

Kalamazoo River Watershed
Council

Katy Prairie
Conservancy

Kennebec Valley Chapter of
Trout Unlimited

Kentucky Waterways
Alliance

Klamath Watershed
Partnership

Lake County Forest Preserve
District

Lake Erie Islands
Conservancy

Local Ocean
Seafoods

Lower Brule Sioux
Tribe

Maine Association of Wetland
Scientists

Maine
Audubon

Maine Coast Heritage
Trust

Maine Council of Trout
Unlimited

Maine Professional Guides
Association

Maine
Rivers

Maine Wildlife Conservation
Council

Maryland - Delaware Chapter of
The Wildlife Society

Maverick Ranch-Fromme
Farm

McBain Associates, Applied River

Sciences

Mercy
Ecology

Michigan
Audubon

Michigan Chapter for The Wildlife
Society

Michigan Forestry Assistance
Program - Oceana Conservation
District

Michigan Nature
Association

Minnesota Chapter of The Wildlife
Society

Mississippi Flyway
Council

Missouri Breaks Chapter of the
National Audubon Society

Mohave Sportsman
Club

Montana
Audubon
Montana Wildlife
Federation

Montana/Wyoming Tribal Fish and
Wildlife Commission

Narragansett Chapter, Trout
Unlimited

National Association of State
Foresters

National Audubon
Society

National Shooting Sports
Foundation

National Wild Turkey
Federation

National Wildlife
Federation

Native American Fish and Wildlife
Society

Native Plant Society of
Texas

Natural Land
Institute

Nebraska Chapter of The Wildlife
Society

NEC
Solar

Ned Smith Center for Nature and
Art

Nemours Wildlife
Foundation

New Jersey
Audubon

New Mexico Wildlife
Federation

Newaygo Conservation
District

North American Falconers

Association

North Dakota Natural Resources Trust

North Dakota Wildlife Federation

Northeast Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies, Inc.

Northwest Sportfishing Industry Association

Ohio Chapter of Backcountry Hunters and Anglers

Openlands

Oregon Association of Conservation Districts
Oregon Biodiversity Information Center

Oregon Chapter of The Wildlife Society

Oregon Chapter, American Fisheries Society

Oregon Health Sciences University

Oregon Outdoors Coalition

Oregon State University

Oregon Wildlife Foundation

Oregon Wildlife

Society

Oregon Zoo

Oregon Zoo Foundation

Outdoor Experience 4 All

Outdoor Industry Association

PDXWildlife

Pennsylvania Biological Survey

Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen & Conservationists

Penobscot Nation Department of Natural Resources

Pierce Cedar Creek Institute

Pines and Prairies Land Trust

Planning and Conservation League

Prairie Hills Audubon Chapter

Prairie Hills Audubon Society of Western South Dakota

Protect Animal Migration

Quality Deer Management

Association

QuietKat,
Inc.

Ravenswood
Outdoors

Rhode Island B.A.S.S.
Nation
Rhode Island Saltwater Anglers
Association

Rhode Island Zoological
Society

Riverside Nature
Center

Rob and Bessie Welder Wildlife
Foundation

Roger Williams Park
Zoo

Rogue Basin
Partnership

Salem Audubon
Society

Schoolcraft Conservation
District

Sebago Chapter of Trout
Unlimited

South Carolina Chapter of The
Wildlife Society

South Dakota Association of
Conservation Districts

South Dakota Chapter of The

Wildlife Society

South Dakota Waterfowl
Association

South Dakota Wildlife
Federation

South Eastern Arizona Sportmen
Club

Southeastern Association of Fish &
Wildlife Agencies

Southeastern Section of The
Wildlife Society

Southern Quail
Forever

Southern California Chapter of the
Wildlife Society

Southern Division of the American
Fisheries Society -Alligator Gar
Technical Committee

Southwest Michigan Land
Conservancy

Southwest Wildlife Foundation
(Yuma Valley Rod & Gun Club)

SRT
Outdoors
Tennessee Wildlife
Federation

Tennessee Wildlife Resources
Foundation

Texas A&M Student Chapter of
The Wildlife Society

Texas Alliance for America's Fish and Wildlife

Texas Chapter of The Wildlife Society

Texas Conservation Alliance

Texas Foundation for Conservation

Texas Land Trust Council

Texas Society for Ecological Restoration

Texas Wildlife Association

The Alabama Chapter of The Wildlife Society

The BASS Federation

The Connecticut Audubon Society

The Frontera Land Alliance

The Indiana Chapter of The Wildlife Society

The Maine Chapter of The Wildlife Society

The Northwest Guides and Anglers Association

The Northwest Guides and

Anglers Fisheries Restoration Initiative

The Ohio Chapter of The Wildlife Society

The Wildlife Society

The Wildlife Society – Arizona Chapter

The Wildlife Society - Iowa Chapter

The Wildlife Society-North Central Section

The Wildlife Society, Nevada Chapter

The Wildlife Society, San Francisco Bay Area Chapter

The Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation

Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership

Thornapple Area Parks and Recreation Commission

Trout Unlimited

University of New England

University of Tennessee

Valley of the Sun Quail Forever

Virginia Chapter of The Wildlife Society

Virginia Conservation Network

Washington Chapter of the Wildlife Society

Washington Wildlife Federation

Watchable Wildlife Foundation

Watershed Guardians

WaterWatch of Oregon

Wayne County Conservation District

West Virginia Rivers Coalition

Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

Western Pennsylvania Conservancy

White River Marine Group

Wild Oceans

Wildlife Consulting and Photography

Wildlife Habitat

Council

Wildlife Management Institute

Wimberley Valley Watershed Association

Women's Progressive Party

World Wildlife Fund

Wray-Todd Ranch, LLC

Wyoming Outdoor Council

Wyoming Wildlife Federation

Xtreme Predator Callers

Yellowstone River Parks Association