



# The Wildlife Society's Conservation Affairs Network

September 2022, Volume 8, Issue 9

## Take Action!

**Recovering America's Wildlife Act** action needed to prepare Senate vote - The Wildlife Society and partners are gearing up for hopeful Senate action on the [Recovering America's Wildlife Act](#) after the chamber reconvenes in September. **Now is the time to encourage all members of the Senate, including existing cosponsors, to reach out to Senate leadership and request a vote by the entire chamber.** This is particularly essential for the priority targets listed below, but any outreach to your Senate delegation will be beneficial at this time.

During this vital time, TWS units can:

- [Send a letter](#) to their Senators asking them to support Senate action on the bill. This letter can be used as the first point of Congressional engagement by your unit, or can be used as a follow-up to any cosponsor request or thank you letters that have been previously sent by your unit.
- Share this newsletter with your unit's membership and request they reach out directly to their Senators using [TWS' newly updated phone call script](#). All TWS members and supporters, including those that have previously called their U.S. Representative, can use this new call-in script. Members and supporters can let TWS staff know how their calls went using this [google form](#).

The targets listed below, made up of cosponsors and non-cosponsors, are high priority targets to encourage Senate action on the legislation:

Crapo (ID)	(202) 224-6142	Hagerty (TN)	(202) 224-4944
Rounds (ID)	(202) 224-5842	Inhofe (OK)	(202) 224-4721
Thune (SD)	(202) 224-2312	Portman (OH)	(202) 224-3353
Hoeven (ND)	(202) 224-2551	Collins (ME)	(202) 224-2523
Scott (SC)	(202) 224-6121	Moran (KS)	(202) 224-6521
Romney (UT)	(202) 224-5251	Wicker (MS)	(202) 224-6253
Tillis (NC)	(202) 224-6342	Boozman (AR)	(202) 224-4843
Burr (NC)	(202) 224-3154	Graham (SC)	(202) 224-5972

TWS will continue to distribute engagement resources to units that have high-priority Senate targets. If your unit is interested in coordinating on a virtual visit with your Senate offices, please let Kelly know. *Staff contact:* [Kelly O'Connor](#)

## CAC Activities

**North Dakota Chapter engages Senators on the Recovering America's Wildlife Act** – The [North Dakota Chapter of The Wildlife Society](#) wrote letters to Senators [Cramer](#) and [Hoeven](#)

urging their support of the Recovering America's Wildlife Act. Learn more about contacting Senate offices leading up to action on the bill in the Senate in the "Take Action" section above. CAC contacts: [Rachel Bush](#) and [Sarah Hewitt](#)

**Alberta Chapter signs-on to promote improved ecological integrity in Wood Buffalo National Park** – The [Alberta Chapter of The Wildlife Society](#) joined with other Canadian conservation organizations to support an investigation into the current condition of Wood Buffalo National Park. The [sign-on letter supports](#) a Reactive Monitoring Mission scheduled for the park, and urges cooperation across governmental jurisdictions to address major threats to Canada's largest national park. CAC contact: [Mark Boyce](#)

## Federal Updates

**Inflation Reduction Act becomes law** – A surprise climate and healthcare deal between Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer and Senate Energy and Natural Resources Chair Joe Manchin shocked Washington when it was announced last month. The deal eventually led to the mid-August passage of the largest federal legislation to date to combat climate change, known as the Inflation Reduction Act. The bill ([H.R. 5378](#)) includes over \$21 billion for climate-smart agriculture practices and conservation technical assistance on private lands, funding for drafting and implementation of Endangered Species Act recovery plans, and funding for maintenance needs on National Wildlife Refuge System and State Wildlife Management Area lands. Staff contact: [Caroline Murphy](#)

**Congress headed towards short-term funding extension** – The U.S. Congress will in all likelihood need to pass a short-term extension of federal government funding when they return from August recess after Labor Day. Funding discussions for FY 2023 are expected to extend past the end of FY 2022 at the end of September, meaning at least a short-term continuation of the current year's funding levels will be needed to avoid a government shutdown. TWS staff will have additional details on the funding outlook in next month's newsletter and at [wildlife.org](#). Staff contact: [Caroline Murphy](#)

## Updates from Headquarters

**Make your plans for Spokane!** - It's not too late to make plans to attend The Wildlife Society's [29th Annual Conference](#) taking place November 6-10 in Spokane, Washington. Each year, the conference provides roughly 1,000 educational opportunities for attendees in the form of scientific symposia, workshops, trainings, poster sessions, panel discussions and more. The Conservation Affairs Network annual meeting will be taking place in-person during the conference, and we hope to see you there! Staff contact: [Kelly O'Connor](#)

## 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 Kelly O'Connor at [koconnor@wildlife.org](mailto:koconnor@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 Kelly O'Connor at [koconnor@wildlife.org](mailto:koconnor@wildlife.org).