

Testimony of  
**Jeff Crane**  
**President**  
**Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation**

Before the  
**Subcommittees on Federal Lands and Water, Power and Oceans**  
**Committee on Natural Resources**  
**United States House of Representatives**

Regarding  
**Discussion Draft: *"To protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting, and for other purposes"***

**May 20, 2015**

Good morning Chairmen McClintock and Fleming, Ranking Members Tsongas and Huffman, and members of the respective Subcommittees. My name is Jeff Crane, and for the past decade I have served as the President of the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation (CSF). Established in 1989, CSF works with the bipartisan Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus (CSC), the largest, most active caucus on Capitol Hill. With nearly 300 Members of Congress from both the House and Senate, current House CSC Co-Chairs are Congressmen Rob Wittman (R-VA) and Tim Walz (D-MN), and Vice-Chairs are Congressmen Jeff Duncan (R-SC) and Gene Green (D-TX).

Eleven years ago, CSF extended the legislative network from Washington, DC to states across the country, establishing the bipartisan National Assembly of Sportsmen's Caucuses, which today is made up of 46 state legislative caucuses, and includes over 2,000 legislators. Six years ago, CSF established a bipartisan Governors Sportsmen's Caucus, which today includes 29 Governors and one Lieutenant Governor. Together, this collective force of bipartisan elected officials works to protect and advance hunting, angling, recreational shooting and trapping for the 37 million sportsmen and women who spend \$90 billion annually on our outdoor pursuits.

As a lifelong conservationist and outdoorsman who was taught to hunt and fish by my father and grandfather, I am passing this heritage along to my three daughters. From my early days of boy scouting, where I achieved the rank of Eagle Scout, to leading safaris in Southern Africa as a professional hunting guide, my love of nature and respect for the great outdoors defines who I am as a person. When I had the opportunity to join CSF in 2002, and thereby combine this passion with my professional background in the policy arena, I knew I found my life's calling.

In my professional life in the conservation policy arena, I am the only person to sit on both the sport fishing and hunting federal advisory committees (FACs): the Sport Fishing and Boating Partnership Council and the Wildlife and Hunting Heritage Conservation Council, respectively. Originally appointed to these FACs councils during the Bush Administration, I have been subsequently reappointed to each during the Obama Administration. I am a past Chairman of the American Wildlife Conservation Partners, a board member of the Council to Advance Hunting and the Shooting Sports, a panelist on the Blue Ribbon Panel on Sustaining America's Diverse Fish & Wildlife Resources, am involved in numerous national hunting and fishing conservation groups, and am a professional member of the Boone & Crockett Club, the oldest conservation organization in America, founded by Theodore Roosevelt in 1887.

Taking a moment to put things into historical perspective, the idea of conservation in America began with members of the sportsmen's community, who introduced game laws and programs to protect natural resources - leading to the creation of state and federal fish and wildlife agencies. Nearly 80 years ago, the hunting community led the charge for the passage of the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act (Pittman-Robertson Act) which redirected excise taxes on firearms and ammunition to a dedicated fund to be used specifically for conservation purposes. Further, revenue from sportsmen's licenses was also permanently linked to conservation, laying the foundation for what is now the uniquely American System of Conservation Funding, a "user pays - public benefits" program that is the financial backbone of the most successful conservation model in the world. Through time, this System has expanded and now includes the fishing and boating

communities - with the passage of the Federal Aid in Sportfish Restoration Act (also known as the Dingell-Johnson Act, and the subsequent Wallop-Breaux Amendment) as well as the archery community. The funds collected through these programs, totaling over \$16 billion, plus millions of dollars annually in license and permit fees, are the lifeblood of state fish and wildlife agencies – the primary managers of our nation’s fish and wildlife resources. These critical conservation dollars fund a variety of efforts including: enhanced fish and wildlife habitat and populations, recreational access to public and private lands, hunter safety training, shooting ranges, boat access facilities, wetlands protection and its associated water filtration and flood retention functions, and improved soil and water conservation - all which benefit the American public.

Conservation is critically important to hunters, anglers, boaters, and shooters alike. The term ‘conservation,’ as understood by the sportsmen’s community, can be traced back to Gifford Pinchot of the U.S. Forest Service. Pinchot defined conservation as the “wise use of the Earth and its resources for the lasting good of [mankind].” The idea of “the lasting good,” is that with the use of a resource comes the responsibility of careful resource management. America’s sportsmen and women are the original conservationists, who exemplify the laudable definition of conservation advanced by Pinchot, and remain dedicated to the stewardship of our natural resources. As part of my statement, I would like to include a February 26, 2015 letter from virtually every national hunting and fishing conservation organization supporting S. 405, the Bipartisan Sportsmen’s Act, the Senate counterpart to the draft bill under consideration today. Once introduced in the House, I am confident that a similarly strong endorsement letter for this bill will also be forthcoming.

The concept of a bipartisan caucus pushing a bipartisan sportsmen’s bill is in itself indicative of the fact that conservation activities including hunting, recreational fishing and shooting, and our other outdoor traditions are not defined by or constrained to any partisan label. We are sportsmen and women because we love and care for America’s great outdoors, regardless of political affiliation, race, religion, gender, or socio-economic standing. In a city all too often characterized by partisan rancor, similar sportsmen’s packages were passed in the House with strong bipartisan support in both the 112th and 113th Congresses. Notably, S. 405 already has 18 Senate cosponsors, equally divided between Republicans and Democrats.

The Obama Administration in its Statement of Administration Policy regarding the previous House sportsmen’s act (H.R. 3590), dated February 3, 2014, was also in favor of three of the provisions contained in this discussion draft. “The Administration supports [Title II – also Title II of this discussion draft], which amends funding requirements under current law for target range construction and maintenance, thus reducing the financial burden on State and local governments for public target ranges. The Administration also supports [Title IV – Title III of this discussion draft], which allows the importation of certain polar bear trophies taken in sport hunts in Canada.....The Administration has no objection to [Title I – also Title I of this discussion draft], which excludes certain sport fishing equipment from the classification of toxic substances.”

With all of this support, it is now time to pass the Sportsmen’s Heritage and Recreational Enhancement Act of 2015 (SHARE Act).

The overarching purpose behind the SHARE Act is quite simply to ensure access and opportunity for hunters, shooters and anglers. According to polling, the number one reason that we lose hunters

and anglers is ‘not enough access to quality places to hunt or fish.’ With an ever increasing population and urban/suburban sprawl, it is imperative that access and opportunity are protected and even enhanced for future generations. In an effort to get our younger generations off the couch and out from behind the computer, recreational access to our national treasures of public lands and waters is imperative. Where this access does currently exist, let's guarantee it and provide certainty that it will always be there. Where it doesn't, let's ask why, and if reasonable and feasible, let's look at solutions to make it more accessible. After all, these are public assets owned by the American people that were established for multiple use, including low impact recreational uses like hunting and fishing.

It is also worth noting that unlike some other outdoor recreational activities, hunting and shooting, in particular, are under constant siege by well-funded, politically and legally active, extremists groups that are intent on using whatever means to put an end to the traditions we cherish. Through the use of frivolous lawsuits and judicial action, the anti-use and animal rights extremists are using the courts instead of relying on science-based wildlife management to achieve their intolerant anti-hunting/fishing agenda. Legal challenges to the application of the statutory and administrative policies that guide federal land management and conservation are effectively tying the hands of the public land managers and state wildlife officials, which in turn, degrade habitat quality and deny access and opportunity.

The provisions in this legislation attempt to address many of these issues and should provide certainty that our sportsmen's heritage will be protected into the future. CSF supports the SHARE Act and would like to draw particular attention to the following provisions in the discussion draft:

### **Title I – Hunting, Fishing and Recreational Shooting Protection Act**

Title I amounts to little more than two technical corrections to the U.S Code that are of vital importance to protect the firearms, ammunition and sport fishing tackle industries and the conservation programs they fund. Title I would amend the Toxic Substance Control Act (TSCA) to clarify that an existing exemption to TSCA's jurisdiction, for products subject to Pittman-Robertson excise taxes, applies not only to assembled cartridges but also to their component parts, while also creating a similar exemption for articles of fishing tackle subject to Wallop-Breaux excise taxes.

Anti-hunting and fishing interests are currently litigating against the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to force the EPA to expand its TSCA authority in order to regulate traditional ammunition and recreational fishing tackle. These organizations assert that this is necessary to address significant impacts to wildlife populations that are resulting nationwide from the use of traditional tackle and ammunition. These exaggerations are little more than misleading scare tactics with no credible supporting science.

Moreover, EPA's exercise of TSCA authority over ammunition and tackle would likely result in massive increases in the price of ammunition and tackle for sportsmen due to the exponentially higher raw materials and manufacturing costs of using alternative metals. Not only would this result in the loss of hunters, recreational shooters and anglers, it would also have untold detrimental impacts on countless manufacturing facilities resulting in the loss of thousands of jobs.

In addition, organizations involved in this anti-hunting and fishing campaign fail to acknowledge that these detrimental economic impacts to the ammunition and tackle industries would result in considerable reductions to the excise taxes the firearms, ammunition and sport fishing tackle industries pay on their products as a means of funding habitat conservation throughout the country. In fact, much of our country's wildlife and habitat exist solely as the result of these contributions.

Title I would amend TSCA in a manner that serves to protect and enhance our hunting, recreational shooting and fishing heritage while concurrently facilitating the important benefits that the hunting, shooting and recreational fishing industries contribute to the betterment of our nation's economy and treasured natural resources. Finally, it is important to note that the importance of enacting this legislation will remain regardless of the outcome of litigation recently decided, currently pending or upcoming absent a ruling by the U.S Supreme Court that clearly precludes the EPA from extending its TSCA jurisdiction over traditional ammunition and tackle.

## **Title II - Target Practice and Marksmanship Training Support Act**

Title II would allow states to use the excise taxes already collected on sporting equipment and ammunition to develop and maintain much-needed public shooting ranges while also resulting in increased wildlife conservation funding. Hunters, recreational shooters and firearms, archery, and ammunition manufacturers are the largest financial supporters of wildlife conservation throughout the United States having contributed more than \$7 billion to habitat conservation and wildlife management through Pittman-Robertson excise tax payments since the program's inception. A significant portion of this amount is directly attributable to recreational shooters who, per-capita, spend even more than hunters on firearms and ammunition subject to these important excise taxes.

Despite the unqualified success of this historic "user pays – public benefits" system, Pittman-Robertson funds have not always been administered in a manner that encourages the creation of recreational shooting opportunities. As a result, opportunities for both recreational and competitive shooting have declined significantly in recent years. Title II would help address this loss of access and opportunity by providing states with more flexibility in their use of Pittman-Robertson funds to develop and improve public shooting ranges.

Specifically, it would amend an existing requirement that Pittman-Robertson funding used for shooting ranges be obligated within two years by allowing the funds to accrue over five years. This extension would allow individual projects to be funded over multiple budget cycles and significantly enhance the ability of states to build and maintain shooting ranges. In addition, the legislation would limit the unnecessary exposure to liability that land management agencies may face when providing recreational shooting opportunities on public lands.

Finally, Title II would reduce existing local and state Pittman-Robertson matching requirements for shooting ranges from 25% to 10%. Pittman-Robertson funds are allocated to states on a formula basis. Therefore, while this change would provide additional flexibility and capability to states, the reimbursement rate would not result in increased federal spending.

## **Title III – Polar Bear Conservation and Fairness Act**

This section is about allowing a small number of hunters to import their legally harvested polar bears from Canada. Each harvested their polar bear before the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) prohibited the importation of polar bear parts into the United States on May 15, 2008.

Canada is home to over 50% of the world's polar bears, numbering more than 16,000. Based on scientifically-established and sustainable quotas, unrelated to international trade, only about 600 bears are harvested annually in Canada. Canada has extensive monitoring and conservation programs that protect the species, including through sustainable use by Inuit communities. Canada's First Nations coexist with polar bears, harvest the bears for subsistence purposes, and value the bear's conservation even more because of limited sport hunting by non-Inuits that brings much needed cash to the remote communities. This sustainable use has given them intimate knowledge of polar bear population dynamics and ecological needs. According to the scientific evidence, confirmed by local members of the communities, the polar bear has enjoyed a significant increase in its overall population over the past 40 years, not a decline as portrayed by some.

The key points in support of Title III are:

- 1) Polar bears harvested in Canada are taken under a legal and scientific framework established by governments in Canada. Based on scientific knowledge, including Inuit's traditional ecological knowledge, Canada sets quotas for polar bear harvests that are sustainable.
- 2) Prior to May 15, 2008, the date the FWS listed the polar bear as threatened worldwide and imposed an import ban, US hunters could import polar bear trophies from six populations in Canada approved by the FWS as having a sustainable and well-managed conservation and hunting program. All imports would be from these approved populations.
- 3) By bringing much needed cash to these remote communities (U.S. hunters generally spent between \$30,000-50,000 per hunt), U.S. hunters help encourage the local indigenous communities to support science-based polar bear management efforts in Canada.
- 4) The U.S. sport hunters did not increase polar bear mortality from hunting. These hunters used one of the "tags" assigned to local indigenous communities based on the scientifically-determined quotas (about 15% of the total allotted per year are assigned to sport hunters). If the U.S. hunters did not use these tags, the local community would have used them for subsistence hunting.
- 5) Under U.S. law, import permits provide important conservation program funding of \$1000 per permit, paid by the importer. In the 12 years prior to the 2008 import ban, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service collected almost \$1 million dollars under this program for polar bear research in Alaska and Russia. The permits authorized by Section 4 would add over \$40,000 to these research efforts.

This section is not about whether the United States should allow the importation of polar bears hunted in the future. Instead, the bill will move polar bear trophies out of cold storage in Canada into the homes of U.S. citizens who undertook this once-in-a-lifetime hunt.

In addition, passage of this bill will generate over \$40,000 for polar bear research, further supporting the extensive efforts to conserve and manage the polar bear. Multinational agencies and committed governments are already dedicating significant resources to manage the polar bear and to ensure its long-term sustainability. These efforts have resulted in positive impacts to the polar bear, including rebounding from possible population numbers as low as 5,000 bears 30-40 years ago to today's population of 20,000-25,000.

## **Title IV – Recreational Lands Self-Defense Act**

Title IV would remove unnecessary federal regulations that prohibit U.S. citizens from possessing or transporting firearms on or across lands administered by the U.S Army Corp of Engineers (“USACE”). The USACE administers 404 lakes and river projects in 43 states, with approximately 12 million acres under its control. Allowing law abiding citizens to possess and transport firearms for self-defense or sporting purposes on and across these lands is common sense and sound policy.

Section 327.13 of title 36, Code of Federal Regulations, provides that possession of loaded firearms, ammunition, loaded projectile firing devices, bows and arrows, crossbows, or other weapons is prohibited at water resources development projects administered by the USACE. The regulations provide exceptions for law enforcement officers, unloaded firearms being transported for sporting purposes and firearms possessed with the written permission of the District Commander.

Title IV would remove these unnecessary restrictions by preventing the promulgation of regulations that prohibit the possession of firearms in areas open to the public at water resources development projects provided that the possession complies with the law of the State in which the water resources development project is located and that the individuals in possession are not otherwise prohibited by law from possessing or transporting the firearms.

In 2009, Congress enacted legislation that allowed for individuals meeting the criteria set forth in Section 6 to possess and transport firearms in and across National Park Service lands. To my knowledge, in the more than half a decade since enactment of that legislation, there have not been increases in firearm related crimes, poaching, or any other detrimental impacts to land management agency employees or park visitors. If there has been any impact, I would venture that it has likely been a reduction of confusion and inconvenience for law abiding citizens and an extension of common sense state laws that promote self-defense and the lawful transportation of firearms.

## **Title V – Wildlife & Hunting Heritage Conservation Council Advisory Committee**

Title V permanently establishes the existing Wildlife and Hunting Heritage Conservation Council (WHHCC) Advisory Committee to advise the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture on wildlife and habitat conservation, hunting and recreational shooting. Originally established under the Bush Administration as the Sporting Conservation Council, sportsmen and women for the first time had FAC status as we advised the Administration on policy issues of importance to our community.

Subsequently chartered as the WHHCC under the Obama Administration, the charter has to be renewed every two years in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA). Duties of the WHHCC under this act include advising the Secretaries with regard to:

- Implementation of Executive Order 13443: *Facilitation of Hunting Heritage and Wildlife Conservation* that directs Federal agencies “to facilitate the expansion and enhancement of hunting opportunities and the management of game species and their habitat;”

- Policies or programs to conserve and restore wetlands, agricultural lands, grasslands, forest, and rangeland habitats;
- Policies or programs to promote opportunities and access to hunting and shooting sports on Federal lands;
- Policies or programs to recruit and retain new hunters and shooters;
- Policies or programs that increase public awareness of the importance of wildlife conservation and the social and economic benefits of recreational hunting and shooting; and
- Policies or programs that encourage coordination among the public, the hunting and shooting sports community, wildlife conservation groups, and States, tribes, and the Federal Government.

The expenses of the WHHCC that the Secretaries determine to be reasonable and appropriate shall be paid by the Secretaries and no additional funds will be appropriated for the creation of this FAC. Rather than continuing to operate at the whims of a given Administration with a two-year charter, this provision would grant sportsmen and women a permanent seat at the table advising the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture on wildlife and habitat conservation, hunting, and recreational shooting.

### **Title VI– Recreational Fishing and Hunting Heritage Opportunities Act**

Title VI would ensure that Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and Forest Service (FS) lands are “open to fishing, hunting and shooting until closed” by specific agency action. Specifically Title VI: (1) clarifies and gives permanency to existing practices; (2) forestalls unnecessary litigation challenges to these traditional activities by anti-hunting and fishing interests; (3) creates greater administrative efficiency and reduces agency expense; and (4) follows a successful 35 year model governing lands in Alaska.

When discretionary agency action is necessary to continue fishing and hunting, each such action is also subject to judicial challenge per the Administrative Procedure Act (APA). By prescribing that public lands are open as a matter of law, no discretionary agency action is necessary to continue these activities.

Fortunately, for now, the vast bulk of BLM and FS lands are open to hunting and recreational fishing and shooting. However, the status quo is beginning to change in the face of pressure from anti-fishing/hunting interests. This trend reared its head in the Huron-Manistee National Forest in Michigan when the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit ruled that the Forest Service could not simply keep the Forest land open to hunting (as had occurred from the creation of the Forest Service unit), but had to consider closing it to protect the aesthetic sensibilities of non-hunters from hearing occasional gunshots. Part of the problem was that nothing in the Forest statutes prescribed the continuation of hunting. The sporting community expects many more comparable lawsuits unless Congress acts to forestall such litigation.

Administrative appeals using the FS appeals process or the Interior Board of Land Appeals for BLM action are also likely to increase if existing law remains unchanged. Not only does each such appeal put fishing and hunting at risk but the costs to the agencies will continue to mount. Absent Congressional prescription that fishing and hunting are allowed, substantial resources and time will



be committed to administrative procedures to maintain the status quo (i.e.; continued fishing and hunting on BLM and FS lands).

In 1980 Congress enacted the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA). ANILCA mandated that certain parks, national preserves, monuments, refuges, and wilderness areas be open to fishing and hunting subject to administrative closures/restrictions adopted by the National Parks Service (NPS) or the US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS). This approach has worked well for over three decades, creating a valuable model for minimizing agency costs, and protecting fishing and hunting on other public lands. All of these ANILCA lands are statutorily open to access by airplane, motorboat and snow machine until closed or restricted by subsequent specific agency action. This simple statutory model, which can be replicated nationally, has worked well for 35 years generating only a single lawsuit in all that time.

The need to expressly provide for fishing and hunting on BLM and FS lands is also supported by the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act signed into law by President Clinton in 1997. Even though many of these FWS units were open to hunting, a number of legal challenges were filed against the openings on the grounds that the law did not expressly provide for hunting on “refuges.” Just like BLM and FS lands, the older FWS statutes did not specifically provide for hunting or designate it as a legitimate activity because when enacted, there was no anti-hunting movement. A broad bipartisan coalition in Congress fixed the problem by expressly finding that hunting was a legitimate activity on refuge lands, made fishing and hunting “priority public uses” of these lands, and directed FWS to “facilitate” fishing and hunting.

Similarly, it is time for Congress to provide these same assurances to public lands administered by the BLM and FS.

### **Title VIII – Transporting Bows Across National Park Service Lands**

This would authorize the lawful transportation of bows and crossbows across NPS lands. This common sense provision would allow hunters and recreational archers to transport bows and crossbows in any unit of a national park provided they remain in the vehicle transporting them and are stored in a manner that renders them “not ready for immediate use.” In addition, the provision requires that possession of the bows being transported be in compliance with the State law in which the national park unit is located.

Sportsmen may already lawfully transport firearms in vehicles across units of the National Park System. This bill extends the same protections to bow hunters and recreational archers travelling through national parks or accessing adjacent lands through national park while also removing an unnecessary restriction that currently deprives the transportation of archery equipment in national parks.

### **Summary**

In summary, this is common sense legislation with strong bipartisan support that is good for conservation and preserves our outdoor heritage. It is also good for the American economy, especially for rural communities that surround our treasure of public lands and waters. With an ever increasing population, perhaps most importantly, it provides clarity and certainty that access to

our federal lands and waters will remain available for hunting, recreational shooting and fishing, and other outdoor recreational pursuits for generations to come.

We thank the supporters of this important bill for their leadership, and pledge to work with them to get the SHARE Act of 2015 passed and enacted into public law. Thank you.

American Fly Fishing Trade Association \* American Sportfishing Association \* Archery Trade Association \* Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies \* B.A.S.S. \* Bear Trust International Berkley Conservation Institute \* Boone and Crockett Club \* Bowhunting Preservation Alliance Camp Fire Club of America \* Catch-A-Dream Foundation \* Coastal Conservation Association Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation \* Council to Advance Hunting and the Shooting Sports Dallas Safari Club \* Delta Waterfowl Foundation \* Ducks Unlimited \* Houston Safari Club International Game Fish Association \* Izaak Walton League of America \* Masters of Foxhounds Association \* Mule Deer Foundation \* National Marine Manufacturers Association \* National Shooting Sports Foundation \* National Trappers Association \* National Wild Turkey Federation North American Bear Foundation \* North American Grouse Partnership \* Orion – The Hunter's Institute \* Pheasants Forever \* Pope and Young Club \* Quail Forever \* Quality Deer Management Association \* Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation \* Ruffed Grouse Society \* Safari Club International \* Texas Wildlife Association \* Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership Tread Lightly! \* Trout Unlimited \* U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance \* Wild Sheep Foundation Wildlife Forever \* Wildlife Management Institute Wildlife Mississippi

February 26, 2015

Dear Senator:

On behalf of our organizations, which represent millions of hunters, anglers and wildlife enthusiasts, we are writing to express our strong support for the *Bipartisan Sportsmen's Act of 2015* (S.405) and to seek your formal support for this historic legislation.

Recently introduced by Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus (CSC) members Senators Lisa Murkowski and Martin Heinrich along with CSC Co-Chairs Senators Jim Risch and Joe Manchin III and Vice Chairs Deb Fischer and Heidi Heitkamp, S.405 is a bipartisan package of pro-sportsmen's legislation that will expand, enhance and protect America's hunting, fishing and conservation heritage.

In order to avoid the timing challenges that stalled passage of the widely supported *Bipartisan Sportsmen's Act* last year, we are urging the Senate to pass S.405 in the first half of the 114<sup>th</sup> Congress. A strong demonstration of the far-reaching, bipartisan support for this legislation will be helpful to expeditiously securing committee and floor consideration of S.405 in a manner consistent with this timeline.

To that end, we respectfully request that you join the growing coalition of Senators, already bound by a shared commitment to enacting this historic legislation, by cosponsoring the *Bipartisan Sportsmen's Act of 2015*. To be added as a cosponsor of S. 405, please contact Chris Kearney in Senator Murkowski's Office at: [christopher\\_kearney@energy.senate.gov](mailto:christopher_kearney@energy.senate.gov) or Maya Hermann in Senator Heinrich's office at: [Maya\\_Hermann@heinrich.senate.gov](mailto:Maya_Hermann@heinrich.senate.gov).

Thank you for your consideration of this request and for your service on behalf of America's hunting, angling, shooting and conservation community.

Sincerely:

American Fly Fishing Trade Association  
American Sportfishing Association  
Archery Trade Association  
Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies  
B.A.S.S.  
Bear Trust International Berkley  
Conservation Institute Boone and  
Crockett Club Bowhunting  
Preservation Alliance Camp Fire  
Club of America  
Catch-A-Dream Foundation Coastal  
Conservation Association  
Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation  
Council to Advance Hunting and the  
Shooting Sports  
Dallas Safari Club  
Delta Waterfowl Foundation  
Ducks Unlimited  
Houston Safari Club  
International Game Fish Association  
Izaak Walton League of America  
Masters of Foxhounds Association  
Mule Deer Foundation

National Marine Manufacturers Association  
National Shooting Sports Foundation  
National Trappers Association  
National Wild Turkey Federation  
North American Bear Foundation  
North American Grouse Partnership  
Orion – The Hunter's Institute  
Pheasants Forever  
Pope and Young Club  
Quail Forever  
Quality Deer Management Association  
Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation  
Ruffed Grouse Society  
Safari Club International Texas  
Wildlife Association Theodore  
Roosevelt Conservation  
Partnership  
Tread Lightly!  
Trout Unlimited  
U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance  
Wild Sheep Foundation  
Wildlife Forever  
Wildlife Management Institute  
Wildlife Mississippi