

Ala Kahakai Trail Association, Amazing Earthfest, American Fly Fishing Trade Association, American Society of Landscape Architects, American Whitewater, American Woodcock Society, Arizona Land and Water Trust, Arizona Trail Association, Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies, Back Country Horsemen of Utah, Back Country Horsemen of Washington, Backcountry Hunters and Anglers, Boone and Crockett Club, California Wilderness Coalition (CalWild), Californians for Western Wilderness, Coalition of Oregon Land Trusts, Columbia Land Trust, Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation, Conservation Lands Foundation, Corps Network, Council to Advance Hunting and the Shooting Sports, Dallas Safari Club, Defenders of Wildlife, Delta Waterfowl, Grand Canyon Trust, Grand Staircase Escalante Partners, Great Old Broads for Wilderness, Greater Yellowstone Coalition, Hancock Natural Resource Group, Idaho Conservation League, KS Wild, Mojave Desert Land Trust, Montana Association of Land Trusts, Mule Deer Foundation, National Association of Forest Service Retirees, National Bobwhite Conservation Initiative, National Deer Alliance, National Parks Conservation Association, National Shooting Sports Foundation, National Trust for Historic Preservation, National Wild Refuge Association, National Wild Turkey Federation, National Wildlife Federation, Nevada Land Trust, New Mexico Wildlife Federation, North American Grouse Partnership, Oregon Natural Desert Association, Outdoor Alliance, Outdoor Industry Alliance, Pacific Crest Trail Association, Partnership for the National Trails System, Pheasants Forever, Pope & Young Club, Professional Outfitters and Guides of America, Public Lands Foundation, Quail Forever, Quality Deer Management Association, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Ruffed Grouse Society, Safari Club International, San Juan Citizens Alliance, Soda Mountain Wilderness Council, Sonoran Institute, Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance, Sportsmen's Alliance, Teton Regional Land Trust, The Conservation Fund, The Grand Staircase Escalante Partners, The Nature Conservancy, The Trust for Public Land, The Wilderness Land Trust, The Wilderness Society, Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership, Trout Unlimited, Tuleyome, Vista Outdoor, Washington Association of Land Trusts, Western Rivers Conservancy, Whitetails Unlimited, Wild Sheep Foundation, Wildlife Forever, Wildlife Management Institute, and Wildlife Mississippi

March 7, 2018

The Honorable Rob Bishop
United States House of Representatives
1324 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Raul Grijalva
United States House of Representatives
1324 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

March 7, 2018

Dear Chairman Bishop and Ranking Member Grijalva:

On behalf of our 83 respective organizations, we write in support of H.R. 5133, the Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act Reauthorization of 2018, a critical lands bill for the West that supports local economies, resolves private-public land "checkerboard" issues, and conserves high-priority lands for recreation, wildlife habitat, and historic preservation. We appreciate your leadership on this bill and bringing it to Committee markup today. We urge you to make the enactment of a permanent reauthorization of FLTFA a priority this year, including working to include it on any upcoming larger legislative vehicles.

Originally enacted in 2000 (P.L. 106-248), and expired in 2011, FLTFA is a "modified land exchange" program for Alaska and the eleven contiguous western states. The FLTFA program works under the authority of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA), including its lands sales policy, and makes the change to create a "Federal Land Disposal Account" ("Account") that facilitates Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land sales and federal agency conservation in an efficient and strategic manner. With FLTFA, the proceeds from the sale of BLM lands identified for disposal are directed to the special Account to fund priority conservation projects by the BLM, U.S. Forest Service, National Park Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service that will increase access for recreation, protect rivers and

trails, and preserve historic lands. The FLTFA program resulted in 39 recreational access and conservation projects with willing sellers from 2000-2011, including at Zion National Park in Utah and Elk Springs Area of Critical Environmental Concern in Arizona. The Account also provides some funding for the BLM land sales process. FLTFA helps resolve the “checkerboard” of public and private lands in the west by facilitating land consolidation, which helps counties, ranchers, businesses, and communities meet local needs; increases public access to recreation; protects valuable natural and cultural resources, including critical wildlife habitat; reduces land management costs and risks; and other benefits.

We support permanently reauthorizing FLTFA this year, to reinstate an incredible western lands tool that benefits the environment and the economy. FLTFA cannot be utilized again until it is reauthorized, and we appreciate your work to bring it back for the West.

Sincerely,

Ala Kahakai Trail Association	National Bobwhite Conservation Initiative
Amazing Earthfest	National Deer Alliance
American Fly Fishing Trade Association	National Parks Conservation Association
American Society of Landscape Architects	National Shooting Sports Foundation
American Whitewater	National Trust for Historic Preservation
American Woodcock Society	National Wild Refuge Association
Arizona Land and Water Trust	National Wild Turkey Federation
Arizona Trail Association	National Wildlife Federation
Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies	Nevada Land Trust
Back Country Horsemen of Utah	New Mexico Wildlife Federation
Back Country Horsemen of Washington	North American Grouse Partnership
Backcountry Hunters and Anglers	Oregon Natural Desert Association
Boone and Crockett Club	Outdoor Alliance
California Wilderness Coalition (CalWild)	Outdoor Industry Alliance
Californians for Western Wilderness	Pacific Crest Trail Association
Coalition of Oregon Land Trusts	Partnership for the National Trails System
Columbia Land Trust	Pheasants Forever
Congressional Sportsmen’s Foundation	Pope & Young Club
Conservation Lands Foundation	Professional Outfitters and Guides of America
Corps Network	Public Lands Foundation
Council to Advance Hunting and the Shooting Sports	Quail Forever
Dallas Safari Club	Quality Deer Management Association
Defenders of Wildlife	Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
Delta Waterfowl	Ruffed Grouse Society
Grand Canyon Trust	Safari Club International
Grand Staircase Escalante Partners	San Juan Citizens Alliance
Great Old Broads for Wilderness	Soda Mountain Wilderness Council
Greater Yellowstone Coalition	Sonoran Institute
Hancock Natural Resource Group	Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance
Idaho Conservation League	Sportsmen’s Alliance
KS Wild	Teton Regional Land Trust
Mojave Desert Land Trust	The Grand Staircase Escalante Partners
Montana Association of Land Trusts	The Conservation Fund
Mule Deer Foundation	The Nature Conservancy
National Association of Forest Service Retirees	The Trust for Public Land
	The Wilderness Land Trust

The Wilderness Society
Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership
Trout Unlimited
Tuleyome
Vista Outdoor
Washington Association of Land Trusts

Western Rivers Conservancy
Whitetails Unlimited
Wild Sheep Foundation
Wildlife Forever
Wildlife Management Institute
Wildlife Mississippi

cc:

The Honorable Paul Ryan
The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
The Honorable Steve Scalise
The Honorable McMorris Rodgers
The Honorable Luke Messer
The Honorable Steny Hoyer
The Honorable James Clyburn
The Honorable Joseph Crowley
The Honorable Don Young
The Honorable Louie Gohmert
The Honorable Doug Lamborn
The Honorable Rob Wittman
The Honorable Tom McClintock
The Honorable Steve Pearce
The Honorable Glenn Thompson
The Honorable Paul Gosar
The Honorable Raúl Labrador
The Honorable Scott Tipton
The Honorable Doug LaMalfa
The Honorable Jeff Denham
The Honorable Paul Cook
The Honorable Bruce Westerman
The Honorable Garret Graves
The Honorable Jody Hice
The Honorable Amata Coleman Radewagen

The Honorable Darrin LaHood
The Honorable Daniel Webster
The Honorable David Rouzer
The Honorable Jack Bergman
The Honorable Liz Cheney
The Honorable Mike Johnson
The Honorable Jenniffer González
The Honorable Greg Gianforte
The Honorable Grace Napolitano
The Honorable Madeleine Bordallo
The Honorable Jim Costa
The Honorable Gregorio Sablan
The Honorable Niki Tsongas
The Honorable Jared Huffman
The Honorable Don Beyer
The Honorable Norma Torres
The Honorable Ruben Gallego
The Honorable Colleen Hanabusa
The Honorable Nanette Barragán
The Honorable Darren Soto
The Honorable Jimmy Panetta
The Honorable Donald McEachin
The Honorable Anthony G. Brown
The Honorable Lacy Clay
The Honorable Jimmy Gomez