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AGRIBUSINESS & WATER COUNCIL OF ARIZONA

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Arizona's Representative to the National Water Resources Association

July 10, 2018

The Honorable Paul A. Gosar, D.D. S.
Chairman, Congressional Western Caucus
2057 Rayburn HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Gosar:

On behalf of the membership of the Agribusiness & Water Council of Arizona (ABWC), we offer our wholehearted support for the Endangered Species Act Modernization Package of bills being rolled out this week in Washington, D.C. Each bill in the package is an effort, in our opinion, to make the Endangered Species Act (ESA) function like it was originally intended and bring it into the 21st Century.

The Agribusiness & Water Council of Arizona is a non-profit trade association established in 1978 to focus on irrigated agriculture and agribusiness related issues in Arizona. We also serve as the state affiliate to the National Water Resources Association (NWRA) and we are also actively involved members of the Family Farm Alliance. We collectively support your positive proposed amendments to the ESA.

Our members want nothing more than to see endangered species recovered and delisted or more importantly, protected in advance to prevent listing in the first place. We feel this can be done without negatively impacting our economy and putting people out of business. Our members desire transparency, regulatory certainty, input and management at the local level; most importantly, they want to see the 800-pound litigation gorilla taken out of the driver's seat.

We thank you for your leadership as Chairman of the Western Caucus and your fellow members as well for your combined efforts to address such a critical issue to our nation's producers and consumers. We are hopeful to see bipartisan modernization of the ESA in the near future and we will do our part to assist in that uphill climb!

Respectfully,

Executive Director

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